



# MSAC Full Council Meeting

## MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Maryland State Arts Council

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Council in Attendance: Jack Rasmussen, Julie Spangler Madden, Carole Alexander, Shelley Morhaim, Carla Du Pree, Senator Ronald Young, Jacqueline Copeland, Joan Lyon, Timothy App, Sumita Kim, Benny Russell, John Schratwieser

Staff in Attendance: Ken Skrzysz, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Derrick Quevedo, Kayla Morgan, Shaunte Roper, Tammy Oppel, Laura Weiss, Emily Sollenberger, Arthur Brown, Liesel Fenner, Amelia Rambisson, Precious Blake, Rosa Chang

10:03 **Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Chair Remarks, Jack Rasmussen (late)**

### **Approval of agenda**

**Motion to approve: Anne Winter West**

**Second: Carole Alexander**

**Vote: Unanimously Approved**

10:04 **Program Performance and Evaluation Committee Recommendations , Carla Du Pree (late)**

### **Maryland Folklife**

Discussion:

John Schratwieser - Outstanding work

**Motion to approve MD Folklife Recommendations: Carole Alexander**

**Second: Shelley Morhaim**

**Vote: Unanimously Approved**

### **Professional Development**

Discussion:

John Schratwieser - Fantastic

Ken Skrzysz - People want Professional Development to be sustainable

**Motion to approve Professional Development Recommendations: John Schratwieser**

**Second: Jacqueline Copeland**

**Vote: Unanimously Approved**

### **Special Request Grant**

Discussion:

Ken Skrzysz - Make transparent something informal and opaque

John - Important from advocacy standpoint; gives legislators, etc. perfect slide/push to ultimately help advocacy efforts



Fiscal Manager will go over fiscal review - quarterly reviews - grants committee will either send to council OR deny if funding not available

Special grant requests include individuals and excludes capital.

**Motion to approve Special Grant Requests: Shelley Morhaim**  
**Second: Joan Lyon**  
**Vote: Unanimously Approved**

#### 10:13 **Strategic Planning Implementation Plan, Shelley Morhaim**

Discussion:

-Increase councilor attendance

-Create councilor site visits

-Part of our responsibility as councilors - expand reach within MD

-Bolster arts in MD

-It means a lot when we show up

Each partner received action items for specific program. Councilors will have a connection to program directors so council and staff are on the same page.

**Motion to approve Strategic Planning Implementation Plan: Carole Alexander**  
**Second: Anne Winter West**  
**Unanimously Approved**

#### 10:22 **Executive Director (ED) Report, Facility Update, NASAA Initiatives, Equity & Justice Training**

##### **Facility Update**

Discussion:

There is a square foot issue with the first location; staff and a few councilors toured a new prospective location with the possibility of sharing space with other arts agencies. The new space will make MSAC more visible with exhibiting opportunities. The original vision of the move is an Art Center for Maryland. The ED will keep the council up to date on all developments including touring opportunities for new facility.

##### 10:49 **NASAA Initiatives**

Discussion:

-Intentional shift to see aging populations as student/emerging artists rather than additional funding or audience

-Proposal for grants - creative aging - arts education for older adults - Maryland in running for grants - Alysia Lee, (Maryland State Department of Education) was discussing this as early as a year ago - we've been working on program - ED will keep the council updated

- The same distinction as how Art Therapy programs and Community-based programs differ

##### 11:06 **EQUITY & JUSTICE TRAINING SCHEDULE- Councilors were sent a schedule. Plan and Equity Article Club Discussion, Ken Skrzysz**

Thank you to Precious Blake, Alysia Lee, and Quanice Floyd

Discussion:

-Encourage the council to attend from one of each category? Recommendations? (Find a



session that fits with your schedule now through next December - there are 6 opportunities)

-They will all take place at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, but there will be virtual attendance option

-Who is the audience for these? Open to staff, board and partner groups. As well as Executive Directors of County Arts Councils

- Staff will attend the trainings together as a group - councilors can join, but there is a maximum of 40 attendees per event as space allows

### 11:10 - EQUITY & JUSTICE ARTICLE CLUB RESPONSES

Discussion:

- Readings are informative - made more aware towards everyday existence of others

-We cannot just read these articles; there needs to be a discussion to process feelings and responses

-A virtual space; a space to convene, it doesn't need to be a large group, but an intimate space to discuss and it can involve further out areas - you just have to experience these things in real life

-Set up a time to talk about the article and other readings to really process information

-How to process white supremacy and white fragility but not be associated as racist/white supremacist?

