

05.24.18 Minutes

Full Commission Meeting Minutes

05/24/2018 4:00pm – 7:00pm

200 I Street SE, Fifth Floor, RM 5403

Washington, DC 20003

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, Chair; Stacie Banks, Cicie Sattarnilasskorn, Susan Clampitt, Edmund Fleet, Rhona Friedman, Alma Gates, Darrin Glymph, Lawrence Green, Maryann Miller, Josef Palermo, Maria Rooney, Jose Uclés, Chinedu Osuchukwu

Not In Attendance: Commissioner(s) Francis, Gray, and Wharton

Attending Staff Members: Executive Director Espinoza, Deputy Director Michael Bigley, Carl Wilson, Ebony Brown, Earica Busby, Lauren Dugas Glover, Dominique Marsalek, Patrick Realiza, Jeffrey Scott, David Markey, Heran Sereke – Brhan

Attending Officials: Director Walker, Director Gates, Associate Director Rainge, COS Woods

The Full Commission meeting of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) was called to order on May 24, 2018 at 4:00pm, at 200 I St. SE, Room 5403, Washington DC 20003

Adoption of the May Agenda

- Chair Kendall introduced the agenda as presented.
- Commissioner Miller moved to adopt the agenda presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Clampitt.
 - *The motion carried; Unanimous.*

Adoption of the March minutes

- Chair Kendall introduced the minutes of the April Full Commission meeting.
- Commissioner Palermo moved to adopt the minutes as presented.
- Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.
 - *The motion carried; Unanimous.*

Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kendall discussed attending a Mid-Atlantic Foundation two-day meeting in Baltimore, Maryland recently. The attending State Arts Agencies discussed work underway and attendees voted on funding recommendations.
- Chair Kendall complimented the successful nature of the recent Funk Parade.
- Chair Kendall announced that a new Commissioner is currently being vetted by MOTA and has completed their Mock-Council Hearing with MOTA. More information will be forthcoming.
- Chair Kendall introduced the possibility of rescheduling the July Full Commission Meeting to either July 17, 18, or 19.
- Commissioner Glymph noted that there are panels every day of that coming week in July.
- Deputy Director Bigley explained this would mean that whichever Commissioner is convening the panel may be late on that day.
- Chair Kendall proposed changing the July meeting to July 18.
- Commissioner Palermo noted that he will be traveling at that time.
- Chair Kendall motioned to accept the July 18 date for the Full Commission Meeting. Commissioner Ucles seconded.
 - *The motion carried; Unanimous. The July Full Commission Meeting will be held on July 18, 2018 at 3:30PM*
- Chair Kendall announced that Director Walker of MOTA and Director Gates of OCTFME will be in attendance later in the meeting.
- Chair Kendall introduced Executive Director Espinoza and requested the Director's Report.

- Director Espinoza stated the following on record:
 - *“At last month’s commissioner’s meeting, I was unable to attend and give a report on the agency’s activities. As you all know, I have tendered my resignation as Executive Director of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities to Mayor Bowser. As this will be my final attendance at this meeting, I wanted to share information regarding the agency’s immediate future.*

I have spent the past several weeks working to ensure that agency operations continue uninterrupted and unhindered. Fiscal Year 2019 grant programs are currently accepting applications, and will be paneled during the summer months, with grant award notifications being sent out at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Deputy Director Bigley and the Department Heads are all deeply familiar with the status of the agency’s activities, and will continue to advance these projects to their completion and delivery.

The Mayor’s Office on Talent and Appointments has begun the search for the next Executive Director for the agency, who will ultimately be appointed by Mayor Bowser, as I was. Until such time as a permanent Executive Director is appointed, Director Angie Gates of the Office of Cable Television, Film, and Entertainment, has been assigned to serve as interim Director of the Commission.

In closing, I would like to thank Mayor Bowser for allowing me to serve in this role; it has truly been an honor. My sincere appreciation to the staff who work tirelessly and professionally in service to the District, and to our arts and humanities practitioners, for all that they do to make this city great.”

- Executive Director Espinoza introduced Director Walker to address the Commission.
- Director Walker thanked the Commission for their service and Director Espinoza or his service to the District during his tenure.
- Director Walker introduced the Director Gates as the new interim Director for the Commission.
- Director Gates addressed the Commission, introduced herself, and thanked Director Espinoza for his service to the District.
- Director Gates mentioned the shared history of successful partnership between OCTFME and CAH over the past few years.
- Director Gates introduced the interim Executive Team including an interim Chief of Staff, an interim External Affairs Coordinator, and interim Human Resources staff.
- Director Espinoza thanked Chair Kendall and Commissioners for their service and said farewell.
- Commissioner Miller thanked Director Espinoza for his time with the Commission and his contributions and commitment.
- Commissioner Banks and Chair Kendall affirmed the sense of gratitude toward Executive Director Espinoza’s tenure.
- Chair Kendall thanked Executive Director Espinoza for his service to the Commission and the District and the lasting contribution of his time at CAH.
- Chair Kendall requested committee reports.

Finance Committee Report

- Commissioner Sattarnilasskorn requested that CAH Finance Manager Busby report Finance updates.
- Commissioner Friedman requested information explaining why the budget was revised.
- Finance Manager Busby explained that the budget had been revised because funds were transferred from grants to contracts based on funding recommendations.
- Commissioner Glymph explained how and why funds were transferred and where the data can be found in the budget report.

