

Salt Lake City Arts Council
Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2022
54 Finch Lane, Salt Lake City, Utah
WebEx Online

Present:

Andrea Ashdown
Kathy Davis
Josanne Glass
Thomas Kessinger
Sarah Longoria
Sonali Loomba
Torle Nenbee
Cale Newhouse
Susan Rickman
Richard Taylor

Excused:

Katherine Potter

Salt Lake City Arts Council Staff:

Felicia Baca
Kelsey Ellis
Taylor Knuth
Todd Oberndorfer

Guests:

Matt Castillo - *Director of Salt Lake County Division of Arts & Culture, former Salt Lake City Arts Council Board Member*

Lorena Rizzo Jensen - *Director of Department of Economic Development for the City of Salt Lake*

Katie Riser - *Special Project and Volunteer Program Manager in the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office*

Annie Manges - *Love Your Block Americorps VISTA*

Roberta Reichgelt - *Director of Business Development for the Salt Lake City Department of Economic Development*

Sylvia Richards - *Salt Lake City Council Staff*

Kilo Zamora - *Community Engagement Consultant and teacher in the University of Utah School for Cultural and Social Transformation*

I. Call to Order

Ms. Susan Rickman, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

II. Approve Board Meeting Minutes - August 2022

Mr. Richard Taylor motioned to approve the August 2022 meeting minutes and Ms. Torle Nenbee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Welcome Guests

- A. Ms. Felicia Baca welcomed former board member Mr. Matt Castillo as a guest, because his six year tenure with the Arts Council is over. Mr. Castillo said that it was an honor for him to serve on the board for so long, that he'll still be very much a part of the arts and culture scene in Salt Lake City, and that he's looking forward to seeing more great things from the Arts Council. Ms. Baca said that Mr. Castillo really helped her during a time of transition with the organization and is grateful for his support. The board thanked and applauded Mr. Castillo.

IV. Management

A. Program/Administrative Updates

1. Ms. Baca introduced new Arts Council staff member Mr. Todd Oberndorfer, who is the Visual Arts Program Coordinator. Mr. Oberndorfer is an Ogden, Utah resident and was previously the Arts Outreach Manager for Weber State University's Department of Visual Art & Design. Board members were also very interested to hear about his podcast production company, Banyan Collective.
2. Ms. Kelsey Ellis gave an update about the Arts & Economic Prosperity Study, for which the Arts Council is helping to collect data. The project, led by Americans for the Arts, started in May and will continue through April of 2023. The final report will be available in September of 2023. Ms. Ellis let the board know that the Salt Lake Arts Council is responsible for collecting data from arts organizations in Salt Lake City, and from audience members at arts events, also within the city. Volunteers are needed to help collect data, and there is a link to sign up to volunteer on the Arts Council website.
3. Ms. Baca gave a brief recap of the 2022 Twilight Concert Series. She said that she is very proud of our partners, who have continued to make improvements in areas of accessibility and inclusion, including the hiring of an ADA accessibility coordinator for the events. Revenues were above projections, so the Arts Council will reach the cap of \$30,000 that it will receive from revenues, in addition to \$6,270 in individual donations. There is a wrap meeting scheduled with S&S Presents and one with the Gallivan Center.
4. Ms. Baca announced that we have a leadership update, and introduced the new Director of Economic Development, Ms. Lorena Rizzo Jenson, as confirmed yesterday by the City Council. Ms. Baca said "Great job, Lorena. We're excited for you!" Ms. Jenson addressed the board, "I am honored to be able to work with great people that are passionate about our community."
5. Ms. Baca introduced Mr. Kilo Zamora, who led a workshop during the Arts Council staff retreat, intending to help bring inclusion, accessibility and awareness into all areas of the organization. Mr. Zamora gave a recap of

some of the topics and discussions that came up during the workshop. “We spent some time looking at some really important words and ideas: privilege, colonization, institutionalized racism . . .” Mr. Knuth let us know that Mr. Zamora is contracted to engage our board in an in-depth session with the same intentions. Mr. Zamora was contracted because of a request from IDEA committee members to bring in someone to provide inclusivity training.

6. Ms. Katie Riser informed the board about the Love Your Block project, which is run through the Salt Lake City mayor’s office, and was funded in 2021 through a grant from Johns Hopkins University for \$100,000 (for two years). The project is meant to create trust and connection between city hall and our communities who have been overlooked, under-funded, etc. through mini-grants of between \$250-\$2,500. These projects are volunteer-led by community members. Some current grantees are the Glendale Learning Center, the Poplar Grove Community Council, the Compassion Center, and the Jayhawks Youth center. Projects are currently underway. Mr. Cale Newhouse asked “Are we planning to assess the impact (of these programs) and see if it’s something we’d like to continue funding ourselves?” Ms. Riser answered “That is our goal!” Openings for the next grant phases are in December and in March.
7. Ms. Roberta Reichgelt, from the business advisory board, was introduced by Ms. Baca. She is the Director of Business Development in the Department of Economic Development. “We consider ourselves to be the liaison to the business community in our city,” Ms. Reichgelt said, and explained some of the ways in which the department assists small businesses in Salt Lake City, including through loans and grant programs.
8. The public art installation by Jiyoun Lee-Lodge will be installed at the new TRAX station at 600 South Main Street in Salt Lake City next week.
9. Mr. Knuth gave a presentation on the Arts Council staff progress on the strategic plan goals, over the last six months, and showed that reporting and tracking information on projects is done using AirTable software.

V. Review of Financials

- A. Mr. Cale Newhouse gave a review of the Arts Council financials, noting that “we are outperforming our budget in commissions (gallery sales). He said that the balance sheet looks healthy, and let us know that an audit will take place soon, the final report of which will be publicly available.

VI. Board Business

- A. Ms. Rickman, president of the board, opened by saying “I want to encourage you to do things outside of the board meetings . . . if you get a request to volunteer, don’t think twice.”
- B. Ms. Josanne Glass informed the board about the new board member recommendations: Ebay Jamil Hamilton (District 2), Director of Programming and Operations at KRCL; Marti Woolford (District 2), crafts artists, long time resident of Poplar Grove who has worked in many social services roles; Katy Gates (District 1), art teacher who has offered free and discounted art lessons for West side residents. All board members were in favor of the three recommendations being put in front of the mayor. None were opposed.
- C. The board is in need of new members from Districts 4 and 7.
- D. Ms. Rickman let us know that former board member Erika Hill resigned from the board because of work conflicts. Ms. Rickman said, “We’ll miss her. If you see her, thank her.”

V. Arts Events Discussion

Mr. Knuth mentioned an event coming up on November 3rd called Art for the Future, presented by New City Movement. It will be a panel discussion, geared toward arts administrators, about bringing people together in public spaces.

Ms. Kathy Davis went to many different local arts events.

Ms. Sarah Longoria attended a ballet performance by Salt Lake Ballet Cooperative and Darling & Debonair, in September, at SugarSpace.

Mr. Oberndorfer mentioned the new exhibits at the Finch Lane Gallery.

The Arts Council will be a part of the SLC Monster Block Party at the Regional Athletic Complex on October 28th, with spooky buskers.

VI. Other Business

Mr. Thomas Kessinger gave a shout out to Ms. Baca, saying, “It takes a lot of gumption to get on stage in front of 7,000 people [at the Twilight Concert Series] repping the Arts Council and letting everyone know what we do.”

Ms. Torle Nenbee moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Cale Newhouse seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.