



METRO ARTS
NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

MINUTES

Metro Art Board of Commissioners

March 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), Jane Alvis, Ellen Angelico, Dexter Brewer, Marianne Byrd, Clarence Edward, LaKishia Harris, Diana Perez, and Campbell West

Commissioners Absent: Sheri Nichols Bucy, Will Cheek, Clay Haynes

Staff: Natalie Alfaro Frazier, Grace Wright, Chuck Beard, Anne-Leslie Owens, Atilio Murga

METRO ARTS MISSION:

Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts

A. Call to Order & Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m.

Chair Schmidt recognized the new Commissioners at the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves. He also recognized Paula Roberts and Bonnie Dow whose terms expired and thanked them for their service.

B. Approval of Minutes: February 17, 2022

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

A motion to approve Arts Commission minutes February 17, 2022 was offered by Commissioner Brewer, Commissioner Byrd seconded, and the motion passed.

C. Action Items:

Due to technical difficulties, the Commission started with Actions 3-5.

3. Budget reallocation

Natalie Alfaro Frazier presented the Commission with a staff proposition to reallocate unused Restorative Arts to Thrive and then reallocate excess funds from Thrive to the Diversity in Arts Leadership program (DIAL).

Chair Schmidt asked if there was any questions or discussion.

A motion to approve the reallocation of unused Thrive funds for an additional DIAL intern and the reallocation of unused Restorative Arts funds for 2 additional DIAL interns was offered by Commissioner Byrd, Commissioner Brewer seconded, and the motion passed.

4. DIAL Arts Host Awards

Natalie Alfaro Frazier presented the proposed external arts host organizations for the Diversity in Arts Leadership program:

- OZ Arts
- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Turnip Green Creative Reuse
- Nashville Symphony
- Nashville Ballet
- National Museum of African American Music
- Girls Write Nashville

Chair Schmidt asked if there was any questions or discussion.

The Commission asked for clarification as to why some arts hosts were not chosen, and staff gave clarification.

The Commission expressed concerns and discussed about the interns given Metro Arts' current situation. They asked Metro Arts staff to confirm an eighth arts host for the program.

A motion to approve the proposed Diversity in Arts Leadership Intern Arts Host Awards contingent upon official approval of AFTA agreement amendment, the addition of an eighth external arts host, and the acceptance of both interns and arts hosts was offered by Commissioner Angelico, Commissioner Alvis seconded, and the motion passed.

5. REAL Project Awards

Natalie Alfaro Frazier gave an overview of the inaugural Racial Equity in Arts Leadership project component and presented Commission with the proposed projects:

Awardee	Proposed Award Amount	Title of Program
National Museum of African American Music	\$6,000	OURStory
Country Music Hall of Fame	\$5,000	Crossroads Antiracism Staff Training
Turnip Green Creative Reuse	\$5,000	Creation and Conversation in Antiracism: Workshop Series
Southern Word	\$5,000	DEI Workplace Writing Workshop
Kindling Arts	\$5,000	BIPOC Curator for Kindling Arts Festival 2022
Frist Art Museum	\$5,000	Project Uplift
Nashville Ballet	\$3,060	Adult Adaptive Dance Pilot Class with FriendsLife and Nashville Ballet
OZ Arts	\$5,000	DEIA STEAM Exploration: A 2-Day Intensive for Nashville-Based Teaching Artists
Alex Wong	\$7,500	SHOW YOURSELF FESTIVAL
Nashville Repertory Theatre	\$5,000	Nashville Anti-Racist Theatre Collaboration
TOTAL	\$51,560*	*50,000 allocated from NEA award with an additional \$1,560 reallocated from Restorative Arts funding

Chair Schmidt asked if there was any questions or discussion.

A motion to approve the proposed REAL Project Awards was offered by Commissioner Powell, Commissioner Angelico seconded, and the motion passed.

1. Donelson Library Finalist Artist Recommendations (Exterior)
2. Donelson Library Finalist Artist Recommendations (Interior)

Anne-Leslie Owens gave an overview of the Donelson Library public art projects for the interior and exterior sites. She then presented the Committee with the artist finalists and samples of their work: WOWHAUS (Ene Osteraas-Constable and Scott Constable) as the finalist for the Donelson Library Exterior Public Art Project and Amber Lelli as the finalist for the Donelson Library Interior Public Art Project.

A motion to approve the citizen selection panel's recommendations: WOWHAUS (Ene Osteraas-Constable and Scott Constable) as the finalist for the Donelson Library Exterior Public Art Project was offered by Commissioner Brewer, Commissioner Alvis seconded, and the motion passed

A motion to approve the citizen selection panel's recommendations: Amber Lelli as the finalist for the Donelson Library Interior Public Art Project was offered by Commissioner Byrd, Commissioner Brewer seconded, and the motion passed.

D. Staff Report

Staff brought up the fact that they are continuing to receive concerns from community members about the current situation at Metro Arts and proposed a continuing discussion with the Commission about how to authentically engage with these concerns. The Commission discussed possible courses of action and proposed continuing the discussion at a later date.

E. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.