

3.23.17 Minutes



Full Commission Meeting Minutes

3/23/2017

3:30 pm to 4:00 pm – Public Comment Period

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm – Deliberative Meeting

CAH Large Conference Room

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Stacie Lee Banks; Susan Clampitt; Haili Francis; Rhona Wolfe Friedman (Phone); Alma Gates; Darrin Glymph; MaryAnn Miller; Elvi Moore; Josef Palermo; Maria Rooney; Cicie Sattarnilasskorn; José Alberto Uclés; Gretchen Wharton; C. Brian Williams

Attending Staff Members: Arthur Espinoza, Jr., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; Michael Bigley; Earica Busby; Lauren Dugas Glover; Dominique Marsalek; Patrick Realiza; Kyra Saffran; Regan Spurlock; Derek Younger; Carl Wilson; Jeffrey Scott; Rhea Beckett

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on March 23, 2017 at 3:45 pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003.

Public Comment Period

- **Rhonda Buckley** presented information regarding current exhibits and programs at the Explore! Children’s Museum of Washington, DC to introduce Commissioners to their organizational plans.

Adoption of the Agenda

- Chair Kendall motioned to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Adoption of the February Minutes

- Chair Kendall motioned to adopt the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Chairperson’s Report

- Chair Kendall congratulated Commissioner Francis on her artwork on display at the Smithsonian.
- Chair Kendall congratulated Commissioner Williams on receiving an award for his business.
- Chair Kendall discussed proposed NEA funding changes.
- Chair Kendall discussed Arts Action Advocacy Day at the Wilson Building, which occurred on the 22nd of March.
- Chair Kendall discussed the upcoming 50th anniversary of our Commission and presented the idea to establish a committee for working on celebratory events.

Committee Reports

- Events/Mayor’s Arts Awards Committee:
 - Commissioner Miller discussed the success of Poetry Out Loud, which just occurred, with nine high schools participating.
 - The winner will advance to the nationals held at GW and could win a 20,000 dollar award from the NEA.
 - Commissioner Miller announced that the event was filmed and can be watched later on District Cable TV.
- Finance Committee:
 - Commissioner Moore announced that the agency has disbursed \$17.1M in grant funds to date.
 - Commissioner Moore announced that CAH anticipates it will disburse remaining grant funds by August.
 - Commissioner Moore noted that the agency has no spending pressures at present.
- Grants/Panels Committee:
 - Commissioner Wharton mentioned the Arts Education Projects (AEP) panel that occurred in the last week.
 - Commissioner Wharton noted that the Project, Events, and Festivals (PEF) Panel will occur next week.

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- Commissioner Wharton noted an urgent call for panelists and requested that the Board actively promote the need for panelists.
- Public Art Committee:
 - Commissioner Gates discussed the Public Art Building Communities deadline closing March 31.
 - Commissioner Gates noted the upcoming The Washingtonia Collection (of Art Bank) gallery exhibit on August 25 - September 15.
 - Commissioner Gates gave an update on the Barry Commission and stated that the site location is still underway and artist(s) are waiting for details in order to proceed.
 - Commissioner Gates noted that the 200 I St Galleries will have an active exhibition March 24 – June 1 (*Is Separate Ever Equal*), with a grand opening on March 24 from 6PM – 10PM.
 - Commissioner Gates noted the Artist Fellowship Grant Program (Visual Arts) Exhibit happening June 16 – August 11.
 - Commissioner Gates mentioned the upcoming Close at Hand Exhibit (part of the Call to Curators grant) on September 26 – November 10.

Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Espinoza reviewed the CAH announcement about NEA funding following the March 16 Budget release by President Trump.
 - Both NEA and NEH are equally funded – CAH receives funding only from NEA.
 - The future impact of other federal funding cuts, which would impact other agencies in the District, is unknown.
 - Arts Advocacy Day at the Wilson Building yesterday included conversations about how the Cultural Plan will be applied and the necessity for funding the Plan fully once completed.
 - Arts Advocacy Week activities included a lecture at the Kennedy Center, with the Past President of the NEA and Darrin Walker, Executive Director of the Ford Foundation, as guest speakers.
- Executive Director Espinoza recognized Grants Manager Regan Spurlock for her award in Granting Excellence from the District.
- Executive Director Espinoza still working to fill an open position in the Grants Department and announced a new staff member, Program Support Specialist Rhea Beckett.
- Executive Director Espinoza discussed the CAH Design Thinking training for staff that occurred March 6.
- Executive Director Espinoza announced:
 - The Projects, Events, Festivals winter cycle was extended through March 27.
 - The General Operating Support Program will establish three categories: Heritage, Horizon, and Service Organization in FY18.
 - Panels will deliberate on these applications on March 31, April 4, 5, 6 and 7.
 - The annual Spring Grants Launch will occur on April 22 and 25 at three locations throughout the District.
- Grants Manager Spurlock announced the launch of FY18 grants.
 - CAH is providing varying times and locations, including locations East of the River, for more equitable access.
 - Office Hours will be launched at the office of the Deputy Mayor for Greater Economic Opportunity to support grant applicants.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted that a new cohort for Fellowship Program will include “Design Arts.”
- Executive Director Espinoza stated CAH is exploring capacity building grants for small budget sized organizations and entities.
- Executive Director Espinoza attended SXSW in Austin as a representative of CAH.
- Executive Director Espinoza met with cultural affairs leaders of Austin to learn about their arts and humanities grant making, activities, and programming.
 - E.D. Espinoza noted that significant funding for their arts support is derived from a hotel and occupancy tax.
- Executive Director Espinoza explained that the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation (MAAF) is a regional arts organization, a partnership organization of the NEA, and CAH’s membership in MAAF is encouraged by the NEA.

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Panel Recommendations

- There was no report

New Business and Announcements

- Commissioner Ucles announced the upcoming Artomatic events for this weekend.
 - Commissioner Ucles will send an email to the Board with additional information about the events.
- Commissioner Wharton announced an upcoming award for Commissioner Banks on her business success.

Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

Executive Session

- Chair Kendall motioned to hold an Executive Session. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous.

Adjournments

- The meeting was adjourned following the Executive Session at approximately 6:45PM.