



## **MSAC Finance Committee**

### MEETING MINUTES

July 2, 2020  
Google Meet

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Present: Lily Bengfort, Dana Parsons, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Julia Spangler-Madden, Ken Skrzysz, Tom Riford, Joan Lyon, Shaunte Roper, Benny Russell, Kelly Schulz and Keyonna Penick

Benny Russell called the meeting to Order at 1:02 p.m.

Secretary Schulz thanked everyone for their teamwork, continuous efforts and offered her full support of the Council before exiting the meeting at 1:10 p.m. Tom Riford also left at that time.

The Finance Committee discussed the distribution of a second round of emergency grants and recommended allocation of \$3M from the CARES Act among the following:

Arts and Entertainment Districts: (\$435,000) Maximum \$15K for activities supporting economic development.

County Arts Development: (\$1,000,000) Maximum \$50K for regranting and activities generating economic development through the arts.

Organizations and Independent Artists: (\$1,565,000) No request limit, application pool limited to organizations currently participating in any MSAC grants programs and Maryland independent artists that produce work in alignment with MSAC programs.

The same Emergency Grant applications, guidelines and procedures used in the first round of funding distributions will be used and will be ready to launch on July 20, 2020.

FY21 Budget Discussion



The Executive Director, Ken Skrzysz and Fiscal Officer, Shaunte Roper presented two proposed budgets; one without the \$1M Preservation of Cultural Arts Funding, and the other with the \$1M Preservation of Cultural Arts Funding pending a decision from the Board of Public Works.

Discussion about surpluses and deficits arose and Shaunte explained that as a result of the CARES ACT from the NEA fund we will not have a deficit. We will actually start with a surplus as administrative factors will be prepaid from FY20 budget.

Other discussion surrounding the budget and how cuts were made included the Arts and Education program where cuts were based on information from the Maryland State Department of Education and how it's unlikely that teacher artists will be placed in schools. Public Art had funds that were not used and increased because of recent changes in the program, which include removing the match requirement. Folklife recently approved an additional 4 folklife network regional centers.

Additional funding is included for Maryland Arts Award Ceremonies, an increase in graphic design and marketing with additional performances and exhibitions as we are faced to provide virtual performing art experiences.

Joan Lyon made a motion to accept both versions of the FY21 budget proposals. Lily Bengfort seconded the motion. None opposed. All in favor.

The executive director and the entire council thanked Shaunte for all of her hard work as well as the entire MSAC staff for all they have accomplished.

1:31 Adjourn