



1.28.16 Minutes

Full Commission Meeting Minutes

1/28/2016

4:00 pm to 5:41 pm

DCCAH Large Conference Room

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Kim Alphonso; Susan Clampitt; Antoinette Ford; Alma Gates; Darrin Glymph; Barbara Jones; James E. Laws Jr.; MaryAnn Miller; Elvi Moore; Maria Hall Rooney; José Alberto Uclés; Gretchen Wharton; C. Brian Williams

Attending Staff Members: Arthur Espinoza, Jr., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; Victoria Murray Baatin; Tonya Jordan; David Markey; Steven Mazzola; Patrick Realiza; Jeffrey Scott; Regan Spurlock; Derek Younger

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on January 28, 2016 at 4:00 pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003.

Adoption of the Agenda

- Commissioner Darrin Glymph motioned to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Adoption of the December 17th Minutes

- Commissioner Gretchen Wharton motioned to adopt the minutes as presented.
- Commissioner Darrin Glymph noted that he was in attendance at the December 17, 2016 meeting and that his attendance had not been recorded. He went on to ask that the minutes be amended to reflect his attendance.
- Commissioner Gretchen Wharton motioned to adopt the minutes with the requested amendment. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Update on SWBID Activities

- SWBID President Steve Moore shared a presentation regarding the progress of the SWBID.
- Chair Kay Kendall expressed interest partnering with the SWBID to curate the newly available space.
- Mr. Moore expressed his thanks for the time of the Commission to listen to the presentation.

Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kay Kendall thanked those that were in attendance.
- Chair Kendall noted her conversations with Commissioner Barbara Jones with regard to constituents East of the River. She went on to acknowledge that the discussion was complicated and multi-layered.
- Chair Kendall noted that there had recently been misconceptions on when to vote from the Commission was required and when a vote was not required.
- Chair Kendall reported that she would be putting together a set of guidelines for the Commissioners to adhere to in order to assuage future misunderstandings.
- Chair Kendall reported that she would call an Executive Committee meeting to discuss and review the guidelines prior to presenting them to the Full Commission.
- Chair Kendall reported that she had attended several committee meetings of the Commission.
- Chair Kendall lauded the staff for establishing a virtual meeting connection in light of the inclement weather conditions.
- Chair Kendall noted that while the establishment of a virtual meeting option was a great first step, her preference is for the Commissioners to attend meetings in-person.

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- Commissioner Glymph asked for clarification on what the concerns had been raised regarding East of the River.
- Chair Kendall indicated that select individuals had expressed displeasure with regard to the funding determinations that had been made regarding the organizations that they represent.
- Executive Director Arthur Espinoza, Jr. noted that if a request for an appeal were to be received, that the Agency would initiate the appeals process. He went on to note that there has been an indication that an appeal would be forthcoming.

Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Arthur Espinoza, Jr. thanked Jeffrey Scott, Patrick Realiza, and Victoria Murray Baatin for their efforts to establish a virtual meeting connection.
- Director Espinoza reported that he recently met with District Budget Director to discuss the potential of budget cuts for the Agency in Fiscal Year 2017.
- Director Espinoza noted that the meeting was in preparation for the upcoming Budget Oversight Hearing.
- Director Espinoza reported that Ms. Regan Spurlock had been promoted and now holds the position vacated by Mr. Steven Mazzola prior to his recent promotion.
- Director Espinoza noted that the Deputy Director position will be posted shortly.
- Director Espinoza indicated that there is an effort to convert some of the existing contract positions to FTE positions.
- Director Espinoza reported that a new General Counsel position is being contemplated for the Agency and that the idea had been presented to the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development for consideration.
- Director Espinoza reported that he would be meeting with Deputy Mayor Brian Kenner next week.
- Director Espinoza reported that he continues to meet with members of the City Council. He went on to thank Legislative and Community Affairs Director Victoria Murray Baatin for prepping and accompanying him on these visits.
- Director Espinoza reported that he continues to meet with the Commissioners one-on-one.
- Director Espinoza shared that the Poetry Out Loud program would take a shift this Fiscal Year as the event would be held at the Office of Cable Television Film Music and Entertainment where it could be filmed and repurposed for future use for the Agency.

