

# Nashville Music, Film, and Entertainment Commission

## MINUTES

February 16, 2024 6:00 p.m.  
Howard Office Building  
Sonny West Conference Center  
700 President Ronald Reagan Way  
Nashville, TN 37210

**Commissioners Present:** Max Butler (Chair), Jeffry Gordon (Vice Chair), Marshall McClarnon (Secretary), Dave Pomeroy, Peter Kurland, Stephanie Silverman, Michael Montgomery, Jeff Syracuse, Willie Sims, Shannon Sanders

**Commissioners Absent:** Hazel Smith, Meleisha Edwards

**Staff:** N/A

**Guests:** Derrick Smith (Metro Legal), Jamari Brown (Metro)

### 1. Call to Order:

Chair Max Butler called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. He welcomed all in attendance.

### 2. Public Comment: N/A

There was no public in attendance.

### 3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the 10/24/23 meeting were submitted for approval.

Peter Kurland noted a typographical error on page 3.

Motion to approve as amended by Peter Kurland. Seconded by Michael Montgomery. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes for the 12/19/23 were submitted for approval.

Motion to approve as submitted by Peter Kurland. Seconded by Michael Montgomery. Motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Contacts and Disclosures:

Jeffry Gordon welcomed Jeff Syracuse to the committee following his appointment. No business discussed.

Shannon Sanders and Jeff Syracuse both work at BMI. No business was discussed. Stephanie Silverman saw Max Butler and Peter Kurland. No business was discussed.

## **5. Guest Speaker: Jamari Brown (Metro)**

He provided an overview of his history and his department within the Mayor's office, Economic and Community Development.

Three primary goals -

1. Identify target industries for Nashville
2. Creating career pathways for industries that ECD thinks are going to be the future of Nashville.
3. Revisiting and updating incentive programs at ECD.

## **6. Reports from the Chair and Vice Chair:**

Max Butler had a meeting with Finance. Waiting on instructions about how to file a budget proposal.

Met with Finance and HR to discuss Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training.

Jeffrey Gordon has done research on Reelscout, Incentive Plans, and Council Connect.

Followed up with Tennessee Representative Aftyn Behn to address Sunshine Laws at the state level. Particularly, the expansion of Council Connect to the Commission level.

## **7. Committee Reports:**

Budget Committee - Stephanie Silverman presented a draft budget during the committee meeting. The committee recommended increasing the travel budget from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Additionally, the committee recommended removing the name "Filemapp" from the permitting software line item. Jamari Brown (Metro) indicated this year's budget is likely to be a "continuation of services" budget.

Bylaws Committee - The draft bylaws have received comment from Metro Legal. The committee recommended the draft incorporate those changes and present the bylaws to the commission for approval.

## **8. Discussion Items:**

A. Budget: Peter Kurland moved that the Commission adopt the Budget Committee's proposal to adopt Stephanie Silverman's budget as amended.

There was extensive discussion regarding the Budget proposal. Peter Kurland called the question. Point of order from Jeff Syracuse that it was not a procedurally proper call of the question.

Chair called for a vote on the motion. The motion to accept the Budget Committee's proposal passed unanimously.

B. Bylaws: Stephanie Silverman moved to accept the Bylaws Committee proposal. Seconded by Peter Kurland.

There was discussion regarding the Bylaws proposal.

Chair called for a vote. The Bylaws Committee proposal was adopted unanimously.

C. Human Resources Committee - At the meeting on 10/24/23 there was a discussion to form a Human Resources Committee. During that meeting Jeffrey Gordon, Peter Kurland, and Michael Montgomery expressed interest in serving on this committee.

The goal of this committee is to generate a job description for the full time equivalent director position. Dave Pomeroy expressed interest in joining. There was discussion if it should be an ad hoc committee or a standing committee. Also discussion to rename the ad hoc committee from Human Resources to the Job Description Committee.

Chair moved to create the ad hoc Job Description Committee. Seconded by Shannon Sanders. Chair Max Butler appointed Jeffrey Gordon, Michael Montgomery, Peter Kurland, Shannon Sanders, and Dave Pomeroy to the committee.

Stephanie Silverman moved to confirm the appointment of the Job Description Committee appointees. Marshall McClarnon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Ethics and Open Meetings Act Refresher - Derrick Smith (Legal) provided a brief refresher on the Open Meetings Act.

E. Update on Open Seats - There are three vacant seats appointed by Mayor's Office, Metro Council, and the Recording Academy. The Mayor's Office missed a deadline to appoint their seat, and the responsibility has now rolled over to the Metro Council. There are also two open Ex Officio Members positions that need to be filled CVC and NECAT.

## **9. New Business:**

- A. Jeffrey Gordon recommends associating with a 501(c)3 for fundraising purposes. Derrick Smith (Legal) clarified that Metro Commissions can receive gifts up to \$7,500, but Council still needs to appropriate the funds to the Commission. Grants are also an option, but they still need to be accepted and appropriated by Council. An additional option is working with a nonprofit entity that is a "Friend" of the Commission. Any money that comes to the Commission must be appropriated by the Metro Council. The Metro Council has expanded these options and granted independent authority to Commissions for accepting donations, but this does not alleviate the appropriation requirements.
- B. Max Butler recommends a possible executive committee with Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and the chairs of the three group committees. There was discussion of the viability based on the limited space available for meetings.
- C. Max Butler recommends a possible data investigation committee to gain information about the industry and growth of the creative industries in Nashville. There was discussion about some existing organizations that are doing some relevant studies. One of these is the Greater Nashville Music Census.

## **10. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

Code Cleanup

Data

**11. Next Meeting:**

3/6/24

**12. Adjourn Meeting:**

Chair Max Butler adjourned the at 8:15 PM. Motion to adjourn from Max Butler. Seconded by Jeff Syracuse. Passed without objection.

APPROVED, this day 13th of March 2024.

Signature on File  
Max A. Butler, Chair

Signature on File  
Marshall McClarnon, Secretary