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Full Commission Meeting Minutes

01/23/2019 4:00pm – 5:00pm

200 I Street SE, Fourth Floor, RM 4019

Washington, DC 20003

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, Chair, Haili Francis, Alma Gates, MaryAnn Miller, Jose Uclés, Gretchen Wharton, Maria Rooney, Stacie Lee Banks, Edmund Fleet, Quanice Floyd, Cicie Sattarnilasskorn, Josef Palermo

Not In Attendance: Commissioner(s) Miles Gray, Rhona Wolfe Friedman, Darrin Glymph, Chinedu Osuchukwu

Attending CAH Staff Members: Executive Director Terrie Rouse-Rosario, Deputy Director Michael Bigley, Kennisha Rainge (Chief of Internal Affairs), Ebony Brown (Events Manager), Earica Busby (Financial Analyst), Lauren Glover (Public Art Manager), Melvin Witten (Legislative Advisor), Patrick Realiza (Social Media Specialist), Jeffrey Scott (Chief of External Affairs), Brenda Walker (Communications Contractor), David Markey (Arts Education Coordinator), Heran Sereke-Brhan (Senior Grants Officer)

Public Members Present: Nabeeh Bilal and Candice Taylor (Founders of Creative Junk Food), Peggy McGlone, Aaron Maier, Peter Nesbitt, Carolyn Hartmann, Kate MacDonnell, Rose Jaffe

Public Comment Section:

- Chair Kendall asked the Public members present to give their statement.
- Nabeeh Bilal stated:
 - Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Nabeeh Bilal. This is my partner, Candice Taylor, and we are the founders of CreativeJunkFood. We're a small multimedia production studio based in the heart of Ward 8. We do everything from animation and video to design and branding, websites, mural art, and we work with businesses big and small, but a lot of our connection is to artists and organizations east of the river, and so today we wanted to talk to you guys a little bit about some of the things we think can benefit artists in Ward 7 and Ward 8 as well as the commission when it comes to outreach and communication.
- Candice Taylor stated:
 - We wanted to start by saying that we do recognize the commission does so much for the arts community in D.C. Both Nabeeh and myself are current and past recipients of grants and we've been a part of other programs and events that the commission has sponsored, and so we've been able to directly benefit from all the commission services and resources and we're eternally grateful for that. But we found that the people around us, our community, our artists, our peers, they just really don't have an awareness of what the commission is, what the commission does, and I guess what role that serves in their lives, and we feel like that's a shame because there's so much. Like we both say, we've directly benefitted, and there's just so many opportunities, especially with changes in the culture of the city and just how growth and things are happening, and things are pushing east of the river as well as there's been a lot of fun, exciting kind of change within the commission. And so we think that this is, like, a great opportunity to kind of compound on these outreach efforts and really kind of make sure that the audience that these services are meant to serve are aware that these things are available.
- Nabeeh Bilal stated:
 - To piggyback on that, we've done work for organizations like the Smithsonian, University of Maryland, Congress Heights Main Streets, National Urban League to really help them with their outreach and communication and doing things sort of in a creative and innovative way. And we would love the opportunity to kind of bring some of that creativity and innovation to D.C. Commission on the Arts and its outreach, especially with this meeting, the 50-year anniversary of the Commission on the Arts. I know from talking to Patrick some of the bigger needs is that the commission would like to connect with artists in underserved communities, especially artists who are not normally

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aware of what's going on. So that's one of the reasons that we wanted to give you these handouts, introduce ourselves, and speak in front of you today.

- Candice Taylor stated:
 - We just want to stress our position. We're residents of Ward 7 and 8. We do a lot of work. Our work is focused on outreach in those communities. We do a lot of stuff in the mentorship and the public service space, and so we really want to add to that and really bring the commission and its efforts to the forefront of what's going on on that side of town.
- Nabeeh Bilal stated:
 - We definitely see how much the Commission has already done to improve the quality of life of artists throughout the D.C. area in general, and from what we're seeing and from what we see can happen when the commission is able to directly connect and engage with residents and artists in Ward 7 and Ward 8, it's only going to make those areas much more beautiful and help the people who have been there for a while feel like they're connected to the change that's happening.
- Chair Kendall stated:
 - Thank you so much for coming in. I really appreciate knowing about you and having these passed out, and it's always nice to know what's happening in our city. Before you leave, I just wanted to make sure you meet Terri Rouse-Rosario, she's our new Executive Director.
- Executive Director Rouse-Rosario stated:
 - Thank you for speaking. I have a son who's a designer, so I can relate to what you're doing, very good. Thank you for coming.
- Chair Kendall stated that they were welcome to stay but the meeting would have to begin.

