



Meeting Special Board Meeting

Date May 17, 2021

Location Webex

Attendees Abigail Gómez, Asa Jackson, Terry Buntrock, Michael Markley, Laurie Naismith, Barbara Parker, Amanda Pillion, Jan Monroe, Robert Goudie, Sushmita Mazumdar, David Trinkle

Not in Attendance: Dena Jennings, Matt Conrad

Staff in Attendance: Janet Starke, Lucas Hall, Cathy Welborn, Casey Polczynski

Meeting convened by: Chair Abigail Gómez called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM.

Approval of Minutes: March meeting minutes to be approved at next quarterly meeting (June 16 – 17, 2021)

Amendments None

Agenda Items

Key Points of Items	Presenter	Referenced Report	Action
FY22 Guideline Revisions	Janet Starke	FY22 Guidelines for Funding	<p>An overview of the FY22 Guideline revisions for Technical Assistance Grant award amounts—creating two tiers for potential funding; and the FY23 Tour Directory (no new artists, in order to focus on getting existing artists back to work) were shared.</p> <p>Dave Trinkle asked if current FY22 Touring Artist would apply for FY23 inclusion on the roster. Janet confirmed they would file the FY23 Short Form.</p> <p>Motion to approve: David Trinkle. Second: Barbara Parker. Roll call. All approved. Asa Jackson, Matt Conrad, Dena Jennings were not on the call at the time of the vote. Motion carried.</p>
FY22 Operating Budget (DRAFT)	Mike Markley/Janet Starke	Draft FY22 Budget	<p>Michael Markley and Janet Starke gave an overview of the FY22 Budget for preview prior to the June Commission board meeting. Janet</p>

			gave an overview of the pass-through funds to the Virginia Humanities Folklife program through the increased NEA grant, which have been discussed through several meetings/communications with the NEA. They can use the funds for operating support in fulfillment of their existing program, but cannot use the funds for apprenticeships.
Nominating Committee	Abigail Gómez		Abigail Gómez proposed the Nominating Committee to identify the FY22 slate of officers for approval by the Board at the June (16-17, year-end) meeting
ARP Funds to be received	Janet Starke		<p>Janet gave an overview of the NEA ARP funds. We have been awarded \$871,100. We are awaiting state approval from the General Assembly for guidance to receive funds and also, we have to send an overview to the NEA on how we will appropriate the funds. Funds will probably not go out until August. Funding must go to rent, utilities, staff salaries, PPE and marketing and promotional support. We have engaged in numerous conversations with organization and regional leaders to assess most current needs We are awaiting guidance –but plan to allocate funds in one of four ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited amount of funds for VCA staff. 2. Unrestricted operating support (majority to GOS grantees) 3. Project Grantees and AIE grantees to apply for funds 4. Invitation to new organizations to receive some funds. <p>Robert Goudie said organizations desperately need unrestricted GOS. Terry Buntrock asked about the process of adding to GOS vs additional grants. Janet explained the amount of additional staff time needed to create 203 additional grants would be significant and therefore, much more efficient if we add a specific amount to the FY22 GOS award.</p>

Policy Revision	Janet Starke	Draft Revised Policy Manual	<p>Janet Starke gave an overview of Policy Manual Revisions. Abigail Gómez said the new policy surrounding background checks gives reasonable parameters through which the staff can make decisions for inclusion. Barbara Parker stated it addresses concerns and protects the Commission and artists. Laurie Naismith said this would be applicable to many other local governments. Janet thanked the committees and Casey for their work on this policy. Mike Markley said that it may change in the future, but for now, this policy represents the best effort and process. Janet said it would be released for public comment over the next 30 days and noted that she will add a contextual note regarding the VCA goals. Based on a suggestion from Markley, Janet will add clarifying info for federal employees recusing from NEA grant.</p>
Public Comment	Abigail Gómez		<p>Virginians for the Arts President Beverly Hess suggested that we should strongly use NEA APR funding for GOS, especially in light of the organizations that worked so hard through the VFTA for increased funding. Not having to write an additional grant for GOS would be very important to grantees as so many are short staffed. Beverly said Rights and Royalties are a mess right now for many and has depleted cash flow for organizations. Organizations need funding to survive until they can get ticket revenues back on the books.</p>
New Business			<p>Laurie Naismith said the City of VA Beach voted to award Virginia Museum of Contemporary Arts \$300K to bring in artist Maya Lin.</p>

Time Adjourned (by whom): Abigail Gómez at 12:25 PM

Next Meeting: June 16 – 17, 2021; likely to be a hybrid with some meeting in Richmond (as are vaccinated/comfortable) and others virtually. More details to come.