

**Metro Arts Commission  
Board Minutes  
March 15, 2018**

*\*due to human error, the recording of the board minutes was accidentally erased. These minutes have been prepared by Jennifer Cole, executive director from agenda, recollection and additional staff notes.*

Board members in attendance: Jane Alvis, Niki Coffman, Jackie Daniel, Manuel Delgado, Bonnie Dow, Mohamed-Shukri Hassan, Clay Haynes, Marielena Ramos, Jim Schmidt, Hope Stringer, and Marcus Whitney

March 15 meeting was called to order by Chair Clay Haynes.

Members called for review and approval of the February Minutes. Motion was called and seconded, February Minutes were approved.

### **OPERATIONS**

Jennifer Cole was absent with flu, the board called her from home where she briefed them on several issues.

Cole recounted the administration request to secure 1% of savings in this fiscal year or approximately \$40,000. Cole outlined that this would occur through travel and printing reductions and other non-program reductions throughout the agency. Cole then updated board on the budget instructions from the administration and prepared them for a flat budget. The most questionable issue going forward is how the PIP/Restorative Justice and the Arts funding may or may not move forward based on the mayoral budget.

Cole then updated board on intent to create Larry Keeton Citizen Leadership Award for the Arts with the Nashville Arts Coalition. Award would be given to a community leader, like Larry each year. NAC and Jen are working on the nomination and application process and hope to have that by summer. Commissioners will be asked to donate some initial funds to NAC to support hard costs of the award for first few years. Jen will get back with how/when to donate those funds.

Jen briefed board on partnership around "Scarf Project" with Noelle Hotel and their gift shop, Keep Shop. Keep Shop will work with a local artist to design a scarf textile to be sold in the shop. Proceeds will go to support Learning Lab. Metro Arts will partner on branding and promotion and keep post cost proceeds for the Lab. Concept outline will come to board for approval in May.

## GRANTS + COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Laurel shared that grants deadlines were coming up on March 22 for Operating and March 27 for program grants via the new WebGrants system. Staff has been working on draft reviews and individual coaching for applicants. Commissioners will be asked to volunteer to chair grant panels in May.

Rebecca shared that we continue to offer learning opportunities for arts organizations and individual artists particularly in areas of equity and community development through REAL and Restorative Justice. The final REAL lecture will be on April 18 at the Nashville Children's Theatre with Anasa Troutman. Additionally, Commissioners were encouraged to participate in the upcoming Violins of Hope activities and attend the Nick Cave: FEAT performance coming up on April 6

## PUBLIC ART + PLACEMAKING

Tré Hardin provided update on the PAC approved to selection of Mouna Andraos to lead public art master planning and produce a new work for the new greenspace in Southeast Park. Andraos award was moved and seconded.

Anne-Leslie Owens presented the proposed selection panel for identifying artists for the ARTWORKS selections in the Metro Office Building. The panel was approved by the PAC and presented for Commission approval. The motion was moved and seconded.

Lauren Fitzgerald reviewed the minor changes for the THRIVE program (pending FY19 allocation). We discussed how public art THRIVE requests would need PAC approval and reviewed rationale for changing funding levels and review structure. The guidelines were moved and seconded.

Lauren Fitzgerald presented last three THRIVE projects for funding in FY18 (funds are now expended). Fitzgerald presented the following on consent agenda:

### **T Community Co-design and Collaboration (\$4,000 max. funding)**

Cultural Arts Enrichment Program

Neighborhood & District: District 21 at Fisk University

Staff Recommendation: \$3,640

Project Partners: Metro Parks and the Jewish Community Center

Artists Involved: Hannah Washington; Karimah Miller; Michael McBride; Bria Evans

Project Description: During the Nashville Metro School's spring break week of April 2nd – 7th the artists will host a week long cultural enrichment program with the young people of Watkins Park Community center. From 9 am - 1 pm artists will engage youth

ages 5-17 through dance classes, music lessons with instruments, creation of poetry, and visual arts under the lens of African American history.

### **Young People's Freedom Choir**

Neighborhood & District: East Nashville in District 6

Staff Recommendation: \$3,640

Project Partners: St. Anne Episcopal School

Artists Involved: Eric Dozier

Project Description: The Young People's Freedom Choir (YPFC) is a community-supported grassroots music education movement. The initiative is an interactive exploration of the Freedom Song tradition born during the time of the American Civil Rights Movement, designed to educate, elevate, and assist young people in finding and lending their voice to the ever-emerging story of humanity.

### **Nashville Makes Zines**

Neighborhood & District: Main Library in District 19

Staff Recommendation: \$1,000

Project Partners: Nashville Public Library

Artists Involved: Veronica Leto

Project Description: The artist will lead the LGBTQ community through community identity expression using the artistic creation of zines. The artist aspires to develop a zine community to use as an easy entry point to artistic expression for multiple communities.

Commissioner Haynes asked what Zine was. Fitzgerald explained zine culture and a motion was taken and seconded for approval.

Commissioner Haynes asked if there was additional new business. Regular meeting was adjourned.

Meeting was reconvened as a specially called executive session of the Executive Committee and the Board and Staff Development Committee.

Commissioners in attendance: Haynes, Schmidt, Whitney, Stringer, Coffman, and Alvis stayed on and discussed process for executive director annual review.

Meeting was adjourned.

