

07.23.15 Minutes



Full Commission Meeting Minutes

7/23/2015

3:30pm – 5:51pm

Attending Commissioners: Kay Kendall, CHAIR; Susan Clampitt; Edmund Fleet; Antoinette Ford; Rhona Wolfe Friedman; Alma Gates; Darrin Glymph; Barbara Jones (phone); James E. Laws Jr.; MaryAnn Miller; José Alberto Uclés

Attending Staff Members: Lisa Richards Toney, INTERIM DIRECTOR Earica Busby; Elizabeth Carriger; Brittany Dibble; Ron Humbertson; Tonya Jordan; David Markey; Steven Mazzola; Zoma Wallace

The Full Commission meeting of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order on July 23, 2015 at 4:00pm at 200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003

Adoption of the Agenda

- Commissioner Alma Gates motioned to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded.
The motion carried. Unanimous

Adoption of the June 30th Minutes

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

Chairperson's Report

- Chair Kay Kendall commended the Grants team for their excellent work.
- Chair Kendall reported that the Finance report would be presented first, before Public Art.
- Chair Kendall deferred to Interim Director Lisa Richards Toney to complete the Interim Director's Report.

Interim Director's Report

- Interim Director Lisa Richards Toney referred to the physical copy of the Director's report presented to the Commissioners.
- Interim Director Toney reported on the continuing development of the District of Columbia Cultural Plan. She continued by stating that she has been involved in discussions with Director Eric Shaw of the Office of Planning.
- Interim Director Toney reported on the progress of the agency's long-range strategic plan. She continued by stating the Cultural Planning Group presented her with a first draft of the plan which includes 10 specific proposals and target areas.
- Chair Kendall reported that The Cultural Planning Group suggested the agency's mission be re-written.
- Interim Director Toney reported on a recent vandalization of public art in the Deanwood neighborhood. She continued by stating that the agency has decided to move the art due to a community interest in the fate of the piece.
- Interim Director Toney reported that the agency is exploring activating local street security gates using art at the request of Mayor Muriel Bowser. She continued by stating the agency would partner with Great Streets to execute the initiative.
- Commissioner MaryAnn Miller asked about the number of gates available to be activated in the city.
- Public Art Manager Tonya Jordan responded every Great Streets is aware of some in their respective jurisdictions, but the agency will be focusing on gates in Wards 4,5,7, and 8.
- Interim Director Toney drew the Commissioners' attention to a physical copy of an agency calendar complete with agency event dates through the end of the current fiscal year.

07.23.15 Minutes



- Interim Director Toney reported on her attendance at the opening of the new office for the Deputy Mayor for Economic Opportunity.

Office of the Poet Laureate

- There was no report.

Strategic Plan Update

- Interim Director Toney reported on the progress of the Strategic Plan in her Interim Director's Report.

FY16 Grant Funding

- Director of Grants Steven Mazzola presented the Commissioners with physical packets containing their individual grant panel schedules and timelines, as well as information relating to the summer's grant panels.
- Chair Kendall commended Director of Grants Mazzola for developing such a smart and effective plan to execute all 31 panels.
- Director of Grants Mazzola reported that Commissioner Gretchen Wharton vetted and approved the distributed summer grants panel schedule.
- Commissioner MaryAnn Miller moved to accept the plan. The motion was seconded.
The motion passed. Unanimous.
- Director of Grants Mazzola recommended that any extra funding or funds that may be returned to the agency be delegated towards the Artist Fellowship Program.

Committee Reports

- Finance
 - The Finance Report occurred under New Business.
- Public Art
 - Commissioner Alma Gates reported that the Public Art team has undertaken and executed numerous projects in recent weeks. She continued by introducing Public Art Coordinator Elizabeth Carriger for an update on the Chinatown Barnes Dance public art project.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that the project was presented to the full commission for approval last fall. She continued by stating that a public request for artists was released on June 21, 2015 and closed on June 29, 2015.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that a panel met on July 6, 2015 to review the artists' project proposals.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that the panel chose Charles Bergen's "Dragon Dance," a street mural that would activate the intersections with paintings of dragons and traditional Chinese symbols.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that the agency and artist is working closely with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation to provide traffic and safety plans for the completion of the project.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported on the Designed to Recycle initiative. She continued by reporting a 10th recycling truck will be wrapped in artwork designed by youth in September 2015.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that five wrapped recycling trucks were on view at the city's annual Truck Touch in June 2015 at Robert F. Kennedy Stadium.
 - Public Art Coordinator Carriger reported that the agency is in conversation with the District of Columbia Department of Public Works to offer continuing educational programming around the wrapped recycling trucks.