The Full Commission meeting of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) was called to order on January 23, 2019 at 4:00pm, at 200 I St. SE, Room 4019, Washington DC 20003

Adoption of the January Agenda

- Chair Kendall called the meeting to order at 4:00pm
- Chair Kendall motioned to adopt the agenda as presented.
- Commissioner Miller moved to adopt the agenda presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Banks.
 - *The motion carried: Unanimous.*

Adoption of the December minutes

- Chair Kendall motioned to adopt the meeting minutes of the December Commission meeting.
- Commissioner Banks moved to adopt the minutes as presented, Commissioner Wharton seconded the motion.
 - *The motion carried: Unanimous.*

Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kendall stated:
 - Thank you. Thank you so much. Okay, for my report I just thought I would give you all a short rundown of some activities since our last meeting. In December I went to the first night that GLOW was kicked off, and I don't know how many of you all saw it, but I thought it was really wonderful. It was bigger this year than ever, really lit up Georgetown in an exciting way. And it was nice to be there and for them to really say how much they appreciate our support. I felt it was very genuine and I felt really proud that we were able to make that connection. I also went to the Mayor's address at Gallaudet, and pertinent to what you were just saying, she has made a very big effort to focus on Wards 7 and 8 in her new term of administration of the next four years and has a person, Tim White, who has a new title in her cabinet to make that his focus. I happened to go to her Inauguration party that our former Interim Executive Director Angie Gates helped to organize, and it was a spectacular event filled to the brim with so many

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people having a good time. I think it was just a great celebration for her. I wanted to let you know that I am going to be serving on a commission for a new statue that's going to be in the city. It's going to be of Charles Hamilton Houston. He was a figure at Howard, quite involved in their law school but he also was a very active civil rights person. I don't know much about the statue yet but I just know we're meeting in about ten days, and you'll hear more about that, I'm sure. Finally, today I testified for reappointment as a Commissioner, I'm not sworn in yet but I testified in front of the Council for another term. Also Gretchen joined me in doing that, and there was a potential new commissioner who testified as well, Kymber Menkiti and we'll all soon be sworn in, I think, within the next two weeks. I think you all will be glad to welcome her, but also it's at the replacement of Darrin Glymph, which is sad news. I know we've worked with him for a long time and we really enjoyed that relationship, so I wanted to be sure you knew that. Some of you may want to personally reach out to him, and I know I told him how we'd miss him and we will. In other news, Chinedu also is going to serve on the Committee for the Poet Laureate that is being run by MOTA, and he has agreed to do that, and so we'll probably hear how that goes as time goes by. With that I will call the Executive Director's report. Welcome, Terrie.

- Chair Kendall stated that it was time for Executive Director Rouse-Rosario to give her report.

Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Rouse-Rosario stated:
 - Thank you, I am going to take a point of privilege and stand up, so one of the disadvantages of me being a little short. First of all, I can't tell you how honored I am to be here as an arts professional. In June it'll be four years, and I can say I have seen it all and been part of it. I have many thanks to Director Angie Gates, who came in and just pulled it together, and she has more energy than I think I've ever had in my entire life, but she was able to kind of hold the fort and start some initiatives and keep moving forward. What I'm going to talk about a little bit now is sort of where we could be going and how we're going to move forward, so that's a lot of what's important to me, and it stems around one important issue: communication. We're going to define how we're going to talk to folks. We're going to give you messaging on what we're going to do. We're going to try to let you know where we want to be and how we're going to get there. That is what this is all about. Does that mean we're going to tell you everything? Maybe not right away, but we will make sure that you know what is important to what the factors are and what those are because we don't want things to be misunderstood, and I'm underlining that. We don't want things to be misunderstood. That's my mission. You can ask my staff and they will say they're sick of it, but that's where we are, so we're just kind of keeping that in mind. As part of this, there's a little homework for everybody on the Commission. I did a little chart that kind of helped define for everybody how we'll be communicating with each other. We've gone over this with our chair. Just so everybody knows so we're not miscommunicating. We're going to have our commission meeting requests and our commission concerns to always go to our chair and we will have our staff communications and our Executive Director's communications through the chair and through Kennisha Rainge to prevent the chair from being overwhelmed and from people misunderstanding what people's intentions are. As part of that the chair will be communicating back with Kennisha Rainge, who will run around and do whatever it is she has set to do. We'll make sure we get it all together so we're clear, and then for the Executive Director to the chair, we will be talking. I have great respect for the Chair, whose commitment to the arts is thorough and complete. She will be communicating on to the Commissioners and then the Chair, of course, will manage whatever has to be done, so in other words there are lines of communication, and we're going to do whatever we can to keep those lines in place. That does not mean that you aren't going to be chatting with other people, but they will not be giving you official word. Official word will come through channels, and I can't imagine anybody from my staff would be rude to you if you talk to them, so we're just trying to make sure that everyone is a little clear about how we will be communicating. It's a part of Kennisha Rainge's job is to make that happen, so we're going to be working through that. As part of what we're doing, we're also making sure that we're developing communication plans among the staff. We have staff at the end here whose job it is to listen and help us make sure that we're clear about what we're doing. We also have our deputy director, Michael, who has to interpret all of this for everybody, so make sure that we're doing what we have to do because we need to make sure that people understand because

we're going through, what, a period change. This period of change, of course, is endorsed by the person who's everybody's boss, that's the Mayor. That period of change is also endorsed by the Bowser administration, and we're simply going to be inclined to move our way towards to that. For the commission it's us thinking about the profession of grant-making in arts administration and public places. That's what we do. That's our mission, and trying to do that for the 21st century moving forward towards things that are positive and forward thinking.

- As part of that we are looking at our 50th anniversary. That's what we're in right now. I asked this question to Michael, and I said, Michael, how many things have we done over the last 50 years? Well, we don't really know. We know we have made a significant impact in this city, and having that testimonial, having those reminders, having those grants to make people understand what has happened and why it is so impactful. Moving forward we'll have the wonderful world of technology that allows us to keep track of what it is that we've been doing so we understand that. Now ultimately just so everyone is clear, ultimately that changes into something a little bit more scientific. We need to know the impact of these things. We've been giving grants but do we know the impact of those grants? Well, maybe not, but we need to know the impact of those grants because that will tell us how we need to invest moving forward. Therefore if we know how we're investing we know how we can partner with people because the people we're partnering with are going to ask the number one question, what was the impact? So that's the science of what we'll be doing as well as the arts administration and the pure love of creativity. And part of the 50th anniversary is keeping track of 50 wonderful items that we've done, and it all kicks off with Poetry Out Loud, which will be the first part of these events for the 50th anniversary. Part of this assessment in transition will mean for us that we look at some of the things that have been already done and get feedback from folks. So in one way it's really nice to see people from the public here today because you're listening, and you may have questions and wishing to interpret what you may have heard or not heard. So now you've got an opportunity to hear some of that firsthand and be a little less speculative of what is happening as opposed to something else. One of the wonderful joys of social media is that sometimes things don't always get translated the way they need to be translated, so here you are firsthand to be able to do that.
- What's going to impact our world like crazy? There's something called the Cultural Plan, that none of us have control over, and I bet that many of you participated in the Cultural Plan activities or you were a part of those hearing sessions or you did other things related to that. So we're waiting just like you're waiting to see what the final document is. The various drafts are online for the Department of Planning. It is an exciting moment in the history of a city when a city and its citizens stop and think about where it is they want to go. Grown-up cities do that, New York City, Chicago, Baltimore, Houston. They sat down and they said, you know what? We need to stop and see what we've been doing. We need to stop and see what we've invested in and we need to see how to impact the maximum number of people, so we did a grown-up thing here. The hard part is going to be implementing it. The hard part will be trying to get 50 percent of implementation. The hard part will be able to say, how do we address things like housing? How do we address things like economic development? How do we get things like incubator money? All of those things that came forward in that plan, that's the hard part. That's when you all get mad because you're not going to get what you wanted, but will the city get what it needs? That becomes the question. That's where we are. That's how we will begin to implement this plan, whenever they tell us what it is and even what our role is in it, and we will do as we're supposed to do because we serve the Mayor and we serve the people. So there's a lot on our agenda. As you can hear, there's a lot on my agenda. I've been in place for a solid month, and my staff found out real quick, this woman is like a super geek. This is true. I digest information. I look at information. There's probably not a name I have not been called by somebody in an institution in this country and maybe somewhere else. But the important thing about this, what I believe is if we're going to execute things and we're going to do things we're going to do them well, because to me arts are about excellence. We support excellence. We support keeping things going because that's what we intend to do. That's what we should be doing; the best that we possibly can do is being a part of making something that continues to live.
- I'll end on this one story. How many years? About 20 years ago I was in New York working on one of these really hard projects, where I'm trying to figure out an organization to stay alive. And I'm, like, on the phone with the state

