



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

MINUTES

DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order at 5:30 pm, Monday, January 25, 2021 in open session via the WebEx virtual meeting platform, with Kay Kendall, Chairperson, presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kay Kendall, *Chairperson*; Stacie Lee Banks, *Vice Chairperson*; Cicie Sattarnilasskorn, *Treasurer*; Alma H. Gates, *Public Art Chair*; Gretchen B. Wharton, *Grants Chair*; Cora Masters Barry; Quanice Floyd; Maggie Fitzpatrick; Rhona Wolfe Friedman; Kymber Menkiti; José Alberto Uclés; Derek Younger

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Natalie Hopkinson; MaryAnn Miller; Maria Rooney; Carla Sims; Hector Torres

STAFF ATTENDEES:

Heran Sereke-Brhan, *Executive Director*; David Markey, *Deputy Director*; J. Carl Wilson, *General Counsel*; Lauren Dugas Glover, *Public Art Manager*; Brian Allende, *Resource Allocation Officer*; Jeffrey Scott, *Chief of Staff*; Patrick Realiza, *Social Media Specialist*; Kevin Hasser, *Grants Program Manager*

Land Acknowledgment

The Chair read the acknowledgment of the ancestral lands of the Nacotchtank and Piscataway Peoples.

Roll Call and Quorum

The Chair called the roll, and a quorum was determined to be present.

Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting's agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the December 21, 2020 special meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Welcome & Public Comment

Bathsheba Smithen made remarks on the digital divide in education and the arts.

Director's Report

Executive Director Sereke-Brhan summarized the Director's Report, which had been circulated in writing in advance of the meeting, noting that the agency would be hosting its first teletownhall on January 28 as a way to virtually connect with the public and share information. The Director also noted that the agency recently applied for grant from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies to fund a creative aging pilot program, and that introductory visits with Councilmembers were being scheduled.

Finance Update

Commissioner Sattarnilasskorn deferred to Resource Allocation Officer Brian Allende for the finance update. Officer Allende noted that the spending restriction imposed on the agency by the OCFO earlier in the fiscal year had been lifted, and that of the 620 grants awarded to date, 450 had been issued.

Grants Committee Report

Commissioner Wharton asked Grants Program Manager Kevin Hasser to present the committee's recommendation for the FY21 Facilities and Buildings-Traditional (FAB-T) grant awards. Manager Hasser presented the recommendation to award grants to 28 applicants for a combined total of \$2,899,647. Manager Hasser also noted that FY21 saw an

increase in the number of applicants to the grant program over FY20 (48 vs 39, respectively) and that of the 48, six were applying to CAH for the first time this fiscal year.

Commissioner Wharton moved that the recommendation of the Grants Committee be accepted.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Fitzpatrick Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Uclés, Wharton, Younger

Noes: none

NV: Barry, Floyd

The motion was agreed to, 8-0.

Unfinished Business

Chair Kendall stated the unfinished business was to vote on the package of recommendations from the Task Force on Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging that were presented and discussed at the December special meeting.

Commissioner Friedman moved to accept the package.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Uclés, Younger, Wharton

Noes: none

The motion was agreed to, 10-0.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chair Kendall adjourned the meeting at 6:55 pm.

Minutes approved this 15th day of March, 2021