



## MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

**June 12, 2019 DRAFT**

Maryland State Arts Council, 175 W. Ostend Street, Baltimore, MD

**Present (Staff and Board):** Carole Alexander, Jack Rasmussen, Shelley Morhaim, Rosa Chang, Kayla Morgan, Chad Buterbaugh, Amelia Rambissoon, Liz Fitzsimmons, Tom Riford, Dana Parsons, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Anne West, Gary Vikan, Liesel Fenner, Ken Skrzysz, Carla DuPree, Julie Madden, Joan Lyon

**Phone:** Jackie Copeland

Jack calls Council Meeting to order (10:05 AM).

Jack thanks Staff and Council - Stressful and intensely rewarding, change is difficult.

The agenda is full, please feel free to ask questions or ask for clarification.

Round of Introductions

Hold on approval of minutes until quorum is present.

Approval of Agenda, Approval of March Council Minutes, Approval of Executive Committee Minutes: Shelley moved. Gary second. All approved. No opposed. Passes.

Carla's changes were incorporated. No other changes.

Approve Strategic Plan as is.

Carole moved. Anne second. All approve. No opposed. Passes to Secretary.

Future Dates and locations for all Board Meetings shared for all of next year. Hold on vote.

Exhaustion, Push back - What is happening for us is happening everywhere nationally; Ken held a conversation with Pam Breau of NASAA who echoed this.

Sharing of rumble language (Brene Brown): How we ask questions, how do we stay in a place of investigation.

Rebuilding of Trust steps. Meetings are used to voice suggestions for different directions. Trust of the committees is needed to do their work.

Is a Governance Committee needed that focuses on the operations of the council?

Shelley - Based on a discussion from PPE Committee, it sounds like this would be a discussion there in the revamping of the PPE/Governance Committee. Jack echoed transparency of how the Council is run.

Carole echoed the Celebration of Change email; This could open up opportunities for conversations with all. Carla reiterated that this could help with an understanding of the process of change and intention.

Jack: Quarterly letter from Ken that celebrates these accomplishments?

Carla: Make sure everyone has the language to communicate about the change.

Carole: Councilors can act as ambassadors and act as a conduit as well.



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Carla: Authenticity is important in these conversations. We have to have the language.

Shelley: With the release of the Strategic Plan, this could help and is a lead in to the change.

Ken: Recommendation of quarterly meeting with the Secretary to keep her informed and keep things communicative. Can we dovetail training with implementation of Strategic Plan?

Ken reviews Training Timeline (PPT). Council training would be flexible in terms of multiple days and times.

Pam recommended EDI and Governance/Change Management Training for Council.

Ken reviews timeline for Implementation (PPT).

Carla: How does training, SP implementation, and regular duties overlap in terms of capacity?

Ken requests input of staff.

Chad, Dana, Steven: Strategic Plan is embedded in regular duties, doesn't seem like additional workload.

Liesel: Outcomes beyond 2020, PAAM will show outcomes more quickly.

Liz: Connection between new staff and replenishment of current staff?

Jack: Can a metrics consultant do more? Ken: RFP can be written to include any needs.

Timeline of training/implementation? Overlap?

Jack: Education as we progress along. We can do it all together. Can EDI training be offered to constituents?

Ken: PD Opportunity Grant.

Carole: No reason not to start training and implementation simultaneously.

Carla: Agree.

Vote for approval of Implementation Strategy:

Jack calls for vote.

Shelley moved.

Carole second.

No further discussion.

All approved. No opposed. Passed.

Shelley: Grants for Organizations

16 new organizations! We are expanding the community!

Reviewed the Grants Information (PPT).

Arts Services: Carole, Julie, Carla recuse. No discussion. Anne moved. Jack second. All approved.



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Shelley: Reminder from Grants Committee, no one is being awarded with more than a 5% difference. The feedback will be comprehensive. The past policy was strange and we are committed to a transparent model. Grantees can be more as partners.

Gary: The push back was in response to the score.

Ken: Response to organization is that the previous funding amount was autonomous based on one staff member. This is in alignment with the Strategic Plan.

Folk: Julie recuse. No discussion. Carole moved. Jack second. All approved.

Visual Arts: Jack recuse. No discussion. Anne moved. Julie second. All approved.

Theatre: No discussion. Jack moved. Gary second. All approved.

Music: No discussion. Carla moved. Julie second. All approved.