Grants and Panels Committee Report

- Commissioner Glymph introduced the data for the General Operating Support (GOS) and Lift Off vote.
- Chair Kendall and Commissioner Friedman recused themselves from the discussion.
- Commissioner Glymph explained GOS recommendations by the Grants and Panels Committee as presented.
 - Commissioner Palermo inquired into why organizations were not originally funded. Commissioner Glymph explained that decisions were motivated by low panel scores.
- Commissioner Banks motioned to accept the GOS recommendations as presented.
 - Commissioner Miller seconded.
 - *The motion carried: Unanimous.*
- Commissioner Glymph presented the recommendations for the Lift Off vote.

- Senior Grants Manager Brhan explained the reasoning behind the recommendations as presented.
- Commissioner Banks inquired into further discussion.
- Commissioner Sattarnilasskorn motioned to accept the recommendations as presented.
 - Commissioner Ucles seconded the motion.
 - *The motion carried: Unanimous.*
- Commissioner Glymph reported that this has been a busy grant season with 23 out of the 43 grants workshops currently completed by staff. Panels will begin July 6 and go through August 24. Commissioners are encouraged to sign up to convene the coming panels.

Public Art Committee Report

- Commissioner Gates and Public Art Manager Glover updated the Commission with the following:
 - FY19 Public Art Building Communities Cycle 1: Opened March 9 – Closed April 18
- New Project—Chinatown Friendship Arch Renovation:
 - Major restoration of this 34 year old landmark gifted to the District by China through the District’s Sister Cities relationship with Beijing.
 - CAH would engage the original artist/architect to coordinate the extensive restoration involving specialized artisans from China and the U.S. The project is expected to begin following the All-Star Baseball game hosted at Nationals Park on July 17, 2018.
 - Procurement in the form of a contract provides flexibility should the project extend beyond the fiscal year, given the scope and scale of the conservation work needed.
 - Request to reprogram \$424,745 Public Art grant funds to contracts to address the conservation needs. The conservation work is a service provided by original artist as it has a specific deliverable to the District; whereas, a grant is a proposed idea that would either awarded or declined.
- Upcoming Opportunities:
 - FY19 Art Bank
 - Opened April 30 – Closes July 20
 - FY19 Curatorial Grant
 - Opened April 30 – Closes July 27
 - FY19 Public Art Building Communities Cycle 2
 - Opens May 25 – Closes August 10
- Commissioner Gates motioned to accept the Public Art funding recommendations as presented.
- Chair Kendall asked for discussion.
- Commissioner Glymph asked why a certain panel scored so low.
- Commissioner Rooney, the panel convener, explained that some of the projects seemed less developed and there were some reservations about inclusion and District representation.
- Commissioner Glymph noted similar concerns in addition to concerns over art installations that light up making them harder to enjoy during the day.
- Commissioner Palermo also noted a shared concern with the fact that the majority of the pieces were not from District artists. Commissioner Palermo inquired into the length of the project.
- Commissioner Ucles explained that the project will be December through the first week of January.
- Commissioner Palermo inquired into whether there will be any information available to help contextualize the project.
- Commissioner Gates explained that the Georgetown Bids do a significant amount of advertising on the project.
- Public Art Manager Glover explained that she would look into that inquiry further in order to determine if additional resources are available to the public.
- Commissioner Gates motioned to accept the Public Art funding recommendations as presented.
 - Commissioner Ucles seconded the motion.
 - *The motion carried: Unanimous.*

Events Committee Report

- Commissioner Miller announced
 - SummerSet DC
 - Dates: Thursdays , May 10- June 7, 2018

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- Time: 12:00PM-2:00PM
- Location: National Mall (outside of Air and Space Museum)
- Commissioner Ucles noted that the Mayors Arts Awards is scheduled for September 13th at 6PM.

Arts Education Committee Report

- Commissioner Friedman reported the following:
 - Arts Education Policy Task Force: Sense of Council Resolution (Shared with Commission)
 - City Council approved the new arts education policy for the District. The Task Force is working on a draft implementation plan for equitable arts education in DC public schools.
 - Youth Creativity Summit
 - The Youth Planning Council is currently meeting bi-weekly to craft the shape and content of the summit which is planned for Saturday, June 16th at the National Building Museum. The over-arching theme for the day is that of Mental Health. The event will include a full-day of workshops and seminars along with “pop up” poetry performances and visual arts activities. National Arts in Education Week
 - CAH is planning on offering a day-long professional development institute (PDI) for classroom educators and arts specialists in mid-September to coincide with National Arts in Education Week. The PDI will focus on how arts and humanities organizations can better work with DC school systems to support socio-emotional learning (SEL) for students with a focus on local/global civic awareness and responsibility.

New and Unfinished Business

- Chair Kendall announced the need for an Executive Session Pursuant to D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(10) for personnel matters. Executive Session occurred without staff present. Full Commission Secretary Rooney took meeting minutes for official record.
- Chair Kendall took the following Roll Call Vote to enter into Executive Session at 6:00PM:
 - Stacie Banks, Yes.
 - Edmund Fleet, Yes.
 - Rhona Friedman, Yes.
 - Alma Gates, Yes.
 - Darrin Glymph, Yes.
 - Lawrence Green, Yes.
 - Maryann Miller, Yes.
 - Josef Palermo, Yes.
 - Maria Rooney, Yes.
 - Jose Uclés, Yes.
 - Chinedu Osuchukwu, Yes.
 - ALL In Favor
 - *The motion carried; Unanimous.*

Adjournment

- Executive Session ended at 6:59 PM.
- The Full Commission Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.
- The next Full Commission Meeting will be June 21, 2018 at 4:00PM.