

**Regional Arts Commission
Grants & Programs Committee Minutes
May 2, 2022, 2 p.m. via ZOOM**

Attendees

Andrea Purnell, chair, Rhonda Carter-Adams, Heather Corcoran, Rosalind Johnson, Lyah LeFlore, Mont Levy, Cheryl Walker, Mary Walsh, David Wilson

Absent

Vin Ko

Staff: Vanessa Cooksey, Ann Haubrich, Chloe Smith, Lea Sutherlin

Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Purnell called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Purnell then called for the approval of the minutes from the February 17, 2022, Grants and Programs Committee meeting.

Motion made by Levy, seconded by Johnson and unanimously carried to approve the February 17, 2022, minutes.

Purnell asked staff to present the following:

Preliminary Grant Award Recommendations

Haubrich reported on the following: (1) highlighted the pie chart included in the packet for this meeting which reflected total eligible and ineligible Artist Support Grants (ASG) and Program Support Grants (PSG) applications; and (2) shared various reasons for ineligibility, total amount of requests, percentages, and recommended applications based on ratings. She noted discussions with Cooksey regarding the need for additional funds to ensure maximum funding impact for the fiscal year, and asked Cooksey to share regarding those additional funds.

Cooksey shared monthly revenue comparisons and this will not impact the approved FY22 budget.

Levy asked about progress of expenses.

Cooksey noted expenses are on track, some hires will be made later this year, and admin and business operations are well in line.

Lessons Learned from Grant Cycle to Date

Haubrich then reported that the grants application survey had recently closed and shared a few of the comments regarding the application materials, webinar and overall process.

Discussion held regarding updating criteria; scoring; reviews from artists and reviewers; and steps to make process better including grant writing workshops and requesting uploads of résumés and/or curriculum vitas.

Open Discussion

Purnell called for open discussion regarding the overall process, packet documents, and the upcoming motion.

Open discussion held regarding the following: (1) applauded staff for the new system and noted appreciation regarding the simplification; (2) kudos to Smith for her support during the review process; (3) overall consistency of process; (4) consistency of application metrics based on the reviewer; (5) concern regarding quality of some artist applications, material and quality of writing; (6) ideas regarding additional communication efforts to support broader application pool; (7) importance of guiding principles when considering eligibility and scores; and (8) historical content on review process.

Vote: Total Amount to Grant

Motion made by Purnell, and majority approved to increase total amount to grant Artist Support Grant and Program Support Grants for total amount of \$802,900. Walsh abstained.

Adjourn

Meeting ended at 2:34 p.m.

Submitted by

L. Sutherlin, Exec. Asst. & Commission Administrator