



Maryland State Arts Council Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2021

In attendance: Chris Sloan, Benny Russell, Jacqueline Copeland, Anne West, Julia Madden, Timothy App, Jack Rasmussen, Lily Bengfort, John Schratweiser, Carole Alexander, David Fakunle, Shelley Morhaim, Ronald Young, Molline Jackson, Zoe Charlton, Emily Sollenberger, Abdul Ali, Ryan Koons, Liesel Fenner, Rosa Chang, Laura Weiss, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Shaunte Roper, Cat Frost, Tom Riford, Tammy Opper, Dana Parsons, Chad Buterbaugh, Ryan Patterson, Keyonna Penick, Elizabeth Borman, Allison Burr-Livingstone

10:03 meeting called to order by Jacqueline Copeland.

Anne West made a motion to approve the agenda. Carole Alexander seconded the motion. All in favor.

Anne West made a motion to approve the July 16, 2021 council meeting minutes. Benny Russell seconded the motion. All in favor.

Chair Jacqueline Copeland recommended that these bylaws be amended to expand the executive committee from 5 members to 7 with one of the current members being a former chair. The purpose of the revision is to assure that the past Council Chair be included on the Executive Committee, in order to provide guidance and experience with past practices in Council leadership, procedures and protocols.

Shelley Morhaim made a motion to send the bylaw revision to the Attorney General for review. Benny Russell seconded the motion. All in favor.

Interim Executive Director Steven Skerritt-Davis Report.

- Staffing Update
 - State Folklorist Chad Buterbaugh was promoted to Senior Program Director and new duties include development of the Independent Artist Network.
 - Ryan Koons promoted to Folklife Specialist
 - Arts in Education Program Director and Executive Director positions vacant.



- Role of Councilors
 - Councilors are responsible for (i) attending meetings of the Council; serving on at least one Council Committee; serving ex officio as a member of at least one Advisory Panel and acting as liaison between that panel and the Council; (ii) serving as liaison with the General Assembly acting as spokespersons and advocates for the arts; attending Council- sponsored events throughout the State and especially in their region of the State; representing diverse geographic areas of the state and exhibiting involvement and/or affiliation with arts activities.
- Program Partners
 - A Program Partner is a Councilor who is informed of opportunities for engagement within an MSAC program area and joins MSAC staff as a Council representative at events as they are able. Councilors self-select program interest areas, and MSAC program staff communicate engagement opportunities to program partners on a regular basis.

Council Liaison Keyonna Penick provided an email vote summary.

Panelists Discussion

- Issue: All areas of the state are not represented. Allegany, Garrett, Kent and Queen Anne's County are under-represented.
- Strategies
 - Revising call for panelists communication language to increase access and encourage multiple entry points to engage with MSAC;
 - Increase in targeted marketing and associated graphics by directly asking our current networks to share the panelist call for public contributors with a targeted ask

Artist Employment Initiative Update

- Phased development: Phase 1 (summer): Staff interviews; Phase 2 (fall): Public outreach (Five public dialogues, online survey, program-specific communication); Phase 3 (winter): Program development; Phase 4 (spring): Marketing. Rollout Summer 2022. Parallel trends at other SAAs; Rhode Island State Council on the Arts; South Carolina Arts Commission

Program Policy Evaluation (PPE) Committee Report

GFO Tiered Funding Model



- In June 2021, MSAC undertook a public editing process to change the Grants for Organizations (GFO) funding formula so that state funding for arts organizations can be more equitably disbursed. (See August 24, 2021 PPE Committee Minutes for further details.)
- After review during the August PPE Committee meeting the PPE Committee recommended the editor recommendations for a full council vote.

Timothy App made a motion to approve the editor's recommendations. Zoe Charlton seconded the motion. All in favor.

Folklife Network Grant Policy

- History - 2001-2018: Discretionary "partnerships"; 2019: Folklife Network grant introduced; modeled on CAD; 2020: Grantees grow from five to eight regional folklife centers; 2021: Program revision to align further with CAD policies and procedures.
- Vision - 2022-onward: Direct MSAC support of grantee needs; Direct grantee support of local traditional artist needs; Inter-center communication. (See August 24, 2021 PPE Committee Minutes for further details.)
- After review during the August PPE Committee meeting the PPE Committee recommended the editor recommendations for a full council vote.

Benny Russell made a motion to approve the editor's recommendations. Lily Bengfort seconded the motion. John Schratweiser and Zoe Charlton opposed. Chris Sloan abstained. Remaining council members all in favor.

EDI Sharing held for the next meeting.

Staff Program Reports and Fiscal Report shared and reviewed prior to the meeting. No questions.

Maryland Citizens for the Arts

Special Grant Request: \$150,000; Staff Recommendation to fully fund.

Anne West made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. Benny Russell seconded the motion. Shelley, Carole, Julie abstained. Remaining councilor members all in favor.

Water's Edge Museum

Special Grant Request: \$45,000; Staff recommendation not to fund.



John made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. Lily seconded the motion. Zoe, Julie, Molline, and David opposed. Remaining council members all in favor.

12:11pm Shelley made a motion to close the meeting. John Schratwieser seconded. All council members voted yes to closing the meeting session.

In attendance; Shelley Morhaim, John Schratwieser, Jacqueline Copeland, Benny Russell, Zoe Charlton, Jack Rasmussen, Julie Madden, Lily Bengfort, Carole Alexander, Molline Jackson, David Fakunle, Anne West, Timothy App, Tom Riford, Keyonna Penick

The meeting was closed under the following provisions of General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b):(1) "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance evaluation of of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"

§ 3-305(b)(1):

Topic 1: Hiring of Executive Director

Action taken: None

Meeting adjourned at 12:26pm.