



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

MINUTES

DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order at 5:30 pm, Wednesday, September 22, 2021, in open session via the Cisco Webex virtual meeting platform, with Chairperson Reggie Van Lee presiding.

Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Reggie Van Lee, *Chairperson*; Cicie Sattarnilasskorn; Alma H. Gates; Gretchen B. Wharton. Cora Masters Barry; Maggie Fitzpatrick; Quanice Floyd; Rhona Wolfe Friedman; Hector Torres; José Alberto Uclés; Derek Younger; Kymber Menkiti; Carla Sims; Maria Rooney; Natalie Hopkinson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

MaryAnn Miller

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*; Patrick Realiza, *Social Media Specialist*; Kerry Kaleba, Alorie Clark, Khalid Randolph, Travis Marcus, Robert Nuñez, Alissa Maru, *Grants Managers*

Quorum

A quorum was determined to be present.

Land Acknowledgment

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

Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting's agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the August 18, 2021, regular meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Welcome

Chair Van Lee welcomed everyone to the meeting. Pursuant to Article X, Section 2 of the Commission's Bylaws, Chair Van Lee announced the committee chairs for FY 2022: Gretchen Wharton, Grants Committee Chair; Maggie Fitzpatrick, Public Art Committee Chair; Quanice Floyd, I.D.E.A. Committee Chair; Hector Torres, Arts Education Committee Chair; Kymber Menkiti, Finance Committee Chair; Rhona Friedman, Bylaws Committee Chair.

Public Comment Period

Jenny Bilfield and Christopher Morgan both made remarks expressing concerns about the restructuring of the General Operating Support grant program awards in FY22, and potential negative impacts the restructuring could have.

Director's Report

Executive Director Sereke-Brhan gave the Director's Report, stating that the annual Art All Night arts festival would take place the coming Friday and Saturday. The agency was also in process of recruiting a public affairs coordinator and senior grants officer; both recruitments are being conducted by the firm PoliHire.

Finance Update

Brian Allende, Resource Allocation Officer, gave the finance update. Over \$28 million has been encumbered out of \$31 million in grants for FY21. Approximately \$3 million in grant payments need to be issued.

Grants Committee Report

Grants Committee Chair Gretchen Wharton and departmental staff presented the committee's funding recommendations for the following FY22 grant programs: Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program (AHFP), Arts and Humanities Education Projects (AHEP), Field Trip Experiences (FTE), East of the River (EOR), General Operating Support (GOS), and Projects, Events and Festivals (PEF). Committee Chair Wharton moved the following resolutions on behalf of the Grants Committee:

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendations for the FY 2022 Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program grants as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$2,685,000.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous.

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendations for the FY 2022 Arts/Humanities Education Projects grants program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$460,000.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous.

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendations for the FY 2022 Field Trip Experiences grants program as presented, for an overall total funding amount of \$515,487.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendation for the FY 2022 East of the River grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$875,272.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

Resolved, that the Commission accept the findings for the FY 2022 General Operating Support grant as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$15,786,469.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendations for the FY 2022 Projects. Events, of Festivals (Individuals) grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$393,050.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendations for the FY 2022 Projects. Events, of Festivals (Organizations) grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$474,642.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

Public Art Committee Report

Public Art Committee Chair Maggie Fitzpatrick and departmental staff presented the committee's funding recommendations for the following FY22 grant programs: Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant and Public

Art Building Communities. Committee Chair Fitzpatrick moved the following resolutions on behalf of the Grants Committee:

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendations for the FY 2022 Public Art Building Communities grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$615,325.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendation for the FY 2022 Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant program as presented for a total funding amount of \$30,000.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee

NOES: none

Adopted, unanimous

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chair Van Lee adjourned the meeting at 6:53 pm.

Minutes approved this 18th day of October 2021.