



6128 DELMAR BLVD  
ST. LOUIS MO 63112

(314) 863 5811  
(314) 863 6932 FAX  
WWW.ART-STL.COM

REGIONAL ARTS  
COMMISSION OF ST. LOUIS

**Regional Arts Commission  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2021 @ 8:00AM via ZOOM**



**Welcome and Call to Order – Mont Levy, Chair**

Levy called the December 9, 2021, meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and asked Lea to conduct the Commissioner roll call.

**Attendees**

Commission: Mont Levy, John Russell, Rhonda Carter Adams, Heather Corcoran, Sam Fiorello, Roz Johnson, Lyah LeFlore, Vin Ko, Kellie Trivers, Cheryl Walker, Mary Walsh, David Wilson

**Absent**

Jerry Gennaria, Andréa Purnell, Walé Soluadé

**Staff**

Vanessa Cooksey, Nichole Belford, Rita Dillard, Ann Haubrich, Jay Scherder, Chloe Smith, Lea Sutherlin, Pacia Anderson (consultant), Liz Deichmann (consultant), Shevaré Perry, (consultant)

Other: Trish Donovan (KEB), Rick Gratza (KEB)



Levy called for a moment of silence with the recent passing of former RAC chair, Donna Wilkinson.

**Approval of October 14, 2021 Minutes – Mont Levy**

**Motion made by Adams, seconded by Walker and unanimously carried to approve the October 14, 2021 minutes.**

**Chair Report – Mont Levy**

Levy called for acknowledgement of public guests – none in attendance.

Levy reminded that this is his last meeting as Chair, and shared special remarks; he thanked Cooksey, staff, and his fellow commissioners. Levy then shared a brief remembrance of the past four years, and his observation of the needs of the arts community for the future, and the need for the continued strong commitment of RAC;

he added that he is pleased that Walker will step into the position as Chair, and gave special thanks to Trivers for her hard work and dedication of RAC's governance compliance.

Walker thanked Levy for his outstanding leadership and care through extraordinary times; grateful that he will continue as a commissioner.

### **Finance Committee**

Levy asked Russell to present the Finance Committee report.

Russell reiterated Walker's remarks. He asked Gratza to present the cash flow report.

### **Cash Flow Spreadsheet**

Gratza presented the cash flow analysis which represented actual activity through November; December is projected. Gratza highlighted Hotel/Motel revenue; Hotel/Motel projections for the year; and expenses for the year.

### **Q3'21 Management Report**

Levy asked Russell to present the Management Report.

Gratza presented the Q3'21 Management Report and highlighted 2021 comparisons to 2020 of the statement of financial position; unrestricted net position; statement of revenue; budget vs. actual; and detailed schedule of expenses by program.

### **Final Corrected Unrestricted Net Position Policy**

Russell reviewed the Unrestricted Net Position Policy which could be found in the December 9<sup>th</sup> Board Packet and reminded of revisions and corrections made to the policy during the November 2021 retreat. He noted that during the December 6<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee Meeting, the Committee suggested adding the words "reasonably anticipated" in both the minimum and maximum sections of the policy. Russell presented the revised policy for Board approval.

**Motion made by Walker and unanimously carried to approve the final corrected Unrestricted Net Position Policy.**

### **2022 Budget**

Russell asked Cooksey to present the 2022 Budget.

Cooksey presented, in detail, the 2022 Budget, which could be found in the December 9<sup>th</sup> Board packet. Cooksey requested for approval of the 2022 Budget top line number, bottom line number and ratios, so that staff can complete the work plan and present for approval at the February 2022 Board meeting.

Levy asked for clarification of the deficit and impact on audit.

Cooksey and Gratza provided clarification that demonstrated no deficit.

Cooksey reminded that bylaws call for an approved budget at the end of each fiscal year.

**Motion made by Russell, seconded by Walker, and unanimously carried to approve the preliminary 2022 budget, noting that the final budget will be approved in February.**

### **Governance Committee Report**

Levy asked Trivers to present the Governance Committee report.

Trivers reported on the following:

#### **November Mini-Retreat Recap**

Trivers thanked Cooksey and staff for planning a great retreat; encouraged everyone to complete the forthcoming survey of the retreat.

#### **Officer Elections**

Trivers reminded that the Mayor appoints the chair of the Commission; pleased the Mayor has nominated and approved Walker as RAC's next chair; statute says alternate each year between City and County; read recommendation found as part of the December 9th board packet. Trivers then presented the Governance Committee recommendation for the 2022 Slate of Officers as follows:

Cheryl Walker, Chair  
Andréa Purnell, Vice Chair  
Rosalind Johnson, Secretary  
John Russell, Treasurer

Trivers noted this is a good slate of officers; reminded that no second is required because it is a Governance Committee recommendation; she called for discussion, and hearing none, made the motion.

**Motion made by Trivers, and unanimously carried to approve the 2022 Slate of Officers.**

### **Ad Hoc Facilities Committee Report**

Levy asked Cooksey to present her report.

In absence of Gennaria, Cooksey presented the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee report.

Cooksey reported the following: (1) November 18<sup>th</sup> Ad Hoc Facilities Committee meeting minutes included in the December 9<sup>th</sup> board packet as part of November retreat minutes; (2) staff working on follow-up items from that meeting including a draft of a decision rubric, and master facilities plan based on feedback from Ad Hoc Facilities Committee members and Commissioners who attended the November meeting; and (3) DCM Group is working on follow-up items from the Delmar area and Grand Center Location options which will be presented to the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee at its next meeting in the new year.

### **President & CEO Report**

Cooksey presented a grants and programs update and asked Haubrich to share feedback received from General Operating Support and Program Support grantees respectively, resulting from the November payment.

Haubrich thanked Smith for her support in creating the feedback/responses and shared the responses from grantees.

Cooksey thanked Haubrich, Smith and staff for ensuring Blackbaud GMS is on track and near completion.

Cooksey continued her report and highlighted Gyo Obata; extensive planning and preparation for CAT program; and community engagement as she (Cooksey) continues to connect with the community and sharing RAC's story, along with team members who have also participated in community efforts and events. Cooksey then reported on admin and operations update.

Following Cooksey's report, Levy asked everyone to keep Walker in their thoughts as she was called away at the end of this meeting, due to notification of the passing of her aunt.

Cooksey then presented a special acknowledgement to Levy for his leadership as chair over the past four years, and especially during the past challenging two years; noted that Shevaré was commissioned to create a special piece for Levy titled "A Happier Place...A Future of Possibility, Wonder, Joy." Cooksey asked Shevaré to share her inspiration for the piece. Cooksey then noted that this piece will mark the moment of Levy's strong leadership.

Cooksey asked for any additional remarks.

Levy thanked Cooksey again for her leadership; great things ahead.

LeFlore shared as a new board member she is looking forward to working with her fellow commissioners and moving on the charge of RAC and actualizing the vision.

Levy welcomed LeFlore again to the Board; wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season and adjourned the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Submitted by Lea Sutherlin  
Executive Assistant & Commission Administrator

**Board Packet ATTACHMENTS:**

- Ad Hoc Facilities Meeting Minutes, August 26, 2021
- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, October 12, 2021
- Full Commission Meeting Minutes, October 14, 2021
- Resource Development Task Force, October 19, 2021
- November Mini Retreat Minutes, November 17 & 18, 2021
- Board Recommendation – Officer Elections
- Cash Flow Spreadsheet
- Q3'21 Financial Statement
- Final Corrected Net Position Policy
- 2022 Budget