

# 4.28.16 Minutes



## Full Commission Meeting Minutes

4/28/2016

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

4:00 pm-6:00 pm-Deliberative Meeting

DCCA Large Conference Room

**Attending Commissioners:** Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Stacie Lee Banks; Susan Clampitt; Edmund Fleet; Antoinette Ford; Rhona Friedman; Alma Gates; Barbara Jones; James E. Laws Jr.; MaryAnn Miller; Elvi Moore; Maria Hall Rooney; José Alberto Uclés; Gretchen Wharton

**Attending Staff Members:** Arthur Espinoza, Jr., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; Michael Bigley; Earica Busby; Ebony Brown; Tonya Jordan; Dolores Kendrick; David Markey; Patrick Realiza; Kyra Saffran; Regan Spurlock

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on April 28, 2016 at 4:00 pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003.

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### Adoption of the Agenda

- Commissioner Wharton motioned to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded.  
*The motion carried. Unanimous*

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### Adoption of the March 24<sup>th</sup> Minutes, April 7<sup>th</sup> Minutes

- Commissioner Ford motioned to adopt the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded.  
*The motion carried. Unanimous*

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### Public Comment Period

- DC jazz artists, Mr. Ethan Phillion, Mr. Charles Dolph and Mr. Brian Falkowski expressed desire to bring live music, particularly jazz into the public sphere as well as increase jazz programming.
- Mr. Ethan Phillion addressed his concern that music is not represented fairly in the Commission's grants and asked that professional development opportunities exist for musicians.
- Mr. Charles Dolph inquired about gaining social media support from the Commission to help publicize local musicians and events.
- Executive Director Arthur Espinoza, Jr. thanked the DC jazz artists for speaking and noted that notifications about events taking place around the District are always welcome.
- Executive Director Espinoza mentioned the Agency's extensive support of the DC Jazz Festival through funding.
- Executive Director Espinoza suggested looking into the Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program grant for individual artists.
- Mr. Brent "Munch" Joseph, Cultural Curator for Hedrush Agency explained his role in the District as a creative event coordinator.

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### Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kay Kendall thanked Commissioner MaryAnn Miller for her work on the senior exhibit scheduled to be held in the DCCA lobby in September.
- Chair Kendall lauded Commissioner Barbara Jones for organizing the FY17 grants roll out at RISE center.
- Chair Kendall noted Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Alma Gates are preparing for the first Barry Commission panel to take place 5/18, with the second panel in June.

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- Chair Kendall mentioned that she and Executive Director Espinoza were asked to speak at Dance Place's ribbon cutting ceremony.
- Chair Kendall explained that the Cultural Plan has entered a new stage as consultants have been chosen.
- Chair Kendall called attention to festivals taking place in the fall.
- Chair Kendall expressed sadness in reading about DC Youth Trust.

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### Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Espinoza shared the names of two new employees: Khalid Randolph, East of the River Grants Manager and IDEA advisor and Arts Education Associate, LaShawne Bryant.
- Executive Director Espinoza presented a PowerPoint on grants funding from FY15-FY17.
- Executive Director Espinoza expressed desire to ensure that grants remain strong and become stronger in a trajectory that is supportive of the community.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted FY16 funding of \$10.8M with \$8M in grants, \$2.8M in public art (\$1.65M projected in public art grants making \$1.15M available) and the money must be spent within the year (by 9/30) as it does not roll over.
- Executive Director Espinoza questioned how the money can be spent by the end of the year, and if it is possible to move remaining money from public art grants to regular grants.
- Commissioner MaryAnn Miller asked for consideration to be given to provide more funding for the Artist Fellowship grants.
- Executive Director Espinoza stated the simplest thing to do is to focus on Grants-in-Aid recipients.
- Executive Director Espinoza explained capital funding, which rolls over from year to year, hasn't existed since FY15.
- Executive Director Espinoza shared interest in creating programs beyond grantmaking to help the industry as a whole.
- Executive Director Espinoza asked how the Commission can support the business aspect in a professional development sense.
- Executive Director Espinoza suggested using this summer to implement a professional development grant, by including an individual grant similar to an AHFP that would support current activities, general operating work and support the industry in moving forward.
- Executive Director explained Public Art has not been able to carry out all of its projects due to management issues.
- Commissioner José Alberto Uclés lauded Executive Director Espinoza's idea to incorporate professional development into grants.
- Commissioner Antoinette Ford asked if professional development would include proposal writing.
- Executive Director Espinoza answered yes, if they attend a formal, not-for-credit, one-time event to have the opportunity to help individuals who are entering the field and for investment in those professions crucial to arts and humanities.
- Commissioner Alma Gates inquired if the program would only be targeted to individuals, or if smaller staffs would also be eligible.
- Commissioner Uclés noted the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs offers support for individuals, and that there are a lot of partners that could be included.
- Executive Director Espinoza suggested that decisions be paneled by the grants committee.
- Commissioner Wharton questioned giving money to workshops rather than to specific organizations to reach a broader range of people.
- Chair Kendall mentioned this is part of the continual debate about breadth and depth, and giving more money to current grantees.
- Executive Director Espinoza noted this would accomplish the goal of having the money remain in grants.
- Commissioner Ford expressed belief that funding should be thought of as a long term investment.