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council saying, oh, my goodness. Oh, my goodness, what are we going to do? And the woman who was on the other end is a legendary grant-maker, a legendary arts professional. And she said, Terrie, I want you to understand. Sometimes organizations that have been born don't always continue to live. That does not mean that you forget about what they have done, their intellectual history, that good feeling that they have, but everything that is born as an arts project as a non-profit doesn't continue to live in its current state, and that does not mean what they have done has actually died. You do your work as an arts administration. You try to figure out whatever you can do to keep that intellectual history, that energy, that excitement. Categorize it, put it somewhere, have somebody else take it over, but everything that's organizational doesn't always die. It just goes on to be part of something else if you're lucky and if you're wise about it. So for me I'm here doing what I do. It's going to be interesting. I can't say that I'm bored yet. I can't imagine I'm ever going to be bored, but I think it is important work what we are doing, and it's an unusual moment again, and I'm going to reiterate this. When you're somewhere, when there is an administration, a Mayor, a cultural plan, a reasonable amount of money for the arts and dedicated professionals able to move ahead just doesn't happen, so this is a unique moment. With that, Chair Kendall, I'm finished.

- Chair Kendall thanked Executive Director Rouse-Rosario and asked if there were any questions for the Executive Director.
- Chair Kendall stated that she thinks that was a very inspiring speech. This is our first time for some of us to get to know the new Director. She has had the pleasure of meeting her a month ago when you first started and feels very excited about her vision, energy, and experience, so welcome.
- Executive Director Rouse-Rosario said thank you.
- Chair Kendall stated to move on to our committee reports. Finance is first, and Commissioner Sattarnilasskorn isn't able to be here today, so she asked for Earica Busby to make the report for her.

Finance Committee Report

- Earica Busby stated:
 - Hello, everybody. So if you look on page 1 of the report which is this page displayed, I will just briefly go over our funding source for those who are currently are new and needs to understand our budget. So the first part of the budget is our personnel services, which are local funds, which is 15,000, 450,000. We also had non-personnel services, which is subsidies and transfer, a one-time funding of 2.8 million. As you know this year, we have dedicated tax funding. At the top part for our personnel services we had 2.470 million. In our non-personnel funds the agency has \$25.6 million. As you know, our grants budget for FY19 is a little over \$25 million.
 - Also we have federal funds. We did receive our National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant. Our total budget for the NEA grant is 713,500, and we also have intra-District funds for DOES for our SYEP Summer Youth Program, and we have a proposed 100,000 dollars for Meals DC from DPW. All of the highlighted items on your sheet represent our grant funding.
 - This report is as of January the 11th, 2019. And as you can see, we have basically spent over \$6.2 million in grant funding allocated thus far. We also have funds that are currently going through the system now and of course we've also put more through within the last week and a half, so you'll see an updated review next month.
- Earica Busby asked if anyone had any questions from the first page.
- Earica Busby asked everyone to look at the second page, which is grant details to see how we spent our money so far.
 - A Course 4 arts education AEP grant, we've executed \$250,000 for an arts field trip. We've executed \$768,000 for the arts student exchange program. Those funds have been transferred to DCPS.
 - Under CAH's local grant programs, as you can see, we've executed over \$9.5 million grants into the system, which means that we received grants and they're apparently going through the system for approval.
 - For public art we've only executed \$699,000 in public art programming. We're currently working on our Art All Night MOU to DSLBD to fund that, and of course we have just recently awarded all of our budget enhancement grants that are listed, so they're actually going through the approval now to get approved from Executive Director Rouse-Rosario.
 - So we still have about \$13.6 million that needs go into the system.

