

10.23.14 Minutes



Full Commission Meeting Minutes

10/23/2014

3:30 pm to 6:09 pm

DCCAH Large Conference Room

Dial In: 1.877.919.3206- Pass Code: 1848681#

Attending Commissioners: Lavinia Wohlfarth, VICE-CHAIR; Marvin Bowser; Susan Clampitt; Edmund C. Fleet; Antoinette Ford; Darrin L. Glymph; Barbara Jones; MaryAnn Miller; José Alberto Uclés (phone); Gretchen Wharton

Attending Staff Members: Lisa Richards Toney, DEPUTY DIRECTOR; Moshe Adams; Victoria Murray Baatin; Earica Busby; Elizabeth Carriger; Brittany Dibble; Tonya Jordan

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on October 23, 2014 at 4:13 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 September 23rd Minutes

- Commissioner Darrin L. Glymph motioned to adopt the September 23rd minutes. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Adoption of the October 8th Minutes

- Commissioner Darrin L. Glymph motioned to adopt the October 8th minutes. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Chairperson's Report

- Commissioner Lavinia Wohlfarth reported that Chair Judith Terra was currently out of the country on business regarding the Terra Foundation.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth complimented the recent performance of the Chinese school children at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center.
- Commissioner Miller further commented that the performance was a perfect example of the Sister Cities relationship between the District of Columbia and Beijing, China.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth reported on the recent 5x5 Project presentation of *Statuevision* in Dupont Circle.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth reported on the upcoming November 3, 2014 opening of *Full Spectrum: The Prolific Master within Lois Mailou Jones* exhibit at the 200 I Street Gallery.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth reported that a group of commissioners is currently traveling around the District of Columbia to view the dozens of 5x5 Project installations.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth reported on the upcoming Wednesday, October 29, 2014 Mayor's Arts Awards to take place at the George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth turned to the Executive Director's report.

Executive Director's Report

- Deputy Director Lisa Richards Toney reported on the upcoming 29th Annual Mayor's Arts Awards, asking that all commissioners attend and invite friends and fellow VIPs.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that Executive Director Lionell Thomas was on travel and unable to attend the full commission meeting.

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- Deputy Director Toney introduced Curtis Foy, the new agency Grants Coordinator. She continued by stating that Mr. Foy will be primarily working with East of the River grants and initiatives.
- Deputy Director Toney reported on the Wednesday, October 22, 2014 meeting of the Steering Committee.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the hired consultants of The Cultural Planning Group are currently in the external analysis phase having interviewed 40 stakeholders, 75 individuals, and conducted 13 focus groups.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the Cultural Planning Group conducted a visioning session, the results of which have not yet been released.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the CESAR (Comprehensive Environmental Survey of Arts Resources) mapping tool will be entering beta testing in late November or early December of 2014.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that CESAR would be released to the public in February of 2015.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the results of the Arts Education Census will be presented to the commissioners around November 17, 2014 at an internal meeting.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative has appointed Lissa Rosenthal-Yoffe as its new Executive Director.
- Deputy Director Toney commented that new leadership at the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative presents new opportunities for collaboration.
- Deputy Director Toney reported on the success of *Art All Night*.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that over 30,000 participants were recorded throughout the participating venues during *Art All Night*, including 5,000 people at H Street NE; 7,000 people at Congress Heights; 8,000 people at Dupont Circle; 4,000 people at North Capitol; and 10,000 people at Shaw.
- Deputy Director Toney thanked Commissioner Gretchen Wharton for her hard work to make *Art All Night* a success.
- Commissioner Marvin Bowser commented that the statistics regarding North Capitol seemed low and that observed greater participation.
- Commissioner Darrin L. Glymph asked if *the Art All Night* statistics had been shared with such agencies as the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development.
- Deputy Director Toney responded that the agency produces a weekly report for the Office of the City Administrator in which statistics such as those related to *Art All Night* are shared.
- Commissioner Miller reported that the Arts Education Committee convened three successful focus groups for the sake of gathering feedback and learning about community needs.
- Deputy Director Toney discussed The 5x5 Project and the media inquiries/feedback associated with the installations.
- Deputy Director Toney stated that the agency is committed to getting ahead of problematic situations and learning valuable lessons.
- Commissioner Susan Clampitt commented that, regarding the future of agency public art, a plan for community involvement should be developed.
- Commissioner Clampitt continued by stating that such a plan would not exist to veto work, but to ensure communities will welcome the art.
- Commissioner Miller suggested community leaders be invited to take part in the curatorial process in addition to serving as advisors of location related decisions.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that each curator involved with The 5x5 Project was required to partner with a community organization.
- Public Art Manager Jordan stated however that the partnership requirement did not fulfill the agency's overall goals for community involvement with The 5x5 Project.
- Commissioner Ford drew the commissioners' and staffs' attention to the successes of projects similar to The 5x5 Project in such cities as Philadelphia, PA and Cambridge, MA.
- Commissioner Wohlfarth reported that the agency is moving towards a ten year public art master plan.

