



6.23.16 Minutes

Full Commission Meeting Minutes

6/23/2016

3:30 pm to 4:00 pm-Public Comment Period

4:00 pm-6:00 pm-Deliberative Meeting

DCCAH Large Conference Room

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Kim Greenfield Alfonso (phone); Stacie Lee Banks; Susan Clampitt; Edmund Fleet; Antoinette Ford; Rhona Friedman; Alma Gates; Darrin Glymph; James Laws; MaryAnn Miller; Elvi Moore; Maria Hall Rooney (phone); José Alberto Uclés; C. Brian Williams

Attending Staff Members: Arthur Espinoza, Jr., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; Michael Bigley; Earica Busby; Tonya Jordan; Steven Mazzola; Patrick Realiza; Kyra Saffran; Derek Younger

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on June 23, 2016 at 4:00 pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003.

Adoption of the Agenda

- Chair Kay Kendall motioned to adopt the agenda as amended with removal of Bylaws. The motion was seconded. *The motion carried. Unanimous*

Adoption of the May 26th Minutes

- Chair Kendall motioned to adopt the minutes as presented. The motion was not seconded.
- Commissioner Darrin Glymph addressed his concerns that minutes do not properly reflect the meetings.
- Commissioner Glymph noted that he had inquired about staffing and the Hatch Act in the previous meeting.
- Chair Kendall thanked Commissioner Glymph for his comment, and assured him that she will focus on minutes going forward.
- Chair Kendall stated that a vote to adopt the amended minutes would take place at next month's Full Commission meeting.

Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kendall expressed her belief in Committee system.
- Chair Kendall shared she is pleased with Executive Director Arthur Espinoza, Jr., Deputy Director Michael Bigley and the new additions to the Commission.
- Chair Kendall shared Commissioner Susan Clampitt's significant Grant Committee leadership, and added that the establishment of HGP was a personal achievement.
- Chair Kendall stated Commissioner Gretchen Wharton has taken panel responsibility very well.
- Chair Kendall noted Arts Education has a lot in the works under Commissioner Rhona Friedman's leadership.
- Chair Kendall added Commissioner José Alberto Uclés has added a huge value to Mayor's Arts Award Committee.
- Chair Kendall explained she is pleased with Commissioner Elvi Moore and her Finance team in working towards making the finance report clear and transparent.
- Chair Kendall recognized Commissioner Alma Gates in leading an excellent Committee that has been looking at other cities for ideas on how they fund their Public Art, and what they do to give their city a greater artistic presence.
- Chair Kendall lauded Commissioner Glymph for leading many productive and interesting discussions on what it means to be a Commissioner.

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- Chair Kendall appreciated Commissioner Antoinette Ford for her willingness to be the liaison between the Humanities Council and DCCA.
- Chair Kendall stated Commissioners have a duty of being art ambassadors for the community, and appreciates Commissioners for doing their part.
- Chair Kendall shared some of her goals for the summer are to sit down with all Committee Chairs to plan for next year and work on the Strategic Plan with Executive Director Espinoza. For the Commission meetings, some goals are to start on time and finish at 5:30 pm, unless there is an executive session and then end at 6:00 pm. If there is a strict framework it is easier to plan for other commitments.
- Chair Kendall explained that she enjoys bringing “Made in DC” treats to the Commission meetings to promote local District products.
- Chair Kendall asked for Commissioners to work on RSVP’ing better to help plan for monthly meetings.
- Chair Kendall noted she would pass out evaluations that could be left anonymous to aide with planning for next year.
- Chair Kendall stated she wanted to celebrate and say goodbye to Commissioner James Laws who is resigning, and shared how helpful he had been to the Chair when she was first appointed.
- Commissioner James Laws expressed he has had a memorable time working with wonderful colleagues to come together in support of the arts.

