



# Maryland State Arts Council Meeting

MEETING MINUTES  
November 18, 2021  
Google Meet

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Present: Chris Sloan, Jack Rasmussen, Jackie Copeland, Julie Madden, Ron Young, Sumita Kim, Shelley Morhaim, Lily Bengfort, Carole Alexander, Anne West, Benny Russell, Molline Jackson, Zoe Charlton; Staff, Amelia Evans, Catherine Frost, Dana Parsons, Derrick Quevedo, Emily Sollenberger, Chad Buterbaugh, Laura Weiss, Lillian Jacobson, Ryan Koons, Ryan Patterson, Shaunte Roper, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Tammy Oppel, Liesel Fenner, Rosa Chang, Abdul Ali, Not Present: Timothy App, John Schratwieser

Chair Jacke Copeland called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Chair opening remarks:

Happy safe holiday. The interview committee for the Executive Director has completed its work and the decision is awaiting Secretary Shulz approval.

Anne West made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Shelley Morhaim seconded the motion. All approved.

Anne West made a motion to approve the September 9, 2021 council meeting minutes. Shelley Morhaim seconded the motion. Sumita Kim abstained. All approved.

Interim Executive Director Report (Skerritt-Davis)

Staffing Update/Staff Team Building 10.06.21

- Interviews for the Arts in Education program director to be scheduled in early 2022. Program Director, Abdul Ali leaving the position at the end of the year. Jeremy Thomson has been hired in a temporary position to help with grant processing.
- MSAC staff participating in a Stoop Storytelling Session with Laura Wexler, a team building workshop. Staff will debrief and complete a survey which will inform future team building exercises. FUN Committee created as a result.

Office Move Update - Public Announcement

- Public announcement to be published in December newsletter
- Moving out of Ostend Street to the World Trade Center 14th floor

Arts Capital Grant Update

- Legislation passed in session 2021
- Working on hiring a coordinator in FY23 to build program



- Grant program will start in FY24 - \$3 million/year

#### Americans for the Arts (AFTA) Membership Update

- Staff recommendation to continue to withhold Americans for the Arts (AFTA) membership (per materials emailed ahead)
- Arts and advocacy organizations are working to create something with some goals and intent outside of AFTA
  - State Arts Advocacy Network (SAAN) -> Creative States Coalition
  - Public Art Network (PAN) -> Public Art X-change (PAX)

#### GFO Grantee Session 10.14.21

- Discussions have been useful and an online toolkit will be created to guide grantees
- Good feedback received from organizations that are trying to bring equity into their formula
- MSAC highlighted by National Assembly of State Arts Agencies for equity work

#### Collaborators Meeting 10.19.21

- Meeting with all staff of four collaborating organizations (MSAC, Maryland Citizens for the Arts, Department of Education Fine Arts Office, and Arts Education in Maryland Schools) to determine path forward
  - Leadership Follow-up, collaborators to come back together
- MSAC debrief with staff at 10.20.21 staff meeting, survey follow up
  - collaborate as needed (Summit, First Lady's Gallery, etc.)
  - make collaboration agreements and include accountability measures

GFO Grantee Session 10.14.21

Collaborators Meeting 10.19.21

Staff Program Reports and Fiscal Report shared and reviewed prior to the meeting. No questions.

#### Maryland Citizens for the Arts Update

- Working with the legislative to obtain additional funding
- Add program funds but not as emergency funding
- FY23 budget 30 million over two fiscal years
- Capital Arts grant moving forward, start date July 2022
- MD Arts Day virtual in February

#### Executive Committee Report

- Zoe Charlton new committee member



- Staff Involvement - Council Meetings
  - Staff involvement welcomed and useful
- Coffee with the Council Co-Hosts
  - Optional for councilors to host, but encouraged to attend to provide support for staff

#### Program Policy Evaluation Committee Report

- Special Request Grant
  - Proposed: "Community support" added to the financial contribution question in the application.
  - Justification: The small language adjustment allows for a more equitable approach, allowing organizations to apply for a project that aligns with the rubric and provides great impact, but may not have the resources to receive 50% of the project costs from other means. The edit allows for applications to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis regarding the match and does not place a barrier on access to funding. The edit also makes space for other (non-monetary) forms of support to be uplifted.

Julie made a motion to approve the PPE recommendation. Jack seconded. All in favor, approved.

- AiE Grant Recommendations
  - Proposed: The Arts in Education Grant is no longer a matching grant.
  - Requiring sites to pay MSAC presents financial and administrative barriers for schools and community sites looking to host an educational engagement led by an AiE Roster Teaching Artist, etc.

Jack made a motion to approve the PPE recommendation. Ron seconded. All in favor, approved.

#### Governance Committee Report

- Councilor Roles and Responsibilities Review
  - Represent your county/region at Maryland Arts Day (*Bolster Maryland Arts*); Encourage artists and organizations to connect with and apply to MSAC (*Increase Participation*); Engage in personal equity and justice work; Attend and actively engage in full Council meetings, retreats, and committee meetings,



ensuring that MSAC's approaches to supporting all art forms and all regions of the State remain thoughtful and targeted (*Provide Support, Build Capacity*)

- Seasoned councilors to mentor new council members
- EDI Sharing
  - Julie attended NASAA training led by Team by Dynamics, training helpful, through breakout sessions about identity
  - Anne attended the same and thankful for the training, breakout groups were very enlightening
  - Other council members agreed the training was necessary

Shaunte Roper provided the council with a Fiscal Update.

#### Special Request Grants

- Spent/Allocated: \$155,000
- Currently Remaining: \$230,000
- November Recommended Totals: \$170,000
- Remaining following November, if all approved: \$60,000
- \*Note FY21 surplus

Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance requested \$25,000. Staff recommendation to fully fund. Anne West made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Lily seconded. Sumita and Jackie abstained. All others in favor, approved.

Water's Edge Museum requested \$45,000. Staff recommendation to fully fund. Julie made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Anne seconded. Chris opposed. All others in favor, approved.

Clancyworks requested \$100,000. Staff recommendation to fully fund. Carole made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Shelley seconded. All in favor, approved.

#### New Business

- Chad reported on the Artist Employment Initiative
- Phase 2: data collection, fall 2021
  - Publication of constituent feedback so far
  - Online survey open through December 3
  - Response aggregation finished by January 1

Thank you everyone. Happy Thanksgiving!

Meeting adjourned at 11:50am.