



MSAC

Program Policy Evaluation Committee

MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2021

In attendance: Molline Jackson, Shelley Morhaim, Jack Rasmussen, Julie Madden, Jackie Copeland, Abdul Ali, Catherine Frost, Chad Buterbaugh, Laura Weiss, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Keyonna Penick, Carole Alexander; Not in attendance: Benny Russell

Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

Jackie Copeland made a motion to approve the August 24, 2021 PPE Committee Minutes. Jack Rasmussen seconded the motion. All approved.

Arts & Entertainment District Application Discussion

- Expansion application is not a small process
- The program is a Department of Commerce program, but managed by MSAC
- MSAC staff are working within their power to make the Department aware of the barrier to make changes
- Staff will continue to address this to the extent that they can in their capacity as state government

AiE Recommendations

AiE Grant - disbursement procedure change proposal

- Proposed - For each Arts in Education Grant a Roster Teaching Artist is approved for, MSAC will disburse directly to them one payment: 100% of the payment at the time of GAF execution
- Shifting this disbursement schedule to 100% at the time of GAF execution would better support constituents, align with other MSAC programs, ease AiE's capacity throughout the year and streamline communications between the Grants Office, the Fiscal Office, and Procurement/Accounts Payable.

AiE Grant Site Match Requirement

- Proposed - The Arts in Education Grant is no longer a matching grant.



- Justification - 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.
- Not all sites can afford up to 50% of an engagement's total cost. Those who can't, are able to submit a match waiver request. In FY21, over half of funded applications submitted match waiver requests. When asked how not receiving a match waiver would impact their programming, many sites have indicated they simply would not be able to host a Teaching Artist.

Julie made a motion to send the recommendation to the full council for a vote. Jack seconded the motion. Discussion followed regarding removing hardship from teacher artists. All approve.

Special Request Grant Recommendations

- Proposed - An arts organization must establish community support through financial contributions and/or partnership agreements specific to the proposed activity. As a result, it is recommended that the requested amount from MSAC be less than 50% of the total project Budget. "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.

Discussion: Organizations only allowed one request a year and can reapply if denied in the same year of applying. The change is motivated by applications that couldn't meet the current language.

Jack made a motion to send the recommendation to the full council for a vote. Julia seconded the motion. All approve.

Meeting adjourned 11:32 a.m.