



METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

MINUTES

Metro Art Board of Commissioners

January 19, 2023, 12 p.m.

Metro Southeast Building, Green Hills Auditorium

1417 Murfreesboro Pk.

Nashville, TN 37217

Commissioners Present: Matia Powell (Chair), Ellen Angelico (Vice Chair), Dexter Brewer (Secretary), Sheri Nichols Bucy, Will Cheek, Clay Haynes, Paul Polycarpou, Jim Schmidt, and Campbell West

Commissioners Absent: Marianne Byrd, Clarence Edward, and Diana Perez

Metro Staff Present: Chuck Beard, Vivian Foxx, Atilio Murga, Ian Myers, Jonathan Saad, Daniel Singh, Anne-Leslie Owens, Alexandra Rivera (Metro Legal), and Anna Dearman (NDOT)

Guests Present: Carol Penterman, Simone Boyd, Anna Dearman

A. Call to Order, Welcome, and Land Acknowledgement

Chair Matia Powell called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. She welcomed everyone and directed members of the public to sign in, designating if they wished to speak during public comment. Chair Powell led the reading of the land acknowledgement.

B. Public Comment

Chair Powell expressed appreciation for the public's interest and commitment to Metro Arts. No public comment was received through the online portal prior to this meeting. At Chair Powell's invitation, Carol Penterman, Executive Director of Nashville Opera, provided public comment requesting additional clarification about grants changes.

C. Approval of Minutes: December 15, 2022

Public Art Project Manager Anne-Leslie Owens noted that Jane Alvis should be listed as absent from December 15 meeting.

A motion to approve minutes as corrected to reflect Jane Alvis' absence was made by Commissioner Brewer. Commissioner Bucy seconded and the motion passed.

D. Featured Artists: Jason Eskridge and Damian Horne

Organizational & Artist Support Specialist Chuck Beard introduced Jason Eskridge, singer-songwriter and founder/host of the series Sunday Night Soul, and recording artist Damian Horne. Both shared about their artistic practice and what it means to be supported as an artist in Nashville.

E. Public Art

1. Arthur Avenue Underpass Public Art Lighting Project/NEA Grant Update

Executive Director Singh explained we are changing the order of the agenda to accommodate our guests and Commissioners who need to leave early. He introduced Simone Boyd and Anna Dearman who are working with Metro Arts on the Arthur Avenue project. At the November meeting, Commissioners had requested learning more about how the project started. Artist and neighborhood organizer Simone Boyd provided a background on the project and answered questions from Commissioners.

2. Old Hickory Community Center Selection Panel (Action)

Public Art Project Manager Anne-Leslie Owens gave a brief recap of the project and presented the Public Art Committee's recommendation for a citizen selection panel.

A motion to approve the proposed citizen selection panel for the Old Hickory Community Center public art project was offered by Commissioner Angelico. Commissioner Polycarpou seconded, and the motion passed.

3. Looby Community Center Participatory Budget Public Art Project (Action)

Public Art Project Manager Anne-Leslie Owens reminded Commissioners of the Bordeaux-North Nashville Participatory Budget process and the announced that one of the selected projects was for a mural on the wall of Lobby Community Center. She shared the project proposal. Staff will work closely with Metro Parks for review and approval. This comes as a recommendation from the Public Art Committee.

A motion to approve the proposed location, base budget, and preliminary scope of the Participatory Budget project for Looby Community Center with ability to increase budget and expand scope as needed was offered by Commissioner Brewer. Commissioner Angelico Seconded and the motion passed.

4. Bordeaux-North Nashville Participatory Budget Public Art Projects Update

The second Participatory Budget project is for gateway public art for the grassy area at Clarksville Pike and Rosa L. Parks Blvd. Staff will work closely with NDOT and TDOT for review and approvals. This comes as a recommendation from the Public Art Committee.

A motion to approve the location, base budget, and preliminary scope of the Participatory Budget project for Bordeaux Gateway with ability to increase budget and expand scope as needed was offered by Commissioner Brewer. Commissioner Angelico seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Haynes requested that Public Art Projects stay at budget and that staff and PAC ensure there are no cost overruns. He requested that Commissioner Polycarpou be mindful of this as he chairs the next public art project.

F. Grants and Funding

1. Key Dates for grants opening

Executive Director Daniel Singh and Grants Manager Jonathan Saad shared the following key dates:

FY24 Grant application open	01/23/23	
Grant Workshop in-person	02/03/23	Noon –1:30pm, Metro Southeast
Grant Clinics Virtual Zoom	02/06/23	through 03/03/23 by Appt
Application Deadline	03/09/23	11:59pm Submit Online

They explained that the next editing process to be in July 2023. We are moving the dates up earlier so that we can be ahead of the timeline.

G. Advocacy

1. Metro Arts Ask

Commissioner Cheek proposed an audacious ask of \$10M to be built in the next few years and an immediate ask of \$3M to help fund our equitable grantmaking and to prevent cuts to any existing tier of grantees.

2. Film and Music/Entertainment possibilities

Commissioner Cheek offered a motion for a non-binding resolution to house the Film or Entertainment Commissions at Metro Arts a offered by Commissioner Angelico and seconded by and the motion passed.

H. CARE

1. Update on CARE's work plan

Commissioner Angelico reported that the CARE Committee has agreed to quarterly meetings instead of two months on and one month off. CARE may possibly have a joint meeting on the same day with Commission. CARE will be working with other committees more directly in the months when they are not convening as a body of CARE.

2. Disparity Study

A disparity study has been launched which will inform our Cultural/Strategic plan beginning in the Spring of 2023.

I. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Daniel Singh reported that a settlement with previous employee Christiano has been reached. Budget will be updated.

1. Hiring Update

2. 2023 Arts Commission and Committee Meeting Schedule

3. Cultural/Strategic Planning

J. New/Old Business

No old/new business

K. Adjourn Meeting

Chair Powell adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.