



# METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

## MINUTES

### Metro Art Board of Commissioners

Feb. 17, 2022 12 p.m.

Metro Southeast Building

Room: *Green Hills Auditorium*

1417 Murfreesboro Pk.

Nashville, TN 37217

**Commissioners Present:** Jim Schmidt (Chair), Matia Powell (Vice Chair), Will Cheek (Sec. /Treasurer), Ellen Angelico, Dexter Brewer, Marianne Byrd, Bonnie Dow, Clay Haynes, Sheri Nichols Bucy, and Paula Roberts

**Commissioners Absent:** Campbell West, Jane Alvis

**Staff:** Ian Myers, Natalie Alfaro Frazier, Janine Christiano, Marysa LaRowe, Chuck Beard, Van Maravalli, Anne-Leslie Owens, and Atilio Murga

**Guests:** Derrick Smith (Metro Legal), Alan Fey, Fathiyah Shepard-Suso

### METRO ARTS MISSION:

**Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts**

A. Call to Order & Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m.

A. Approval of Minutes: January 20, 2022 and February 3, 2022

Chair Schmidt asked if there were any questions or proposed changes to the minutes.

**B. *A motion to approve Arts Commission minutes January 20, 2022 and February 3, 2022 was offered by Commissioner Dow, Commissioner Brewer seconded, and the motion passed.***

C. Action Items:

1. FY23 Grants Eligibility Rule Exemption

Marysa LaRowe presented the Commission with a request for a one-time exemption to the FY23 Core Operating Support grant eligibility guidelines for an organization that had an IRS letter of determination with an effective date of exemption of January 2, 2020.

Chair Schmidt asked if there was any questions or discussion

Metro Legal stated that from a legal perspective January 2, 2020 would be acceptable as the first business day after a holiday (January 1, 2020).

The Commission discussed the future possibility of amending the date of eligibility and the possibility of clarifying the eligibility rule to state two years of tax-exempt status. The Commission also discussed that within the bounds of fairness, in general the Commission should try to be as accommodating as possible.

***A motion to approve a one-time exemption to the FY23 Core Operating Support grant eligibility guidelines rule stating "organizations must have an IRS letter of determination with an effective date of exemption of January 1, 2020 or earlier" for X-Contemporary Dance for the FY23 grant cycle was offered by Commissioner Haynes, Commissioner Byrd seconded, and the motion passed.***

2. CARE Roster

Chair Schmidt presented the Commission with the list of new members recommended by the Committee for Antiracism and Equity:

- LaKeisha Thomas
- Fathiyah Shepard-Suso
- Isabel Tipton-Krispin
- Dr. Robyn Henderson-Espinoza

3. Amended Donelson Selection Panel Roster

Anne-Leslie presented the Commission with an amended Donelson Selection Panel Roster which included two additional members.

Chair Schmidt asked if there were questions

***A motion to approve the amended Donelson Selection Panel Roster was offered by Commissioner Powell, Commissioner Dow seconded, the motion passed.***

The Commission asked staff to provide an update on public art projects in progress.

D. Staff Report

Janine Christiano presented to the Commission and welcomed two new hires: Chuck Beard, Allison Quintanilla Plattsmier.

Chair Schmidt gave updates regarding Caroline Vincent's medical leave and Ian Myer's role as defacto interim department lead, the creation of a new subcommittee led by Commissioner Cheek to continue ongoing funding conversations, his report to the Public Facilities, Arts, and Culture Committee.

Chair Schmidt also recognized public comments received for this meeting and their roll in ongoing equity conversations.

E. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

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Will Cheek (Secretary/Treasurer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Prepared by Grace Wright