Executive Director’s Report

- Executive Director Arthur Espinoza Jr. addressed staffing changes: Travis Marcus is the new General Clerk and Kyra Saffran has filled the contract position in Public Art.
- Executive Director Espinoza stated the General Counsel will begin July 11th and hopes to announce a name by July 5th.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted the Communications and Marketing position has closed, completing all open FTEs for this fiscal year.
- Executive Director Espinoza mentioned FY17 FTE enhancements are on hold, specifically in the Grants and Public Art departments.
- Executive Director Espinoza explained DMPED and the Mayor’s Office are moving forward with September as Creative Economy Month.
- Executive Director Espinoza reminded Commissioners DCCA is collaborating with OCTFME for Labor Day at the Lincoln Theatre, which will consist of artistic acts. All musicians will be local.
- Commissioner Gretchen Wharton noted Art at Night is September 24th.
- Executive Director Espinoza stated the 202 Festival will take place September 10th in Canal Park.
- Executive Director Espinoza added a joint exhibit with National Center for Creative Aging will take place at I Street Galleries in September.
- Executive Director Espinoza shared he has not had any formal visits with Councilmembers in the past month.
- Executive Director Espinoza addressed plans to continue looking at the Strategic Plan beyond grantmaking.
- Executive Director Espinoza explained grant enhancements for HGP and AHFP recipients are as a result of leftover Public Art money that was not going to be utilized by FY16.
- Grants Program Director Steven Mazzola expressed goal is to complete as many grant agreements by June 30th as many grantees’ fiscal years end at that time, and it also marks the end of DCCA’s 3rd quarter.
- Commissioner Glymph inquired about executive meeting to ratify additional Public Art money.
- Chair Kendall responded that the meeting has not taken place yet.
- Executive Director Espinoza stated the Agency is still working on panels for this summer, and that panelist applications are always welcome to create a diverse pool.
- Executive Director Espinoza mentioned Chuck Brown Day is August 20th at Chuck Brown Park in association with Department of Parks and Recreation.

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- Commissioner Glymph asked if the Hatch Act would be brought up in the Executive Director's report.
- Executive Director Espinoza answered that he is still doing research on the Hatch Act.
- Deputy Director Michael Bigley requested Commissioners to provide him with exact questions they have regarding the Hatch Act, as BEGA lawyers asked for specific scenarios.
- Chair Kendall stated she is interested in knowing if Commissioners can host political fundraisers.
- Commissioner Glymph asked Deputy Director Bigley to look into Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest documents to refresh their sections in Bylaws.
- Executive Director Espinoza, Deputy Director Bigley and Chair Kendall noted Commissioner Glymph's concerns are still being researched.
- Commissioner Susan Clampitt asked if she were a panel convener, would she need to leave during scoring.
- Commissioner Rhona Friedman responded no, because she would not be voting.
- Chair Kendall suggested further examining that inquiry as panels are soon approaching.
- Executive Director Espinoza expressed his hopes that the General Counsel will be able to help with matters on the Hatch Act.
- Commissioner Glymph clarified that the Hatch Act and Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Acts are to be treated as separate entities.

Office of Poet Laureate

- Poet Laureate Dolores Kendrick stated *The Women of Plums: Poems in the Voices of Slave Women* poetry performance will take place July 21st from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted that while the event is free, there is an Eventbrite invitation to obtain an idea of how many people to expect.
- Poet Laureate Kendrick mentioned that there has not been a serious stage version in DC until now.
- Poet Laureate Kendrick lauded Graphic Designer Teresa Boersma's advertisement for *Women of Plums*.
- Poet Laureate Kendrick invited Commission to attend.
- Chair Kendall confirmed her attendance, and explained that when she planned for July's meeting, she had hoped that afterwards everyone would go to the performance together.

Committee Reports

- Arts Education:
 - Commissioner Friedman noted there is an Arts Education seminar in the Fall, but the date and location have not yet been determined.
 - Commissioner Friedman told Commissioners that the Arts Education policy is moving along and has now reached a council level.
 - Commissioner Friedman expressed her desire of having an Arts Education policy that mandates Arts Education in all DC public and charter schools.
- Bylaws:
 - Commissioner Glymph stated everyone will receive an updated version of Bylaws shortly, and if anybody has any comments to please submit them within the next week so they can be discussed at the next Bylaws Committee meeting.
 - Chair Kendall shared her hope of voting on Bylaws in July.
- Finance:
 - Commissioner Elvi Moore thanked Finance Analyst Earica Busby and Executive Director Espinoza for making the report more clear and understandable.
 - Commissioner Moore called attention to the budget hand-out which included the 2016 revised budget.
 - Commissioner Moore shared that 47 new grantees have been awarded AHFP, and 46 have executed grant agreements. This totals \$235K.