Committee Reports

- Arts Education
 - Chair Kendall reported in Commissioner Rhona Wolfe Friedman's absence.
 - Chair Kendall reported that Arts Education committee met on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.
 - Chair Kendall noted that a Creative Spark! review panel convened on Thursday, January 14, 2016.
 - Chair Kendall deferred to Arts Education Manager David Markey to present the results of the panel.
 - Commissioner C. Brian Williams recused himself.
 - Commissioner Antoinette Ford recused herself.
 - Arts Education Manager Markey reported that the panel recommended that applicants 1 -21 be funded.
 - Director Espinoza noted that each of the 21 applicants recommended for funding stood to be awarded \$3,000 each for a total of \$63,500.
 - Commissioner Wharton motioned to fund applicant ranked 1 -21 in the amount of \$3,000 each. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous
- Bylaws
 - Commissioner Glymph noted that the Bylaws Committee has had two meetings so far this year.
 - Commissioner Glymph noted that he agreed with Chair Kendall in that the Bylaws should be reviewed on an annual basis.

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- Commissioner Glymph noted that the next Bylaws Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2016.
- Commissioner Glymph reported that at the February Full Commission meeting Commissioners would be presented with proposed changes for review.
- Finance
 - Commissioner Elvi Moore reported that she had recently met with Director Espinoza for a budget orientation.
 - Commissioner Moore reported that she was working to schedule a Finance Committee meeting as part of the Fiscal Year 2017 budget formulation process.
 - Commissioner Moore indicated that there was a philosophical discussion to be had with regard to the true role of the Commissioners in the finance process.
 - Commissioner Moore noted that she would reserve a full report until after the Finance Committee met.
- Grants
 - Commissioner Susan Clampitt reported that the Thursday, January 21, 2016 Heritage Grant Program roll out, held at the Edgewood Arts Center, was successful and well attended.
 - Commissioner Clampitt reported that the Heritage Grant Program deadline was Friday, February 26, 2016 at 4pm.
 - Commissioner Clampitt reported that grant review panelists' names and qualifications are being collected. She went on to ask that Commissioner who had any recommendations direct them to the grants team.
 - Commissioner Clampitt reported that the grants team was preparing for launch of FY17 project applications.
 - Chair Kendal noted the importance of respecting the grant review process that has been established.
 - Director Espinoza indicated that staff would draft remarks regarding the appeals process and asked that if direct questions were posed to Commissioners that they should direct the query to the staff.
- Humanities
 - Legislative and Community Affairs Director Baatin reported in Commissioner Antoinette Ford's absence.
 - Commission Ford asked that the following be conveyed to the Commissioners:
 - Noting that the Humanities are a significant part of the Strategic Plan, Chair Kendall recently established a Humanities Committee for which Commissioner Antoinette Ford serves as Chair.
 - On Thursday, January 21, 2016 staff member Jeff Scott presented an informative overview of the Humanities to the staff.
 - Also on Thursday, January 21, 2016 Joy Ford Austin and Robert Bremner of the Humanities DC provided a detailed overview of the programs and projects of the organization.
 - In celebration of the 225th birthday of the District, Humanities DC is presently monthly series entitled "Humanitini"
 - The Humanities Committee will seek ways to propose relationships that are mutually beneficial for the Agency and potential collaborators.
- Public Art
 - Commissioner Alma Gates reported that the Marion Barry Commission had been established. She went on to report that they have commissioned a bronze bust or statue in honor of the late Marion Barry and that the Agency would support that effort.
 - Commissioner Gates reported that the establishment of the Marion Barry Commission had come down from Mayor Bowser and that it is a multi-agency effort.
 - Commissioner Gates reported that the Marion Barry Commission has set a March 6, 2017 completion date of the statue to coincide with the late Marion Barry's birthday.
 - Commissioner Gates updated that the Pepco substation at the Waterfront was still in progress.

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- Public Art Manger Tonya Jordan noted that the Pepco substation call to artist slated to be released would be national call and that it would have a strong local component.
- Public Art Manger Tonya Jordan indicated that a panel would be convened to review proposals.
- Commissioner Gates reported that on Monday, February 1, 2016 the Public Art Committee would hold its first meeting. She went on to note that the meeting will focus on the role of the Public Art Committee and the Public Art process.

Office of the Poet Laureate

- There was no report presented.

Panel Recommendations

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished presented.

New Business and Announcements

- Chair Kendall distributed a blank fact sheet about the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and asked the Commissioners to fill it in to the best of their ability.
- All Commissioners present completed the sheet to the best of their ability.
- Chair Kendall went over the answers to the fact sheet.
- Commissioner Williams asked for further clarification on the role of Commissioners.
- Commissioner Glymph noted that the Bylaws would help to offer clarity. He went on to note that the Bylaws Committee had met and is scheduled to meet again in the coming weeks to bring the necessary clarity.
- Chair Kendall noted that Commissioners are to serve as arts advocates and serve to build a network of artists and arts and humanities professionals.

Adjournment

- With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 pm.