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- Commissioner Wohlfarth reported that the 5x5 Project will be essential to the execution of that plan.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that “Bridge,” a video by Think Out Loud Productions highlighting The 5x5 Project piece “Bridge” by artist Glenn Kaino, has been selected as a Contemporary Design and Art (CODA) People’s Choice Top 100 Video.
- Deputy Director Toney continued by stating the winner of the Top 100 Video contest will be announced on November 7, 2014 in Chicago, IL.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the agency is moving forward with regards to allocating FY14 grant funding.
- Commissioner Bowser inquired as to the timeline of distributing grant checks.
- Director of Grants Moshe Adams reported that all first payments will be distributed by mid-November due to improvements to the electronic system.
- Commissioner Bowser stated that the City Council’s Committee on Finance and Revenue wanted first payments to have been distributed by November 1, 2014.
- Commissioner Bowser suggested the agency document very carefully any reasons why the DC-wide system for distributing checks would not allow for such a turnaround period.
- Commissioner Bowser asked to discuss the Lincoln Theatre partnership.
- Finance Manager Earica Busby reported that the Lincoln Theatre produced \$74,000 in revenue.
- Deputy Director Toney stated that the agency will be able to use that revenue in FY15.
- Finance Manager Busby reported that the DC government maintains the Lincoln Theatre building through DGS (Department of General Services).
- Deputy Director Toney turned to the Office of the Poet Laureate.

Office of the Poet Laureate

- There was no report presented.

Riggs Road Underpass Improvement

- Samantha Roser of JBG Companies presented on the Riggs Road Underpass Improvement project, an initiative to activate the underpass at 3rd Street & Riggs Road NE.
- Ms. Roser reported that the total budget is approximately \$150,000.
- Ms. Roser reported that JBG Companies is requesting the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities contribute \$100,000 towards the project while the private sector will contribute \$50,000.
- Commissioner Ford suggested the agency research additional partners who could allocate additional funds towards the project to ensure the site is adequately prepared and the work is maintained properly.
- Commissioner Ford suggested the agency ask JBG Companies to explore alternative ways in which it may assist this project in addition to its expressed monetary commitment.
- Commissioner Ford motioned to acknowledge the value of the project, do more internal research, identify additional potential partner, and hold off on the approval of agency funding until that process was complete. The motion was seconded.
- Commissioner Miller moved to amend the motion by adding “to work with other stakeholders.”
- The amendment was accepted.

The motion carried. Unanimous

Recycling Truck Art Wraps Project

- Public Art Coordinator Elizabeth Carriger reported on the Recycling Truck Art Wraps project, an initiative to wrap 12 of the District of Columbia’s fleet of recycling trucks in original art to bring awareness to the importance of the arts and recycling.
- Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that the total budget request is \$128,000.

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- Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that potential project partners include the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Department of Public Works, District Department of the Environment, Department of General Services, and Sustainable DC.
- Commissioner Bowser asked that the original contingency amount of \$8,000 be raised to \$12,800 (10% of the total cost of the project).
- Commissioner Wharton motioned to approve funding for the project in the amount of \$132,800. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous
- Commissioner Wohlfarth turned to Committee Reports.

Committee Reports

- Bylaws Committee
 - Commissioner Wohlfarth presented an amendment to reinstate the position of the Second Vice Chair which was previously removed from the Bylaws.
 - Commissioner Wohlfarth asked the commissioners to consider the amendment that would reinstate a second Vice Chair and in accordance to the Bylaws, a vote would be taken at the next Full Commission meeting.

Panel Recommendations

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

Unfinished Business

- Deputy Director Toney reported artwork at the Deanwood Recreation Center had been vandalized twice.
- Deputy Director Toney continued by stating the agency is working with the artist to reinstall.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that the agency is working with Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure proper lighting is installed at the location of the artwork.
- Deputy Director Toney turned to New Business and Announcements.

New Business and Announcements

- Deputy Director Toney reported that a programming error was discovered in the new Good Done Great electronic grants system.
- Deputy Director Toney continued by stating Director of Grants Adams noticed the computer glitch with regards to the computerized computation of some grantee score.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that, of the 661 total applications, 15 errors were discovered.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that only two of the 15 errors compromised the funding decisions approved by the Commission.
- Deputy Director Toney reported that funds from the administrative line of the agency's budget could be re-allocated towards those two applications to ensure they receive the recommended funding amount.
- Deputy Director Toney asked the commissioners to consider funding the two applications that fell within funding range.
- Commissioner Miller moved to fund the two applications that fell within funding range. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:09pm.