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- Commissioner Moore stated 75 GIA grantees have been awarded, and 72 have executed grant agreements. This totals \$1.057M.
 - Commissioner C. Brian Williams applauded the creation of enhanced grant agreements, and encouraged Commissioners to discuss it.
 - Commissioner Moore appreciated Finance Analyst Busby's work as there are a lot of corrections taking place from last year to this year.
 - Chair Kendall expressed that she would like to see Public Art as robust as Grants programs.
- Grants Committee:
 - Commissioner Clampitt thanked Grants Program Director Mazzola for doing the work of multiple people and working many hours a week this year.
 - Commissioner Clampitt acknowledged Grants Program Director Mazzola for making things organized and beautifully presented.
 - Commissioner Clampitt added that Grants Program Manager Regan Spurlock has been a great aide, but she is happy the Grants Department is now fully staffed.
 - Commissioner Clampitt said she is pleased all panels have conveners.
 - Grants Program Director Mazzola noted staff is helping applicants prepare for panel presentations when they have the choice to present.
 - Grants Program Director Mazzola stated the Grants Department will be helping Ward 7 and Ward 8 with panel rehearsals to give them a better chance.
 - Grants Program Director Mazzola mentioned panels will be held in DCCA's building, except for a few at Studio Theatre.
- Mayor's Arts Award:
 - Commissioner Uclés recognized Chair Kendall and Executive Director Espinoza for being great assets to the Commission and thanked them for their hard work.
 - Commissioner Uclés acknowledged the work of Special Events Manager Ebony Brown and Special Events Associate Jakenna Martin.
 - Commissioner Uclés stated Mayor's Arts Awards will take place on September 22nd at the Lincoln Theatre. There will be a red carpet, show and reception. It is the largest showing DCCA does for the Mayor and arts community as a whole.
 - Commissioner Uclés asked Commissioners to please send their guest lists by Friday, July 15th, and that a 'save the date' will be mailed at the end of July.
 - Chair Kendall inquired if Commission can assume that grantees and staff are already on the list.
 - Commissioner Uclés responded that he will check, but that this is a way to ensure that people who Commissioner's would like to attend can be invited.
 - Commissioner Wharton inquired why paper invitations are being used.
 - Commissioner Uclés mentioned that electronic invitations could be considered.
 - Chair Kendall stated that it would be discussed.
 - Commissioner Uclés noted that he would look into costs and bring it to the Committee.
 - Commissioner Uclés shared the names of confidential nominees.
- Public Art:
 - Commissioner Alma Gates mentioned that Public Art is now fully staffed.
 - Commissioner Gates noted that the Committee met on May 31st to review best practices in other cities, and that the Public Art Master Plan is still being worked on.
 - Commissioner Gates mentioned that The Washingtonia Collection panel took place June 3rd, and explained that the theme is about Washington, DC.
 - Commissioner Gates stated that the Public Art department met today, June 23rd.

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- Commissioner Gates explained that the Howard Theatre Walk of Fame panel #2 is to take place soon to make a final decision. Commissioner Wharton is to convene.
- Commissioner Gates stated Barry panel has 3 semi-finalists.
- Commissioner Gates noted Pepco review of semi-finalists will take place July 12th.
- Commissioner Gates shared Art Bank panels will happen during July and August.
- Commissioner Gates addressed partnership with Golden Triangle BID's K Street Gateway panel #1 will take place June 29th.
- Commissioner Glymph asked what the public art goal in other cities looks like.
- Commissioner Gates stated that they are looking into what other cities do to promote art, and where their funding comes from.
- Commissioner Williams suggested researching Miami, FL.
- Commissioner Williams suggested that Executive Director Espinoza and Chair Kendall meet with Events DC.
- Executive Director Espinoza responded that he has met with them before, but will inquire about doing so again.
- Chair Kendall shared idea to host July's Commission meeting at Union Market, and reminded Commissioners that it will take place on July 21st, a week earlier than it was previously scheduled for.
- Chair Kendall invited Commissioners to a staff party at her house either July 19th or 20th.

Panel Recommendations

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

New Business and Announcements

- There were not panel recommendations presented.

Unfinished Business

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.