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- Executive Director Espinoza agreed and added that this is why this summer will be a good initial test.
- Associate Grants Manager Regan Spurlock stated that 109 out of 312 applicants from FY16 were funded.

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### Office of Poet Laureate

- Poet Laureate Dolores Kendrick thanked Office Manager Carolyn Parker, Special Events Manager Ebony Brown, Special Events Associate Jakenna Martin, Executive Director Espinoza and Chair Kendall for their work with A. Van Jordan's event at Folger Library.
- Poet Laureate Kendrick shared plans to launch reading in the workplace, beginning with the Mayor's Office in May or June.

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### Finance report

- Chair Kendall stressed that repurposing of funds needs to be approached from a financial standpoint as part of the budget, not from a grants perspective with specifics and details of what a professional development grant would look like in order to give staff an idea of how to work budget.
- Chair Kendall made a motion to vote on allocation of repurposed funds to create a professional development aspect for current grantees.
- Chair Kendall motioned for vote. Commissioner Friedman seconded.  
*The motion carried. Unanimous*

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### Committee Reports

- Art all Night:
  - Commissioner Gretchen Wharton changed name to Art at Night, and noted that it will take place 9/24 at the same five locations as last year.
- Arts Education:
  - Commissioner Rhona Friedman went over Arts Education handout.
  - Commissioner Friedman shared plans for Arts Education day to include panel with speakers from the community.
  - Commissioner Friedman mentioned that the Arts Education policy for public and public charter schools is moving along.
- Grants:
  - Commissioner Susan Clampitt applauded the turn out for the FY17 grant roll out with more than 200 people in attendance, and noted that Deputy Mayor Brian Kenner spoke.
  - Commissioner Clampitt noted acceptance from all FY17 HGP awarded grantees.
  - Commissioner Clampitt lauded Khalid Randolph for having a great start in the Grants Department.
  - Commissioner Clampitt reminded Commissioners to sign up for at least 1 of the 21 panels.
- Humanities Council:
  - Commissioner MaryAnn Miller shared information on an initiative to connect with the National Center for Creative Aging in September.
  - Commissioner Antoinette Ford noted conference is to be held at the Newseum 9/24-28.
  - Commissioner Ford mentioned that the Humanities Council was announced as a finalist for the 2016 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award for its Soul of the City program.
- Mayor's Arts Awards:
  - Commissioner Uclés reminded the Commission of 5/3 deadline for nominations.
  - Commissioner Uclés noted Committee meeting to take place on 5/4.
  - Commissioner Uclés mentioned the Mayor's Arts Awards event will happen 9/22.
- Public Art:

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- Commissioner Alma Gates stated two recent calls for artists were released; Washingtonia Collection and Art Bank Collection.
- Commissioner Gates mentioned the Corcoran will be sending a new data file for selection of artworks.
- Commissioner Gates addressed that the Public Art Committee has been working on master plan.
- Commissioner Gates credited Commissioner Maria Rooney with reviewing document and defining it as two separate forms with a public document and staff guideline.
- Public Art Manager Tonya Jordan thanked Commissioner Wharton for participating in Howard Theatre Walk of Fame panel, and noted the second panel will take place 5/20.
- Public Art Manager Jordan discussed plans to meet with contractors over repair and cosmetic improvement of Legacy Memorial Park Project.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reminded the Commission that this is the 9<sup>th</sup> year of MuralsDC, and that there is an open call for an artist consultant to oversee projects.
- Public Art Manger Jordan shared that Vision Zero Initiative, led by DDOT, will hold a panel on 5/13, and again on 5/18 to determine 3 semifinalists.

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### **Panel Recommendations**

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

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### **New Business and Announcements**

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

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### **Unfinished Business**

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

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### **Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.