

**Salt Lake City Arts Council
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 2020
WebEx Online**

Present: Andrea Ashdown Susan Koles Rickman
Annie Dayton Larry Cohen
Erika Hill Dave Mortensen
Kat Potter Torle Nenbee
Kathy Davis Efren Garcia
Leah Langan
Matt Castillo

Staff Members: Felicia Baca, Arts Division Director
Sylvia Richards, City Council Office

Guests: Kanika Welch

Excused: Jared Jones

Not present: Steve Barth

I. Call to Order and Welcome Guests

Ms. Leah Langan called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30

II. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Annie Dayton corrected errors in the minutes from the Board's July 15, 2020 convening. Ms. Kathy Davis made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Kat Potter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Dave Mortensen read a statement from the City concerning remote convening due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

III. Management Update

A. Executive Director updates

1. Program updates

Ms. Felicia Baca updated the Board that City Council approved an additional \$25,000 for arts grants focusing on equity and inclusion for the current fiscal year. A press release for Twilight Concert Series fundraiser would be released and Ms. Baca asked Board members for participation in sharing the fundraiser. The official start of the fundraiser is August 21, 2020. Ms. Baca stated that a change to the funding process for the Twilight Concert Series had been transmitted to City Council to allow for payment in advance rather than after the fact. The Arts Council's non-departmental contract will be completed in the coming weeks. Ms. Baca stated that the Living Legacy video series production was delayed, but final edits were expected soon.

2. Mayor's Office updates

Ms. Baca stated that the City purchased a membership to Government Alliance on Racial Equity. She has been on an arts and culture working group with peers across the country and will have a team member serve on the initiative. She is

looking into getting access to Arts Council Board members. Ms. Nenbee stated that she is pleased with the creativity and individual participation in the Black Lives Matter mural at the City and County Building Ms. Baca said there were six to eight people who had never painted a mural before. She is happy with the engagement with young people.

IV. Budget/Financial Update-

A. Review of Financials and Budgets

Board Treasurer Mr. Matt Castillo led a review of the Arts Council Balance sheet, noting limited transactions because it was the first month of the fiscal year. He stated the Council is in a good position, with unrestricted assets, \$500,000 in the bank, and \$400,000 to pay the remainder of the grant funds. Mr. Castillo also noted that receivables are low, related specifically to our Zoo Arts and Parks (ZAP) grant payments.

He discussed profits and loss, noting that the Arts Council received the first ZAP payment for the fiscal year. The administrative and programming expenses were low, with only \$13,000 spent this fiscal year. Ms. Baca noted one individual artist emergency fund of \$500 that had rolled over into the current fiscal year.

V. Board Updates

A. Grants Committee-Action

Ms. Annie Dayton summarized the work the grants committee has been doing. The grants committee reviewed four categories of apps, used web grants online to review and score applications, averaging individual scores into an overall score for each applicant and meeting four times via Webex to discuss applications. Requests for funding exceeded the available funds, so the grants committee made across the board cuts to fit within the budget. General support applications were cut 45 percent, other applications were cut 35 or 40 percent. One request did not get funded because they did not have a required match, which is a primary eligibility requirement. Mr. Mortensen stated that the applications discussed were not formally funded at this point in the process, they were put forward with a recommendation to be approved. Ms. Potter asked how the number of applicants compared to last year and Ms. Baca stated that there were similar numbers as last year and that the Council had consolidated project grants with mini grants so the year to year data is probably not reflective because of the change. The Council received over \$800,000 in requests and only has \$355,000 to award. Ms. Dayton noted that Ms. Ellis had put together a summary sheet for the Grant Recommendations. Mr. Larry Cohen motioned to approve the funding recommendations, Mr. Garcia seconded, and all the board members voted in favor.

B. Board Commitment Form

Mr. Mortensen proposed a review and update to the Board commitment form. The Board read the commitment form together and discussed recommendations for additions, including reference to required attendance at Busker Fest, gallery stroll, and other programming. Ms. Langan stated that the language could be more inclusive to folks who may see the board as socio-economically exclusive by including that a lot of the grantees include free tickets to those who are on the Arts Council Board.

C. Committees for the Future

Mr. Mortensen stated that the Board has Grants, Executive, Strategic Planning, and Nominating/Governance Committees. In the past couple of months, the Board has discussed adding a Diversity and Equity Committee, but the Executive Committee has not formalized that. Mr. Mortenson would like to have a preliminary meeting to discuss next steps with those who are interested in participation. Ms. Baca stated that the Board wants to be respectful of members' capacity, and that the Arts Council's new membership in the Governmental Alliance on Racial Equity can fill in some efforts that would be filled by the Board. Ms. Baca would like to talk about recruitment strategies for the City's workforce. She stated that a tangible goal is to recruit one person for the board, and the Board can have as many as 25 members.

D. Outgoing member

Board members thanked former Board member Ms. Kanika Welch, for her time on the Board and wished her well in her next endeavor.

VI. Arts Event Discussion

Mr. Mortensen stated that the Great Online Fringe Festival had occurred, and Ms. Davis had attended. Mr. Castillo had attended the virtual Craft Lake City and reported on that event. Ms. Baca stated that she has a panel discussion for an exhibition at Finch Lane Gallery coming up and was attending a bi-weekly conversation surrounding anti-racism with artists in the community. Mr. Mortensen stated that the Urban Arts Festival had been converted to a month-long festival on weekends. Ms. Potter stated that Utah Presents virtual fundraiser would stream from Kingsbury Hall.

VII. Public Comment

None.

IX. Other Business/Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.