

# 11.17.16 Minutes



## Full Commission Meeting Minutes

11/17/2016

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

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm-Deliberative Meeting

DCCA Large Conference Room

**Attending Commissioners:** Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Stacie Lee Banks; Susan Clampitt; Edmund Fleet; Rhona Wolfe Friedman; Alma Gates; MaryAnn Miller; Elvi Moore; Maria Rooney; Gretchen Wharton; Brian Williams

**Attending Staff Members:** Arthur Espinoza, Jr., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; Michael Bigley; Earica Busby; Steven Mazzola; Kyra Saffran; Jeffrey Scott; J. Carl Wilson

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on November 17, 2016 at 4:00 pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003.

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### Adoption of the Agenda

- Commissioner Rhona Wolfe Friedman motioned to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded.  
*The motion carried. Unanimous*

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### Adoption of the October 27<sup>th</sup> Minutes

- Commissioner MaryAnn Miller motioned to adopt the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded.  
*The motion carried. Unanimous*

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### Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kay Kendall asked that Commissioners share recent events they attended.

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### Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Arthur Espinoza, Jr. reviewed staff vacancies and stated that the Legislative and Community Affairs Advisor position is still open as the lead candidate declined. A Community Outreach Specialist position is open and a Legislative Specialist position will become available.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted new enhancement grants and arts field trip grant applications are now open.
- Executive Director Espinoza mentioned that work on the Cultural Plan continues and a meeting was held this past Monday, November 14 at Arena Stage. Arts Action DC initiated the meeting.
- Executive Director Espinoza shared that a follow-up planning meeting with Office of Planning (OP) will take place next week.

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### Office of Poet Laureate

- Poet Laureate Dolores Kendrick noted that there are public art installations around the city that require maintenance and suggested that lights be placed underneath them for better viewing at night.
- Poet Laureate Kendrick stated that the production of Women of Plums will take place in February, and added that she will be meeting with potential actors.
- Poet Laureate Kendrick explained that she has not had a chance to speak with the Mayor about poetry in the workplace, but hopes to do so by the end of this year or the beginning of 2017.

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### Committee Reports

- Arts Education Committee:
  - Chair Kendall thanked Commissioner Friedman for her work on the Arts Education Symposium that took place Tuesday, November 15.
  - Commissioner Friedman thanked Chair Kendall and Staff for their work, but that the credit should go to the panelists who represented organizations, such as the National Academy of Science, the National Endowment for the Arts and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing arts.

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- General Counsel J. Carl Wilson added that the symposium was well organized and found it helpful to have national and local speakers.
- Commissioner Friedman stated the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine (The Academies) in collaboration with the Smithsonian is conducting a seminal critical study on arts education in the US.
- Commissioner Friedman addressed that arts education needs to be implemented in not just one school, but incorporated in all. The data from The Academies will provide public schools with the necessary information to request funding.
- Commissioner Maria Rooney noted one of the speakers at the Arts Education Symposium, from Boston Public School Systems explained how their curriculum was changed by implementing the arts.
- Commissioner Friedman asked if the recording from the symposium could be made available online for public viewing.
- Programs and Communications Officer Jeffrey Scott, PhD, explained that dc.gov websites cannot host videos, therefore the recording would need to be hosted on a different platform, such as YouTube.
- Finance Committee:
  - Commissioner Elvi Moore stated that half of all submitted invoices have been paid out to grantees.
- Grants Committee:
  - Commissioner Gretchen Wharton stated that the grants retreat took place at UDC's new student center with 3 out of 4 Agency partners: Humanities DC, Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts (WALA) and DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative were in attendance to provide an overview on how long they have been partners for and what their organizations do.
  - Deputy Director Bigley explained that Culture Capital did not attend the grants retreat.
  - Commissioner Wharton expressed that she was impressed with WALA as most of their work is provided pro-bono.
  - Executive Director Espinoza added that DCCAH has been in touch with Culture Capital regarding their next steps and goals.
  - Commissioner Wharton mentioned that the HGP grant was discussed and DCCAH will ask recipients for feedback.
  - Commissioner Wharton added that the possibility of paying panelists was discussed as a way of making panels more diverse.
  - Commissioner Friedman asked if other state arts agencies pay panelists.
  - Commissioner Moore responded that she served as a panelist for the Massachusetts Cultural Council and received an honorarium with all expenses paid.
  - Commissioner Wharton noted that in some panels, the grants team has found that it would be beneficial and fairer to applicants if the same panelists were used for all cohorts within the same grant.
  - Commissioner Brian Williams suggested that a less expensive option to paying panelists is to offer food.
  - Executive Director Espinoza stated that DCCAH does provide meals, and explained that the District government typically frowns upon food and beverage service, and requires a waiver each time. Currently in discussion with other agencies about methods to compensate panelists for their time, and added that figuring out a payment method to pay panelists would be required.
  - Grants Director Steven Mazzola explained that there were 274 panelists for 25 panels during Summer 2016, and shared some statistics on panel members.
  - Grants Director Mazzola noted that in general, it is difficult getting musicians to serve on music panels, and offering payment may attract more panelists.
- Public Art Committee:
  - Commissioner Alma Gates noted that the Space to Dream murals at Wellington Terrace were dedicated.
  - Commissioner Gates shared that staff conducted a site visit at the Pepco Substation SW and decided that the outdoor sculpture may need to be moved slightly for higher visibility.
  - Commissioner Gates added that The Washington Post had a detailed article about the progress in the SW BID and the development in Buzzard Point.
  - Commissioner Gates mentioned that a 'Call to Curators' for the curation of a show in CAH's 200 I Street Galleries will open in 2017.

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- Commissioner Gates stated that applications for the FY18 Washingtonia Collection specific to DC based artists will open soon.
- Commissioner Gates addressed that revision of the Public Art Master Plan (PAMP) is still in the works.
- Commissioner Maria Rooney explained that she met with Executive Director Espinoza and Public Art Manager Tonya Jordan to review the PAMP work.
- Commissioner Gates explained that PAMP has to be updated every 5 years and should coincide with the Cultural Plan.
- Commissioner Williams expressed that some Police Service Areas (PSA) that have been targeted by the city as historically underserved areas could benefit from public art in their neighborhoods.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted that PSA needs could be included in PAMP.
- Commissioner Miller emphasized the importance of including maintenance plans in PAMP.

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## Panel Recommendations

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

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## New Business and Announcements

- Executive Director Espinoza stated that two programs will be effected by the cut of FY17 administrative costs. A holiday party will not take place and the Annual Meeting at the Lincoln Center will revert back to conference style.
- Executive Director Espinoza explained that the 202 Arts and Music Festival is in the planning stages for FY17. Currently looking at spaces, either in Canal Park or SW Waterfront area – in conversation with SW BID.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted the performance of Women of Plums will take place during Black History Month at The Lincoln Theatre.
- Chair Kendall and Executive Director Espinoza shared that there will be a CAH holiday gathering which will not be a Commission funded event for Commissioners and Staff, tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 19.

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## Unfinished Business

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

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## Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.