



METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

MINUTES

Metro Arts Board of Commissioners

July 21, 2022, 12pm

Metro Southeast Building

Antioch Room

1417 Murfreesboro Pike

Nashville, TN 37217

Commissioners Present: Jim Schmidt (Chair), Matia Powell (Vice Chair), Will Cheek (Secretary/Treasurer), Ellen Angelico, Dexter Brewer, Sheri Nichols Bucy, Marianne Byrd, Clarence Édward, La’Kishia Harris, Diana Perez, Paul Polycarpou,

Commissioners Absent: Jane Alvis, Clay Haynes, Campbell West

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

Guests: Derrick Smith (Metro Legal), Macy Amos (Metro Legal), Harlequine Clay, Seyna Clark, Jonathan Joyner

METRO ARTS MISSION:

Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts

A. Call to Order & Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm.

B. Approval of Minutes: June 16, 2022; June 27, 2022; and July 14, 2022

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

A motion to approve Arts Commission minutes for June 16, 2022; June 27, 2022; and July 14, 2022 was offered by Commissioner Angelico, Commissioner Bucy seconded, and the motion passed.

C. Action Items:

1. Executive Director salary, benefits, and employment offers, and negotiating authority

Chair Schmidt thanked Vice Chair Powell for leading the conversations and negotiations with the new ED Daniel Singh. During offer negotiation, we arrived at 20 vacation days instead of 15, and Daniel Singh accepted. This needs to be voted on by the Commission. Singh will officially start work and begin onboarding on July 27, 2022. Vice Chair Powell encouraged the entire Commission to help Singh with his transition, sharing the work of our committees and using our networks to introduce him to the community. Vice Chair Powell announced that Singh will be at next week's CARE meeting. Commissioner Bucy suggested an informal meet and greet at Commissioner Edward's gallery, and Derrick Smith from Metro Legal advised that such a gathering would have to be publicly noticed.

A motion to approve the increase in Executive Director vacation days from 15 to 20 days and to accept/ratify the Executive Director offer was offered by Commissioner Cheek, Commissioner Powell seconded, and the motion passed. None opposed or abstained.

2. Public Comment Policy and Form

Equity + Restorative Practices Manager Natalie Alfaro-Frazier thanked Anne-Leslie Owens, Mollie Berliss, Commissioner Angelico and all of staff for their efforts to get the new public comment policy and form to this point. Alfaro-Frazier explained that the new policy changed the public comment process from an email to an online comment form. This streamlines the entire process for staff, provides easier readability for Commissioners, and ensures TTY accessibility for all.

CARE will continue to review the process and the auto-response communication going forward. Commissioner Angelico gave further context about the work put into the new form and the capabilities for edits as CARE, Commission, staff, and the community work on it as a living policy.

A motion to approve the public comment policy and form was offered by Commissioner Byrd, Commissioner Brewer seconded, and the motion passed. None opposed or abstained.

3. Leadership Succession Discussion

Chair Schmidt indicated that, while he wants to remain on the Commission, he needs to step down as Chair for a variety of personal and professional reasons. Chair Schmidt suggested the Commission transition Vice Chair Powell into the Chair position, while he stays on the Commission. Derrick Smith of Metro Legal noted that there can be temporary moves until the official September election already on the

calendar. Vice Chair Powell indicated her willingness to do whatever the Commission thinks is the best option, either being the Interim Chair or remaining as Vice Chair.

A motion to approve the resignation of Jim Schmidt as Chair while remaining a commissioner and the appointment of Vice Chair Powell as Interim Chair in advance of the regularly scheduled elections in September was offered by Commissioner Cheek, Commissioner Brewer seconded, and the motion passed. None opposed or abstained.

D. Staff Updates

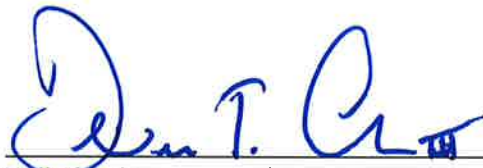
1. Daily Tous Le Jous (DTLJ) Updated Concept Presentation for Mill Ridge Park Public Art Project

Public Art Project Manager Atilio Murga gave an overview of the Mill Ridge Park Public Art Project. The project artists joined by Zoom and presented an update on the project.

2. Interim Director Ian Myers mentioned several positions changes on the horizon. Natalie Alfaro-Frazier is moving back to Monterey, California. Marysa LaRowe is transitioning into the ERP team and going part-time. Jonathan Saad is filling the grants manager role. Chuck Beard is going to be the coordinator for the Thrive program. Staff are in the process for scheduling interviews for the new Office Manager position.

E. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.



Will Cheek (Secretary/Treasurer)



Date

Prepared by Chuck Beard/Anne-Leslie Owens