



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  
Governance Committee Minutes  
December 1, 2021 @ 4 PM via ZOOM**



Attendees



Kellie Trivers, Chair, Mont Levy, Cheryl Walker, David Wilson

Staff: Vanessa Cooksey, Lea Sutherlin

**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

Trivers welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:05.

**2. Review 1-year Chair Term Policy**

Trivers called for review of the 1-year chair term policy.

Levy noted importance of timely appointments on an annual basis and sending those recommendation(s) to mayor/county executive.

Discussion held regarding bylaws relative to the policy; timing of annual meeting and required number of additional meetings; appointment of chair and slate of recommended officers; past processes in chair appointments.

Wilson mentioned the recent passing of former RAC commissioner and past chair, Donna Wilkinson.



Levy noted he will acknowledge during December 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

**3. Discuss Potential Chairs and a Succession Plan**

Discussion held regarding establishing a principal on chair appointments, committee slate of officers and length of tenure.

**4. Prepare to Present Slate of Officers for the Vote**

Discussion held regarding profile and role of the Vice Chair.

Trivers asked Walker her thoughts as incoming chair.

Walker suggested Purnell as vice chair; Johnson as secretary; and Russell remain as Treasurer.

Discussion held regarding respective roles of secretary and treasurer.

Trivers asked if this Committee agreed on the following slate for recommendation to the full Commission:

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

Additional discussion regarding at-large member.

**5. Proposed Changes in Committee Structure and Meeting Frequency**

Hold until later meeting.

**6. Discuss Clarification of Terms Policy with Commissioners**

Discussion held regarding terms mentioned during Retreat activities.

**7. Brief Review of Board Orientation Process – Importance/How to Improve**

Trivers asked about the Board orientation process.

Cooksey noted infrastructure is there but lacks capacity; Board handbook is online and accessible to everyone; will schedule LeFlore's orientation; more of a scheduling issue from a capacity standpoint; process has been followed and her information has been submitted to the County; next is to walk her through the handbook.

**8. Policy on Spending on Commissioners**

Discussion held regarding appropriate tokens of appreciation and spending on commissioners and presidents as they leave their positions; perceptions; and reasonable expenditures.

Cooksey noted importance showing appreciation for hard work; working on a token of appreciation for Levy as outgoing chair; broader issue is how this issue fits into the budget. She then noted that there is fiscal policy that limits abuse.

Levy suggested leaving this issue to Cooksey's discretion; always good to show appreciation if it's well managed.

## **9. Review of Retreat**

Trivers asked for any feedback received regarding the November retreat.

Cooksey - Have not sent evaluation yet for November retreat but overall feedback has been positive; have not received any negative feedback.

Discussion held regarding the 2-Day Retreat including format, efficiency, effectiveness, COVID and other dynamics; best use of Board time; and identifying desired retreat outcomes for 2022.

Levy suggested an additional meeting in the near future to discuss committee structure and meeting cadence.

## **10. Adjournment**

Trivers adjourned the December 1<sup>st</sup> Governance Committee meeting at 5:17 p.m.

Submitted by Lea Sutherlin  
Executive Assistant & Board Administrator