

05.28.15 Minutes



Full Commission Meeting Minutes

5/28/2015

3:30pm – 5:30pm

Dial In: 1.877.919.3206- Pass Code: 1848681#

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Susan Clampitt; Edmund Fleet; Gretchen Wharton; Rhona Wolfe Friedman; Alma Gates; MaryAnn Miller; Toni Ford; Jose Alberto Ucles; Darrin Glymph (phone); Barbara Jones (tardy)

Attending Staff Members: Lisa Richards Toney, INTERIM DIRECTOR; Victoria Murray Baatin, INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR; Derek Younger, INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR; Earica Busby; Brittany Dibble; Ron Humbertson; Tonya Jordan; David Markey; Steven Mazzola; Regan Spurlock; Ariel Wilson

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on May 28, 2015 at 4:01 pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003

Adoption of the Agenda

- Commissioner MaryAnn Miller motioned to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Adoption of the April 23rd Minutes

- Commissioner Rhona Wolfe Friedman motioned to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kay Kendall wished to thank Commissioner Edmund Fleet for chairing the April 23, 2015 full commission meeting in her absence.
 - Chair Kendall stated it is of the utmost importance to her to get to know each of the Commissioners.
 - Chair Kendall reported on the numerous events she has had the pleasure to attend since being named Chair, including the Dolores Kendrick conference room dedication, the Larry Neal Writers' Awards, and the DC Funk Parade among others.
 - Chair Kendall deferred to Interim Deputy Director Derek Younger to discuss the agency relationship with The Historic Lincoln Theatre.
 - Interim Deputy Director Younger reported he is interested in acquiring more programming dates for the agency.
 - Commissioner Gretchen Wharton requested the new contract with The Historic Lincoln Theatre determine a better ticket management and admissions system and policy.
 - Commissioner Friedman stated that the language that currently exists in the contract is detrimental to the agency.
 - Commissioner Antoinette Ford inquired as to whether the theatre is accessible and ADA compliant.
 - Interim Deputy Director Younger answered that the building meets historical accessibility codes but also includes a front entrance as well as stage door lift.
 - Chair Kendall thanked Commissioner Ford for representing the agency through her speaking engagement at Ford's Theatre's "Stand and Be Counted" program. She continued by stating the theatre was thrilled to welcome a commissioner.
 - Chair Kendall discussed possible partnership opportunities between the agency and private entities.
 - Chair Kendall referred to the FY15 DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities' Summer Calendar.
 - Chair Kendall discussed the recent process of acquiring new pieces for Art Bank.
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Interim Director's Report

- Interim Director Lisa Richards Toney reported on the agency's interest in hiring an IT professional.
- Interim Director Toney deferred to Public Art Manager Tonya Jordan to discuss some upcoming public art dedications.
- Interim Director Toney introduced two interns working with the agency for the summer.
- Interim Director Toney discussed the success of the public launch of CESAR (Comprehensive Environmental Survey of Arts Resources) on May 22, 2015.

Office of the Poet Laureate

- There was no report.

FY14 Annual Meeting

- Chair Kay Kendall deferred to Legislative and Community Affairs Assistant Brittany Dibble to discuss the agency's upcoming Annual Meeting at The Historical Lincoln Theatre on June 8, 2015.
- Legislative and Community Affairs Assistant Dibble reported on the public presentation at The Historic Lincoln Theatre to begin at 7:00pm the evening of June 8, 2015 as well as a Networking Social to occur at Lost Society on U Street between 8:00pm and 10:00pm.
- Commissioner Miller suggested a personal invitation be extended to those individuals and organizations that participated in the Celebrate of the Creative Spark initiative.

Panel Convener Assignments

- Chair Kendall expressed the importance of ensuring a commissioner is in attendance at every advisory panel session to serve as a convener.
- Chair Kendall emphasized the importance of the commissioner's role as convener.
- Commissioner Ford asked for clarification regarding the role of the commissioner.
- Chair Kendall suggested Commissioner Wharton and Director of Grants Steven Mazzola discuss a best practice regarding conveying to commissioners their roles and responsibilities.
- Commissioner Miller suggested the agency acquire guidance regarding policy surrounding fund allocations.
- Chair Kendall expressed the importance of respecting the current process that includes the convening of expert panelists.
- Director of Grants Mazzola reported on the responsibilities of the commissioner convener, including the expectation to act as host, present each application, review scoring criteria following each application, and ensuring every panelist participates fully.
- Commissioner Susan Clampitt discussed the idea of uniting the Grants and Panels Committees.
- Director of Grants Steven Mazzola reported on the current state of the Grants process, including having received an additional 100 applications compared to FY15.
- Commissioner Friedman congratulated Steven for his attentiveness to the execution of the process.

Committee Reports

- Finance
 - Commissioner Friedman presented on the current state of the FY15 budget.
 - Commissioner Friedman reported that 90% of the Innovate DC grants have been processed.
 - Commissioner Friedman reported that 50% of FY15 grantees have received first payments.
 - Commissioner Friedman reported that 25% of Innovate DC grant recipients have received first payments.
 - Commissioner Ford asked if the agency is permitted to earn interest on rollovers.
 - Commissioner Friedman responded that the agency is not permitted.

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- Chair Kendall reported that the commissioners will vote on the agency FY16 budget at the June 30, 2015 annual meeting.
 - Public Art
 - Commissioner Alma Gates reported on the recent panels convened to purchase pieces for the Art Bank.
 - Commissioner Gates invited the commissioners to attend “Truck Touch” on June 6, 2015 to view the various recycling trucks wrapped in art.
 - Commissioner Gates reported on upcoming public art dedications, including the dedication of the Legacy Memorial Park and lighting of Murrow & Monroe Parks.
 - Commissioner Gates provided an update on the Urban Farm project.
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Panel Recommendations

- There were no panel recommendations presented.
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Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.
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New Business and Announcements

- Chair Kendall reported that Councilmember David Grosso recommended \$200,000 be allocated towards the creation of a DC Cultural Plan. She continued by stating the current recommendation calls for the plan to be implemented by the District of Columbia Office of Planning.
 - Chair Kendall reported that, should the plan move forward, she and the Executive Director would sit on the Executive Committee.
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Unfinished Business

- Chair Kendall reported on the recent status of commissioner committees, stating that she has delayed the assignments until new commissioners have been appointed.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:12pm.