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- Commissioner Miller asked Earica Busby to explain on the first page how the dedicated tax amount is calculated that we have received, what is the tax percentage.
- Earica Busby stated that there is a dedicated tax fund that goes to for the various different funding. We've received 7.5% of dedicated tax for the arts, so that can mean this is what we've received for FY19.
- Commissioner Miller asked if it is just sales tax.
- Earica Busby said yes.
- Earica Busby stated that we also need to make note that as you all know, as of December the 31st we closed our budget for FY18. We did have a grant that did not spend all their funds, and \$1.9 million dollars was left on the table, so that will reflect on our closeout budget for FY18. I will submit an updated report in our next meeting so that you can see that those funds were left on the table. We're unable to use those funds. Those funds will go back to the general fund.
- Commissioner Miller asked if we know where they came from.
- Yes, they came from one of our grant programs where the organization was unable to spend the funds within the fiscal year.
- Chair Kendall stated that they were awarded a grant and weren't able to actually spend all of that money within the year and were offered an extension. Does anybody have any questions about it? Okay, I thought I'd ask some questions about the rescinded grants here on the second page, just some explanation with lines 10 and 11.
- Michael Bigley stated that these are all points we discussed at the last meeting, so they're rescinded. One organization has moved out of the District, so they're not eligible to receive the funding, so that one particular fellowship grant was returned to us. In reference to the Facilities and Buildings (FAB) grant that was returned to us from the National Building Museum, they applied to the Budget Enhancement Grant, and the restriction was you could not apply to A Budget Enhancement Grant if you receive a FAB grant, so they opted to rescind that FAB grant in hopes of receiving a Budget Enhancement Grant.
- Chair Kendall stated that was helpful. Does anybody have any questions about our budget?
- Commissioner Gates stated that she had a question about Public Art. The \$143,714 that is pending, are those applications are in the works.
- Earica Busby stated, yes, they recently got everything approved, and they were submitted by the Public Art Department within the last week or so, and so they're going through the approval vote to get approved.
- Chair Kendall thanked Earica Busby and asked for the grants report to be given by Commissioner Wharton.

Grants and Panels Committee Report

- Commissioner Wharton stated:
 - To date 586 awards have been processed, not including the public art grants, and there are approximately 20 outstanding agreements at various stages of processing, so they're all in the works. FY20 GOS, general operating support grant. The FY20 general operating support grant was launched Wednesday, January the 16th. There was lots of media around that. Thank you, everybody, and it'll close on Friday, February the 15th. The guidelines are available on the website, and the technical assistance workshops are scheduled to take place in the each of the four quadrants, which is something that I really applaud the staff doing, because we really need to get out there in the community so that the community can easily hear you. GOS panel in the first two weeks of April. There will be six panels starting April the 2nd, and ending April the 12th, the commissioners are invited to sign up, and you know we have a signup sheet right here, so I'm going to pass this sheet around, and there are one, two, three, four blanks on here, so when it comes back to me, it'll be completely filled. The FY20 project and fellowship grants are scheduled to launch by Friday, May the 3rd. That's pretty much the update, so let me get a sheet back that's filled, please.
- Chair Kendall asked how long is the window from the launch of GOS to when they have to turn in their grant proposal.
- Michael Bigley stated that from application release to application deadline is about a month's time.
- David Markey stated that we are required by law to keep the application open for at least a months' time.
- Chair Kendall asked for the Public Art Committee report.