Multi-Discipline: No discussion. Carole moved. Jack second. All approved.

Large: Julie and Carla recuse.

Ken report out about BSO: Governor approved BSO amount funding formula, formulaically receiving funds just other grantees.

Shelley: Any forward movement with additional funding? Tom: No.

Gary: If they were funded based on their actual scores, the difference would be huge. In conjunction with the SP and our commitment to growth, it all seems appropriate.

Shelley: We need to communicate well why we are doing what we're doing.

Gary: The pie is eminently sliceable in a way that recognizes our strategic intention.

Ken: When the appropriation increased, this went to GFO (based on a general assessment).

We're now looking at this differently - will show up in budget.

Large: Jack moved. Carole second. All approved.

Literary Arts: Jack moved. Anne second. All approved.

RFF Totals reviewed.

GFO Total to Secretary: Carole moved. Julie second. All approved.

Ken: Narrative changed at MD Arts Day - 10% expectation removed, told a different story.

Ken reviewed Grant Award Letter Attachment (PPT).

Carla: Orgs can be consistently reminded of their panel feedback, even in an off-year.

Ken reviewed the Appeal Letter (PPT).

Gary: Which organizations more nearly aligned with the goals? Theatre was cohesively aligned.

15 minute break (11AM).

Jack calls Back to Order (11:16AM).



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Chad. Reviews FOLKLORE Policy Recommendations (PPT) that have been vetted through the public as well as the PPE Committee.

Additional Discussion: 1 grant per region, but an applicant could represent as many organizations as needed.

Field Work for new areas is Chad - calls and on-site visit.

Chad envisions Meetings at MSAC as well as regionally.

Ken and Steven met with KCAC on Sunday. John is interested in Upper Shore connection.

Chad - addressed recommendation #2 from Feasibility study.

Carla calls for motion. Jack moved. Shelley second. All approved.

Teaching Artist Roster revision - Ken reviews PPT.

Carla: How does this information get out?

Ken: Hire AiE PD and is tasked with dissemination.

Carole moved. Shelley second. All approved.

Ken reviews Creativity Grant Revision (PPT).

Carla: Can it be more explicit that this can be for independent artists? Carla will send language recommendations for guidelines.

Anne: Clarification on amount - Dana: 1-3.5K

Gary: Clarification of "Funds May be used for" could apply to both organizations and artists.

Jack moved. Shelley second. All approve.

Jump to Budget that requires votes (while we have quorum).

Ken reviews Budget (PPT).

Amusement Tax sunsets in FY2021. MCA is aware and plans on doing work to have it reinstated.

Movement of all admin expenses (panels, travel, etc.) to Administration General beginning in FY21.

Admin General increases by 500K in FY20 as a result of the move.

GFO receives increases but not the full increase based on the appropriation. We are also investing in other ways.

Special projects will be planned out in a more strategic way, with the special projects application, to align with the auditing stream. (Previously, extra year end funding was carried over to special projects, but now the placement will be strategic).

Steven reviews A&E/CAD Budget (PPT).

Joan Lyon arrives (11:41AM).



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Historically, we have not offered capacity (AKA general operating) funding for A&E districts. The better resourced districts (e.g. Bethesda) become more successful and strategic. Other districts don't have that capacity and we don't see the same success metrics.

Carla: Good for the state to support A&E Districts.

Julie: Do other agencies support A&Es?

Liz: Main Street A&Es can receive support, but not general operating.

Invitations will be given to the A&E Districts to apply.

Carla: Councilors should attend A&E meetings as a learning opportunity. Steven will send out invitations.

The investment from the state goes a long way for the Districts to make other requests from agencies. This structure will align with other program structures, seeing MSAC as partners.

CACs will be in touch with MCA about helping with FY22 efforts.

Ken reviews AiE Budget PPT.

Steven reviews IAA Budget PPT. Same amount for 3 years as equity across disciplines.

Liesel reviews PA Budget.

Julie: Partnership with Morgan State? Ken: In special projects.

Chad reviews MD Traditions Budget PPT.

Ken - for MT, they were previously paid out of the previous fiscal year.

Shelley - Folk Festival? Chad - Festival Budget remains even after National Festival departs, NCTA interested in producing.

Joan calls for motion for FY20 Budget recommendations.

Jack moved. Shelley second. All approved.

Steven reviews CAD FY2020 recommendations (PPT).