-Are you a white supremacist for fighting it or for your white privilege?

-How do we make the end roads?

-If you're not a part of that mindset then it isn't referring to you

-There's a feeling of embarrassment in the association with white supremacists

-White terrorists: do you feel embarrassed for being white because of them?

-Therein lies the problem. Need self-reflection: Why are (white people) embarrassed? If you offer education it's up to them or not; not a mark against you - know where you stand in the scheme of things

-How do you address the evil?

-Get past shame

-These are heavy issues - no easy solution

-If you don't know history you're doomed to repeat it

We need to create a conversation space for the reading responses and they should be facilitated.

### (5 min. break)

### 11:51 Creativity Grant Report, Laura Weiss and Emily Sollenberger

-More Independents have been applying recently

Discussion:

-What is the life cycle for creativity? Began with organizations and is now individual artists



John - IAA's are coming up; will it impact the next round? (IAA=body of work; Creativity Grant=singular projects)

### 11:55 Arts in Education Policy Update, Precious Blake

-11/12: First meeting for AiE equitable funding

Discussion:

-There is no history to this formula.

-Hopefully there will be an incentive for schools to tap into funding

Jack - How is it being vetted into the education world? (There was a policy meeting roundtable)

-Jacqueline brought up the need for success criteria; "is more arts happening across state from this?"

John - Baltimore City is the largest drop but were happy to redistribute funds if it means more is available across the state - significant increase in even smaller counties

Ken - FY21's Projected Budget 150K more from FY19's

-Communicating with County Arts Communities and school districts for their allotment

-It is not only schools that are eligible - nonprofits can apply--this needs to be marketed. Independent schools can also apply.

### 12:06 Regional Arts Institute Feedback, Steven Skerritt-Davis

Discussion:

John (at Chestertown) - It was too long; we lost the crowd just before partner presentations; many got what they came for; There was an extraordinary quality of conversation

Carole (at Brooklyn Park) - A constituent mentioned it was difficult filling out a grant application

Carla - The one I attended was not well-attended

Ken - We will learn more at the next June Summit - the first two have been about MSAC strategic plan

Joan (at Solomons) - About half of the registered number attended - several people were interested in being grantees - would they be able to see the collected sticky notes? (Sticky notes have been collected and will be shared)

Tom (at Hagerstown) - A guy from Howard County set up an additional after-meeting to get more info from Howard County constituents

### 12:14 Fiscal Report, Shaunte Roper

#### **Special Request funding - Arts on the Block (AOB) - for expansion - \$75,000**

Discussion:

Questions raised in regards to AOB social media presence, budget and grantee status. All council members not comfortable providing full amount and fearful of the precedent this may set. They are currently a grantee and the 75k will not cover the entire cost of a website and social media presence. There is an opportunity to increase visibility for gaining more youth into entrepreneurship as their mission is community-driven.

#### **Motion to approve 20% of AOB Special Funding Request- Senator Ronald Young**

**Second- Joan Lyon**

**Opposed- John Schratweiser**

### 12:33 Annual Report Distribution, Steven Skerritt-Davis



(Distributes new Annual Reports)

-Online and legislature versions have economic impact numbers

**Maryland Citizens for the Arts (MCA) - appropriation - POCA fund - scheduled to sunset - had limited time when passed**

Working to remove the sunset clause; distributed copies of the bill; Cannot advocate as council but as individuals, donation to MCA okay. Helps them to advocate and teach in the different counties what they need to know to get through legislature

12:41 **Adjourn**