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Public Art Committee Report

- Commissioner Gates stated that three public art projects, Public Art building communities (PABC), project repliers has gone to the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) for review and approval, as does the upcoming project for the Capitol View Library. The PABC projects were slated to go before CFA's January meeting. However, CFA has been closed due to the federal shutdown, so we are hoping to see them on the agenda shortly. Also with the delay, know that the public art team will continue to monitor this and advise of any other potential impact. The DC public library, Capitol View Library, this is a project we have to activate the plaza in front of the library. The request for proposals closes on February 1st, and then we have a slide show for Howard Theatre Walk of Fame. Lauren Glover is going to walk us through that.
- Lauren Glover stated:
 - Good afternoon, I think at the last meeting I reported it was in progress. It is now 100 percent done, so this has been a two-year project of labor and love and it's completed and it's gorgeous, and the creative team behind this was creative and they were selected through a competitive selection process back in 2016, and the total project budget was 400,000 dollars. On the next slide, this is the map of where it is. It expands from 7th Street Northwest at S Street north and east to in front of the Howard Theatre at 620 T Street Northwest. The next slide shows that the project includes two interpretative signage boards, 15 permanent bronze commemorative sculpture medallions and two granite slab sidewalk markers. On the next slide you can see that it encompasses 15 honorees, Walk of Fame honorees. These are all 15 people who were selected by a commission who had significant impact, not only on our city's cultural heritage but national, and as you can see, most of them international and all had a role or performed at the Howard Theatre because that was the only place folks of color could perform at the time, but certainly a significant part of the history of the Howard Theatre Walk of Fame, our culture nationally and internationally. On the next slide there are 15 medallions so we'll keep going through as each one has an impression of the individual, with the person's name and their sunrise and sunset. You can keep going, and there's dispersed across these two pathways, and at each end of the pathway, there's a way-finding sign that tells you a little bit about the history of each one of the individuals, why they were selected, their contribution, and approximately where their footprint is along the path. So if anyone happens to be in the area, please stop by, and a lot of people have come to see them. It's very elegant. They look like they were just born there and they've been there and need to be there forever, and we're just very excited this project has come to completion.
- Commissioner Wharton asked who did the medallions.
- Lauren Glover stated Hackreative did them. It's an artistic team, and the interesting tidbit is the person who did the bronze on the Marion S. Barry Statute did the medallions as well, the same fabricator, so we know that they do excellent work, right.
- Chair Kendall asked were there any other questions?
- Commissioner Miller asked was it lit up at night or is it just normal streetlights there.
- Lauren Glover stated yes, just the normal street lighting, but it's pretty bright on that block.
- Chair Kendall stated okay, thank you, all and asked Commissioner Miller to give the Events report.

Events Committee Report

- Commissioner Miller stated that she would defer to Jose and Ebony about the Mayor's arts awards. We do have Larry Neal applications that will be out February 4th. The deadline for submissions is the 29th for the adult and youth writer's awards. She stated that she noticed on the arts education committee portion that there is a paragraph on Poetry Out Loud, which is supposed to be under the events committee; or at least it used to be.
- David Markey stated that it's also an arts education program.
- Commissioner Miller stated right, but it's not in the Events section at all, so I just wanted to mention that.
- Commissioner Miller stated that it's going to take place March 7th, and it will be, once again, at the Office of Television, Film, Motion Picture and Entertainment.
- Ebony Brown stated that it's actually a new location, Blind Whino.
- Commissioner Miller stated okay. That's what she thought. Okay, so it will be at Blind Whino. Okay, March 7th, yes. Okay, so Jose?

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- Commissioner Ucles stated yes, the Mayor's arts awards nomination applications are going to be released on Monday, January 28th with the deadline being Friday, March 22nd. For those special honorees, which are like the four categories that the Mayor gives, the release date for those ones will be Tuesday, January 28th too, and then collecting on Friday, March 1st. We are putting in a call for panelists, which will be members of the community and organizations, which we're putting it out on February 11th with a deadline of March 1st, so we hope the present organizations to send us a rep so they can be panelists because obviously this award is something that is very close and dear to the Mayor and to all of us because we honor all the creative energy that the city has. Thank you.
- Chair Kendall stated thank you. Commissioner Friedman was not able to come today, so David Markey would make the report.