Ken: This shows council's commitment to the program with an increase of 240K.

Steven reviews Chart (PPT).

Joan moved. Julie second. All approved. Passed.

Jackie reviews the slate of officers (PPT) as from the nomination committee.

Carole moved. Joan second. All approved. Passed.

ED Report: Ken

Ken reviews organizational chart.

Grants Administrator is resistant because it is not a PIN. Ken is in contact with HR to have it become a PIN.

Liz: There are a certain number of PINS in government.

Tom: This is not a Commerce decision - it goes through Budget and Management.



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Ken suggests a comparison between our capacity and other State Arts Agencies for us to get new PINS.

Ken reviews Facility PPT.

We are currently in "Best and Final" for top two selections.

Summit Post Mortem

Gary: How many attendees did we hope for? 450. We were at capacity.

Jack: Amazing to bring the community together.

Shelley: Evaluation Form.

Carla: The energy was there. We could meet people from all over. It was pretty remarkable.

Carole: One of the intentions is for Board members to see what is going on. Could there have been more Board members in attendance?

Joan: Agree. Important for Board members to attend. Connections across genres, ages, generations ... amazing interactions. All participants exuded such energy.

Carla: Creative keynote went so well. Maryland holds a wealth of talent. Artist success story.

Joan: Artist bazaar success story (She has testimonial in email.)

Carla: Self-care session success story. For our first year, we hit it out of the park.

Liz: Connection of programs and showcasing our programs to an audience that may not have ever seen them. Congrats to Heritage and IAA! Testimony of the work.

Shelley: Could the programs repeat? Great conversations.

Jack: The artists also received a stipend to be there.

Ken: Artist fee to do the National Folk Festival is \$700? Why are the performers being paid and the visual artists have to pay?

Chad: Could we publish an artist fee schedule that could set a guideline?

Liesel: Great presenting on public art.

Carla: Kayla did excellent in the UAL session.

Steven: Great having space for CAAM and A&E as well. Feedback was rich experience. IAA celebration feedback - similar connections were made.

Dana: Great day of gratitude and appreciation.

Jack: Goes to the stage and the Council sang a song to thank Staff.

LUNCH (12:27PM).

Jack calls us back (12:54PM).

Ken reviews PAP vote.

Steven reviews approved A&E Districts:



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Easton

Pennsylvania Avenue Black A&E District (Jubilee Arts is included in this District.)

Hopeful for July 1 announcement.

Frostburg was re-designated for another 10-year designation: concentrated effort on Public Art.

Steven reviews IAA Awards.

47/105 awardees attended, which is good against historical record. This also added to attendees for the Summit as well.

Steven reviews FY20 IAA Timeline.

Different type of reporting - an artist convening to share what they have done with the award.

Midst of CAD revision, a new partnership, collaborative model and clarify mutual expectations.

Steven presented at CAAM, feedback received.

Jack - considering membership in the Executive Committee - really pivotal role.

Please see Jack.

Jack reviews new councilors.

Jack reviews new appointees.

Goodbye to Gary! You'll be missed!

The Council purchased a glass bowl for Barbara and a card will be sent to her.

Ken: Program partners that are councilors.

Reviews of the programmatic speed dating.

Response to this partner idea?

Shelley: In theory it's fantastic as it promotes conversation and collaboration.

Councilors are enthusiastic about the idea.

New Business

Chad reviews Maryland Traditions retrospective book (PPT).

Liz: This 50k will not be the total cost.

Jack: Is a book the best way to go?

Gary: This is a reality in the making for this MSAC initiative - it gives it physical expression.

Makes sense.

Shelley: Can it have an audio companion?



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Chad: Biographic section pointing readers to artist studio spaces (places that are relatively stable over time). Could be an interesting touchpoint in terms of archival purposes. Providing this book to current folklife grantees would allow it to be deeper in the communities.

Ken: This 50k would come out of the special funds amount. This would not be a product of MSAC. This is a product of Edwin and Elaine.

Chad: There will be additional fundraising. Edwin and Elaine have published multiple books.

Ken: Caveat in the letter that says our funding is dependent upon the additional funding raised.

Ken will draft language to AAG and then to Council for electronic vote.

Gary: Can we have ownership on it for being a funder? Chad has been invited to write the introduction.

Other new business?

None.

Gary speaks to the greatness of this "river."

Jack adjourns meeting (1:21PM).