07.23.15 Minutes



- Commissioner Miller suggested the agency explore taking a piece of an artwork involved in the recycling truck initiative and mounting it in front of the Department of Public Works' offices.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported on the progress of the Urban Farm project. She continued by reminding the Commissioners that the Ward 7 project was approved by the full commission in the Fall and was conceived by the University of the District of Columbia.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that a public call for artistic proposals was released on May 13, 2015 and received 80 applications.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that a panel physically gathered on July 23, 2015 to view presentations from the final six selected artists.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported Seattle-based sculptor Koryn Rolstadt was selected to design 24 colorful tree-like structures as an iconic gateway to the site. She continued by stating the tree canopies will be crafted with sustainable tubing and cast beautiful, colorful shadows on the ground.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported the artist will involve the community during installation and has agreed to provide educational programming.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that Rolstadt's artwork can be moved to a new location should the urban farm not continue.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that September 26, 2015 is a public Build Day at the farm site. She continued by stating the sculptures and mural will be installed in the late Fall or early Winter.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that a public call for mural artists was extended to August 6, 2015. She continued by stating the muralist must provide education and painting opportunities to youth participants.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported on the dedication of the Symphony in D Major mural in the Shaw neighborhood by artist Zachary Oxman.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported on the recent dedication of the Legacy Memorial Park.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported on the June 22, 2015 dedication of the lighting of Murrow and Monroe Parks.
- Public Art Manager Jordan introduced Curator Zoma Wallace to report on recent Art Bank purchases.
- Curator Zoma Wallace reported on the creation of a comprehensive online platform to collect artist applications. She continued by reporting the agency received 1,600 applications, all of which were paneled by two groups.
- Curator Wallace reported that artists having scored 70 or above were requested to present on their pieces in person. She continued by reported 141 pieces were moved to the next round of the selection process and were installed in the 200 I Street gallery for exhibition.
- Curator Wallace reported that panelists reconvened on May 20, 2015 to examine the final pieces and identify those that would have longevity and maintain value.
- Curator Wallace reported 63 new works created by 47 artists were purchased by the agency for a total of \$197,000.00.
- Public Art Manager Jordan introduced Collections Manager Ron Humbertson to report on the collections management system Gallery Systems – TMS.
- Collections Manager Ron Humbertson reported that the agency's online eMuseum will house images of the agency's entire collection for the public's benefit.
- Public Art Manager Jordan reported that the Mount Pleasant Library has requested support regarding the preservation of a 1920s Walt Disney mural by Aurelius Battaglia. She continued by stating that Curator Wallace is currently exploring the possibility of curating an exhibition in celebration of the artist's life and work through circus animals.
- Collections Manager Humbertson reported that, since 1986, the agency has invested \$4.4 million into the Art Bank selection program as well as \$11.9 million in public art.

07.23.15 Minutes



- Mayors' Arts Awards
 - Commissioner José Alberto Uclés thanked Interim Director Toney, Interim Deputy Director Baatin, Events Manager Ebony Brown and Events Assistant Jakenna Martin for their dedication to the Mayors' Arts Awards.
 - Commissioner Uclés reported that the ceremony will occur on Thursday, October 29, 2015 at The Historic Lincoln Theatre, noting it is the ceremony's 30th anniversary and will occur under a new Mayoral administration.
 - Commissioner Uclés reported that, unlike previous years, the winners of the awards will not be announced until the evening of the ceremony.
 - Commissioner Susan Clampitt noted that 50th anniversary celebrations for the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities may be scheduled for the same October 29th evening.
- Bylaws
 - Commissioner Miller reported that the Bylaws Committee will meet at the end of August 2015 or beginning of September 2015 to present proposals and suggestions at the October 2015 full commission meeting.

Panel Recommendations

- There were no panel recommendations presented.

Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

New Business and Announcements

- Commissioner Rhona Wolfe Friedman referred to physical copies of the budget presented to the commissioners.
- Commissioner Friedman reminded the commissioners they have the authority to vote on the grants categories.
- Commissioner Friedman directed the commissioners' attention to line 36 (Art All Night), noting the full commission had previously approved the project at a total of \$125,000.00.
- Commissioner Friedman announced that the former Executive Director of the agency gave an additional \$175,000.00 to Art All Night.
- Commissioner Friedman asked that the full commission board vote to allocate an additional \$45,000.00 to Art All Night, reporting that \$191,000.00 in funding had been returned to the agency from Public Art as well as grantees that could not spend all allocated funds.
- Chair Kendall reported that the \$191,000.00 in additional funding would be distributed to budget lines 24-32, with \$45,000.00 of that total dedicated towards Art All Night.
- Commissioner Gates expressed concerns with allocating further funding towards Art All Night, considering there was little accountability with regards to the budget and no breakdown provided.
- Commissioner Susan Clampitt expressed concern regarding the fact that the full commission had approved Art All Night 2015 with the understanding that the agency would seek corporate partnerships and the Main Streets involved would allocate funds towards the event.
- Chair Kendall stated that Mayor Muriel Bowser is particularly interested in an annual festival.
- Chair Kendall suggested all commissioners attend Art All Night 2015 and then determine whether it is an appropriate use of funds.
- Commissioner Darrin Glymph motioned to approve the allocation of funding in lines 191 and 421 and award it to lines 24-32. The motion was seconded.

The motion passed. Unanimous.

07.23.15 Minutes



Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:51pm.