

**Regional Arts Commission
Executive Committee Minutes
October 13, 2022, 8 a.m. via ZOOM**

Attendees

Cheryl Walker, Andrea Purnell, John Russell, Rosalind Johnson, Jerry Gennaria, Mont Levy

Staff Attendees: Vanessa Cooksey, Lea Sutherland

Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Walker called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Walker then called for the approval of the minutes from the July 15, 2022, Executive Committee meeting.

Motion made by Johnson seconded by Levy and unanimously carried to approve the July 15, 2022, minutes.

Walker asked Cooksey to report on the following:

Parking

Cooksey noted there are new developments regarding parking at 6128; recapped background of RAC's (6) parking permits; and existing Parking Agreement. Cooksey then introduced Hillary Bean, partner at Armstrong Teasdale, and asked that she provide an update.

Bean explained the transactions related to parking and provided options for proceeding. She also emphasized the confidential nature of the project and the contractual negotiations and responded to questions posed by committee members.

Cooksey: (1) asked this Committee to share any issues/concerns arising from the discussion; (2) noted RAC will retain as many spaces as possible; (3) emphasized that when negotiations are finalized, RAC Chair will have to sign as well; (4) noted parking will continue to be an issue; and (5) will continue to work toward solidifying parking for RAC.

Walker noted that this Committee will be updated on this issue.

Bean noted that she will (1) work on contract redlines for review; (2) continue negotiations and preserve RAC's rights; and (3) answer any questions or concerns. Bean then left the meeting.

City ARPA Funds

Cooksey's update on City ARPA Funds included the following: (1) Mayor's announcement at Contemporary Arts Museum (CAM), November 1st @ 10a – where Mayor will also sign Board Bill 66 into law; (2) working with CDA on recipient agreement; (3) highlighted federal stipulations as outlined in contract included in the packet for this meeting; (4) RAC will ensure working artists and arts organizations receive dollars and have capacity to support reporting requirements; (5) RAC will receive \$10.6M minus 1% from CDA after contracts signed; (6) concerns about timing of the County ARPA \$1.6M as RAC's position is \$12.2M for the sector as a regional organization - will have to manage difference in resources for the County versus those in the City – start thinking about collaborations as City money must be spent in City and County dollars in the County; (7) City press conference will be recorded - will hold separate County press conference at appropriate time, and ultimately hold a community press conference with both the Mayor and County Executive during Q1.

Walker thanked Cooksey for the time, efforts and extra work put in by her (Cooksey) and team members in pursuit of this accomplishment.

2023 Budget Preview

Cooksey noted that a copy of the 2023 Budget Preview one-pager, was included in the packet for this meeting. She explained the logic for the FY'23 Budget, shared insights from Explore STL and highlighted the following: (1) line items are the same but adjusted to account for the work that needs to be done in FY'23; (2) anticipated revenue for 2023 per Explore STL; and (3) hotel occupancy still not at 2019 levels based on local data and Smith Travel Research. Cooksey then reviewed each FY'23 Budget revenue and expense line item.

Levy asked about status of minimum and maximum reserves.

Cooksey noted that the reserve minimum and maximum is between 10% – 25%. She reminded that a policy adjustment was made last year to ensure consideration of Covid and relative revenue, and that reserves are still within range for current policy. Cooksey added that this is worth revisiting in 2023 because of importance of rollover funds as majority of funds are distributed in the first half of the year, but majority of revenue is not received until back half of year.

Russell asked about 15% rule and administrative costs.

Cooksey replied that she is waiting for KEB's additional analysis, and this info will be included in the FY'23 Budget for approval by the Finance Committee in November and presented to the full Board at its annual meeting (also in November).

Upcoming Commission Meetings & Events

Cooksey noted that a copy of the one-pager of upcoming Commission Meetings and Events for 2022 was included in the packet for this meeting.

Prior to adjournment, Levy noted that on behalf of Wilson, and with his (Levy's) support, they both share a concern as to whether there should be more than two Executive Committee meetings if regular Commission meetings will be reduced to four (4) and a retreat and requested this be given due consideration in the proper place.

Walker noted that this issue had already been listed on the agenda for the October 14th Governance Committee meeting.

Adjournment of Open Meeting

Walker called for executive session and requested that Committee members remain on the call following adjournment, and asked Cooksey and Sutherlin to leave the call.

Walker then adjourned the Open Session of the October 13th and opened Executive Committee meeting at 8:43 a.m.

The executive session was called to order at 8:44 a.m.

The session was closed pursuant to RSMO 610.021(3) for personnel matters.

The executive session concluded at 9:05 a.m.

Submitted by

L. Sutherlin, Exec. Asst. & Commission Administrator