Arts Education Committee Report

- David Markey stated, of course. As was mentioned, Poetry Out Loud is coming up March 7th, and the reason that we decided to move from OCTFME was really to switch things up and to make it accessible to another area of the city, so we're all excited about using the Blind Whino location.
- Chair Kendall asked will it still be recorded there
- David Markey stated yes, OCTFME is still involved in it to my knowledge, and the events department and arts education, we share the program, so arts education sort of is responsible for the programming in schools, so when we send teaching artists in to work with student participants, and then Ebony Brown and Jakenna Martin are going to take over the evening of the event in putting that together. We just had our panel for the fifth year of the Celebrate the Creative Spark initiative. We just had it today actually, so it was a quick turnaround of the room, and because it's our 50th anniversary we're hoping to have 50 residencies across the city. We had a really great batch of applications, a combination of arts organizations and individual teaching artists applying for that. It will roll out a little bit later this year. It'll roll out between April 1st and the end of the school year, June 14th. We've paneled it, but it takes us a little bit of time to engage in a matchmaking process between a successful applicant and the schools that are interested in participating, so that's why we need that sort of buffer of time.
- Chair Kendall asked David Markey, is that like twice as many as before.
- David Markey stated, no, we've always had sort of the low 40s, low to mid-40s. So it was not a stretch to make it 50, but it seemed appropriate being our 50th anniversary to increase it to that number.
- David Markey stated that we have our first Access and Inclusion Workshop next week. We have almost 60 people signed up, and the focus is on the work that organizations do with people who identify as having disabilities, and this particular workshop is targeting executive directors and board leadership through department heads and organizations to help them understand or engage in a strategy to make both their physical locations and their programming accessible to people with disabilities. And so the facilitator, we had a pilot consultation process last year with two organizations, the Atlas Performing Arts Center and the Washington Improv Theater, and so Doug Yeuell and Jordana Mishory from both of those organizations, they're going to come and present on where they are in their journey of access and inclusion next week. And then finally, again another celebration of our 50th anniversary. We're inaugurating a Teaching Artist Institute. Much of what it is we do is in the realm of capacity building, and so we're planning on having a two-day Teaching Artist Institute sometime in late May or early June. We're in the early stages of surveying teaching artists and arts organizations that have large faculties who do a lot of training with teaching artists to see what it is they need so we can craft something in response to that.
- Chair Kendall asked David Markey if he could talk a little bit more about that, what he anticipates.
- David Markey stated that so many state arts agencies have teaching artist rosters, and in many ways that's a clearinghouse for those who work in school systems or the various school systems. We don't have one, and so when I came here five years ago I wanted to make sure that we were putting a lot of professional development in place for teaching artists before suddenly saying you have to have this teaching artist roster. So I think, as I said, we're in the early stages of surveying folks to see what it is they might be interested in. I think we'll probably have sessions that are for early career teaching artists as well as those who identify as master teaching artists who have been doing it a long time. I anticipate us having sessions on sort of the nuts and bolts of being a teaching artist. So again if you're somebody who hasn't trained as a teaching artist you may teach intuitively, but how do you craft lessons plans and sort of a syllabus for a course of study. And then practical things like classroom management and socio-emotional learning, a focus of how the arts can help advance something like that, culturally

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competent classrooms in teaching. So yes, we had a whole list of things on the survey that we hope folks will respond to, and based on their responses we'll craft sessions accordingly.

- Chair Kendall stated that's great and asked if anyone had any questions for David?
- Chair Kendall asked if there any new or unfinished business that anyone wants to bring up
- Commissioner Wharton thanked everyone, for signing up for the grants panels to convene them.
- Chair Kendall stated if that's it, then the meeting is adjourned at 4:37pm.

New and Unfinished Business

- No new and unfinished business placed in motion.
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Adjournment

- Full meeting was adjourned at adjourned at 4:37 PM.
- The next Full Commission Meeting will be in February 21, 2019.

DRAFT