



AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Monday, September 17, 2018, 6:00 P.M.

Carver Branch Library

1161 Angelina St, Austin, TX 78702

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

Jaime Castillo – Chair, Michelle Polgar–Vice Chair, Brett Barnes, Chris Bryan, Lulu Flores, Bears Fonte, Felipe Garza, Alissa McCain, Amy Mok, Krissi Reeves

Commissioner Polgar Absent

CALL TO ORDER – 6:05 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approve the minutes for the Arts Commission Regular Meeting on August 20, 2018
Moved for approval Mok, Seconded by Fonte
Approved
Vote - 9-0
Commissioner Polgar absent.

Motion to take the agenda in the following order – Item 3 Chair's Report, Item 2.e Staff Briefings FY 19 Funding Allocations, Item 5 Citizen's Communication, Item 7.a.1 New Business Discussion and Possible Action on Cultural Funding Reserve Amount, Item 6 Special Presentations

Motioned by Fonte, Seconded by Flores
Motion Approved
Vote – 9-0

2. STAFF BRIEFINGS

7:58pm – 15 minute recess, Called back to order at 8:11pm

- a. Capacity Building Applications for September, presented by Laura Odegaard, Cultural Arts Funding Program Associate
- b. Village of the Arts, presented by Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager
- c. Approval of Chapter 380 Policy and City Budget, presented by Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager
- d. UNESCO Media Arts Showcase, presented by Meghan Wells, Cultural Arts Division Manager
- e. FY19 Funding Allocations – Presented by Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Interim Assistant Director, Economic Development Department, and Jesús Pantel, Cultural Arts Funding Program Team Lead

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

4. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES ARTS COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL – 6:30 PM Time Certain

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

Sylvia Orozco, Artistic Director of Mexic-Arte – Request to have the matrix reviewed, as the end all be all, and does not stay the same year to year and is concerned with the constant fluctuations. Too much instability.

Ann Ciccollela, Artistic Director of Austin Shakespeare – Peer Panelist seemed to be skewed to support new groups, and looked more closely at the long standing groups

Louis Grachos, Executive Director of the Contemporary – The deep cuts are really hurting the smaller groups, and there needs to be more transparency. The Panel Reviews were poor, and a concern that the panelist were not prepared

Rudolfo Mendez, Artistic Director Ballet East Dance Company – The peer review panel was not as expected. The funding currently proposed would be detrimental to Ballet East.

Nataly Rock, Administrator for Xenia Rock – Would like to see how applicants are successful in the applications, like asking how many people attended in previous years for example as part of their application

Chris Cowden, Artistic Director of Women & Their Work – Score of 75 is considered adequate for the funding – and consider lower amount for Community Initiatives and Marketing and Promotion.

Acia Gray – Executive Artistic Director of Tapestry Dance Company – Concerned that the organizations that with the most history were most impacted. They are the roots of the arts community

Sarah Rucker, Owner Full Gallop – Working group on Equity and Inclusion with the Arts Commission to expand equity and inclusion riders within City of Austin and in particular Cultural Funding contracts. Inviting more community members to attend Arts Commission Meetings

Shea Little, Executive Director of Big Medium – Concerned about the percentage of funds awarded, Scored excellent throughout in the panel, but they still received a major reduction in funds.

Ann Graham, Executive Director of Texans for the Arts – Communication with the applicants as soon as we are aware that funds will be down earlier, rather than later.

Cookie Ruiz, Austin Arts Advocacy – Would like to have been notified earlier in the process to better plan for potential cuts. Please make the applicants as whole as much as you can. Increase transparency, sharing the Hotel Occupancy Tax receipts as they come in

Lacey Richter, Individual Artist – Wants to champion the bigger organizations that have supported her work in the past. Would like to have a better understanding of how funding is determined

Erin Gentry, Mass Gallery – Update on space loss, now have a new space, and is now concerned with the reduction of the funds, and as a volunteer run organization there aren't staff expenses to

Josh Green, Pump Project Artistic Director – Joining the group at POP on Springdale. Wants to support the revisions to funding allocations. Hopes that the funds for the Arts Space Assistance Program will continue.

Andria Bennett, Protos Media Arts – Not returning for funding in FY19 because they were not able to secure the needed space, and is moving out of the country to find a better city to support the work of the organization. Supports working with the Arts Advocacy Coalition for future improvement.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- a. Carl Settles, Founder and Executive Director of E4 Youth
- b. Stephanie Chavez Noell, Director of Community Engagement at Creative Action

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Action Items
 - i. Discussion and Possible Action on Cultural Funding Reserve Amount
Motion to the re-establish the funding matrix working group comprised of Commissioners Castillo, Polgar, Flores, Garza, to take up potential revisions, including all available options to make changes to the established FY19 funding matrix
Motioned: Mok Seconded: Fonte
Motion Approved – 9-0
 - ii. Approve August FY19 Community Initiative Applications
Motion to table to the next Arts Commission Meeting
Motioned: Barnes Seconded: McCain
Motion approved 9-0
 - iii. Approve Revisions to the City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy
 - iv. Approve the revised Final Design for the 2018 TEMPO 2D AIPP Project
Flash Collective, Artist
 - v. Approve the Final Design for the Onion Creek AFD/EMS Station Art in
Public Places Project, Thoughtbarn, Artist
 - vi. Approve the Selection Process Recommendation for the Montopolis
Recreation and Community Center AIPP Project (Principal Artist)

Motion to approve items 7.a.iii, 7.a.iv, 7.a.v, 7.a.vi on consent
Motioned Fonte Seconded: Barnes
Motion approved 9-0

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Action Items

i. Omnibus

1. Update from Joint Music/Arts Working Group
No action taken

ii. Working Group Updates

1. Cultural Funding Program Responsiveness Working Group – Chair Castillo, Vice Chair Polgar, Commissioners Mok, McCain and chaired by Commissioner Fonte.
No Action Taken
2. City of Austin Artwork Donation and Loan Policy Working Group – Chair Castillo, Commissioners Barnes, Bryan, McCain and representatives from the AIPP Panel – Working Group has completed their assigned work.
No Action Taken
3. Cultural Equity Working Group - Commissioners Flores, Rice, Fonte, and Mok along with community member Sarah Rucker
No Action Taken
4. Arts Commission Bylaws Working Group - Vice Chair Polgar, Commissioners Flores, Reeves
No Action Taken
5. Venue Crisis Action Plan Working Group - Vice Chair Polgar, Commissioner Reeves
No Action Taken

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Next Regular Meeting will be on **Monday, October 15 @ 6pm at City Hall, Board and Commission Room 1101, 301 W 2nd St, Austin, TX 78701**

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT – 8:24pm

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Anne-Marie McKaskle-Davis at the Cultural Arts Division, at 512-974-7854, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Austin Arts Commission please contact Anne-Marie McKaskle-Davis at 512-974-7854.