



**Regional Arts Commission  
Governance Committee Minutes  
May 9, 2024 via ZOOM  
8:00 a.m.**

**Call to Order**

Nickens called the May 9, 2024, meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. and asked Lea to conduct the Committee roll call.

**Committee Members in Attendance**

Rudy Nickens - chair, Andréa Purnell, David Wilson, Roz Johnson – ex officio

**Committee Members Absent**

Heather Corcoran

**Staff Attendees**

Vanessa Cooksey, Angie Peters, Lea Sutherlin

**Review of October 12, 2023 Governance Committee Approvals (Nickens)**

**No meeting held due to lack of quorum.**

Nickens reminded that the Q3 October 2023 Governance Committee meeting was not held due to lack of quorum, and that the following agenda items were unanimously approved by the Governance Committee, via email, on [October 12, 2023]: (1) Governance Committee Minutes, August 10, 2023; (2) Commissioner Reappointments; and (3) Addition of a Growth and Development Committee of the Board.

Nickens then asked Cooksey to report on the following:

**Status of Commissioner Reappointments**

Cooksey reported as follows: (1) request for St. Louis County Commissioner Reappointments were approved for Carter-Adams, Fiorello, Levy, and Purnell through February 5, 2028; (2) reminded that Levy had one-year remaining for a completed term and that RAC was informed by the STL County Boards & Commissions liaison, that STL County only makes four [4] year appointments; and (3) Sutherlin worked with STL County Boards and Commissions to clarify new reappointment process of completing new application, requiring background check, and interviewing with the County Executive.

Discussion held regarding rationale for additional steps toward reappointment.





**Strategy for Commission Member Pipeline (St. Louis City/St. Louis County)**

Nickens noted the following: (1) liaisons for St. Louis City and St. Louis County Boards and Commissions, respectively, both agreed that while there is no expiration policy for proposed Board member applications/background checks, those who have already applied and submitted a background check, will be considered current for one-year; (2) any prospective candidates RAC considers beyond that year, will be asked to re-submit, because of possible changes in information; (3) RAC will keep a listing of prospective candidates; and (4) when there is an anticipated term expiration, RAC will direct the prospective candidate to the website (City or County) link to apply, and alert the relevant Office of Boards and Commissions of the applicant name.

Sutherlin noted that she and Chair Nickens will review and share a member pipeline structure for this committee.

Purnell reminded that in the past, committee participation has been helpful when considering potential candidates.

Wilson suggested that this committee possibly begin the process of reviewing eligibility for reappointment toward the January 2025 ending terms for Corcoran and Walker, (both STL City).

Additional discussion held regarding process, order of operation and criteria for reappointment.

Cooksey added that Nickens term also ends in 2025 (October), and shared the following: (1) this committee discusses conduct and commitment of commissioners eligible for reappointment; (2) Board chair then speaks with eligible individual to see if they would like to remain as a RAC Commissioner [a] if yes – take to full commission for a vote and submit those names to respective governing entity to begin process for reappointment, [b] if no - then process begins for recruitment of replacement, Commission administrator shares application information with prospective candidate, and this committee presents name(s) for a vote by the full commission. Cooksey noted that she recently received an email from Corcoran who shared that she (Corcoran) is managing health challenges and regretfully does not seek another term with RAC.

As Board chair, Johnson asked Nickens if he would be willing to commit to an additional term, and Nickens agreed.

Johnson added that she will also reach out to Walker.

Discussion held regarding Honna Veerkamp whose information had been sent along with Robert Arbuthnot as a recommendation to the full Commission (in November 2023) to replace Vin Ko.

Sutherlin placed Veerkamp's information in the chat.



Additional discussion held regarding suggested prospects to replace Corcoran, and to include as an agenda item for the June 20, Full Commission meeting.

Wilson asked about timeline for slate of officers for 2025.

Brief discussion held regarding the officer position of chair (alternating between City and County) and how selection of vice chair aligns with that requirement.

Sutherlin noted that slate of officers is discussed by this committee during its Q3 meeting in August.

Nickens noted that slate of officers will be added to the agenda for the August 8 meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Johnson, and unanimously approved to adjourn the May 9, 2024 Governance Committee meeting at 8:54 a.m.

### **Votes were as follows:**

**Yea – Nickens, Purnell, Wilson, Johnson**

**Nay – none**

**Abstain - none**

Submitted by

L. Sutherlin, Exec. Asst. & Commission Administrator

### **Attachments**

- Governance Committee Approvals, October 12, 2023
- Board Member Term Summary