



**Commission Board Meeting
October 7, 2021
Suffolk Center for the Cultural Arts**

Attendees

Commissioners: Asa Jackson, Dena Jennings, Terry Emory Buntrock, Frazier Millner Armstrong, La Tasha Do'zia, Jan P. Monroe, Michael Markley, Laurie Naismith, Barbara Parker, Amanda Pillion, and David Trinkle

Staff: Janet Starke, Cathy Welborn, Casey Polczynski

Attorney General Liaison: Deborah Love

Absent: Robert Goudie, Sushmita Mazumdar

Meeting convened by VCA Chair, Asa Jackson at 9:00 am. Commissioners introduced themselves. Asa Jackson welcomed two new Commissioners, Frazier Millner Armstrong and La Tasha Do'zia.

Special Guests:

Lorelei Costa, Executive Director / CEO Suffolk Center for the Cultural Arts
Peggy Kriha Dye, Executive Director, and Deborah Wyld, Chair - Virginia Opera
Beverly Hess, President, Virginians for the Arts
Abigail Gomez, VCA Past Chair, (current) Board Member and Co-Chair POC Affinity Group, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA)

Approval of Minutes (Asa Jackson) from the June 16-17, 2021 Commission Meeting

Motion to Approve: Mike Markley

Seconded: Jan P. Monroe

All approved, Motion Passed

Special Presentations:

1. Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts (host): Lorelei Costa, Executive Director / CEO
2. Virginia Opera Association: Peggy Kriha Dye, Executive Director and Deborah Wyld, Chair provided an update on new leadership and direction at Virginia Opera.
3. Virginians for the Arts (VFTA): Beverly Hess report for Virginians for the Arts. She asked the Commissioners to become members. Next meeting will be held October 21, 2021 at McGuireWoods. All Commissioners can attend either in-person or virtually. Special guests will include Americans for the Arts' (AFTA) new Executive Director Nolan Bevin, and Jay Dick (Jay, also being a former VCA Commissioner). Arts Advocacy Day will continue in January. Arts organizations are encouraged to invite legislators to their events and tag them and VFTA in social media content. Organizations wishing to post stories to VFTA can send to Beverly@virginiaartfactory.org.

4. Abigail Gómez, gave an update on NASAA’s most current activities, including free virtual anti-bias training in November for Commission members (and staff). NASAA Assembly 2022 will be held September 20-24, 2022 in Kansas City. (VCA budgets for staff and Board Chair to attend. Other Commissioners can attend, but must pay on their own). NASAA has also updated its DEI Consultant Sourcebook that is available for all SAAs for internal DEI work. Dena Jennings is on this list representing Virginia.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Asa Jackson made a land acknowledgement of the Nansemond Tribe.

FOIA/COIA Overview: Deb Love, Senior Assistant Attorney and Chief of the Education Department of the Office of the Attorney General, gave an overview of her role and a refresher on FOIA/COIA Requirements for all Commission members and staff.

Agenda Items

Key Points	Presenter	Reference Report	Action
<p>Report from the Executive Director</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staffing Updates 2. Report on the Oct 6, 2021 Orientation 3. State of the Arts 4. Update on Relief Funding 5. Update on the Budget/ Foundation/Budget Process 6. Next General Assembly 7. 2022 ArtWorks Conf. 8. Art Stars Awards 9. Virtual Artist Showcase overview 10. Governor’s Proclamation - October as Arts and Humanities Month 11. Website Plans 	Janet Starke		<p>Dena Jennings asked if we require touring artists to be vaccinated? Janet Starke stated presenters have their own regulations regarding masking and vaccinations. Deb Love concurred stating as long as we let artists know our expectations that they are to abide by rules of the venues, we are covered.</p> <p>Laurie Naismith encouraged Virginians for the Arts to find out if VCA can be a recipient of a portion of new casino funding streams in order to reach the \$1 per capita goal. Mike Markley said this would require new legislation that VCA would need to propose.</p>
<p>Role of Commissioners Overview of Responsibilities</p> <p>Strategic Plan 2021-2024</p>	Janet Starke	Tab 3 Orientation Manual	<p>Dena Jennings stated Commissioners PAINT: Policy, Advocate, Invest, Negotiate and Transform</p> <p>A comprehensive overview of the Strategic Plan will take place at the December 2021 meeting.</p>

<p>Discussion and Approval of the American Rescue Plan Guidelines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VCA-ARP for FY22 GOS Grantees 2. VCA-ARP Arts Recovery Grant 	<p>Mike Markley, Janet Starke</p>	<p>Board Book Tab 5 and Handout</p>	<p>Overview VCA-ARP for FY22 GOS Grantees to be reviewed by staff only. Payments to be approved by staff and disbursed.. Deadline for applications October 29, 2021.</p> <p>VCA-ARP Arts Recovery Grant: Deadline will be Dec 1st, to be reviewed by panel and voted on by Board at NOW SCHEDULED for February 8-9, 2022 Commission Board Meeting (revised from originally scheduled March 16-17, 2022.)</p> <p>Motion to approve: Barbara Parker made a motion to approve the VCA-ARP Guidelines for both VCA-ARP for FY22 GOS grantees and VCA-ARP Arts Recovery Grant Guidelines Second: Dena Jennings All approved. Motion passed</p> <p>The Commission approved the date change for the March meeting to Feb 8-9, 2022 in order to vote on the VCA-ARP Arts Recovery Grant.</p>
<p>2022-23 Guidelines for Funding Revisions</p>	<p>Mike Markley, Janet Starke</p>	<p>Board Book Tab 7</p>	<p>Pertaining to financials: recommend to continue to maintain that organizations with income > \$600K may submit an IRS Form 900 in lieu of an audit</p> <p>Pertaining to Project Grants: Criteria to give equal weight to artistic quality, community engagement (IDEA), and project management. Project Grants will be evaluated by a statewide panel, separate from GOS panels.</p> <p>Pertaining to Touring Program: In FY23 performances must be live; artists/ensembles can include one program within a 30-mile radius; no virtual programming.</p> <p>Discussion: Dena asked if all GOS could be short formed again. Answer: that will overburden paneling process in the following year.</p> <p>Jan: Can we give organizations the choice to do long form or short form this</p>

			<p>year. Answer: This would still burden paneling process in the following year as everyone would likely select Short Form</p> <p>Laurie: We should give more points to IDEA under project, not equal weight. Janet: Can we give additional points for competitive priority? Deb Love said yes.</p>
Discussion and Approval of the FY23 Performing Arts Tour Directory Artists	Janet Starke, Cathy Welborn	Board Book Tab 6	Discussion: Motion to Approve: David Trinkle Seconded: Laurie Naismith All Approved, Motion Passed
Arts in Education Report: Poetry Out Loud, AIEx, Artist Fellowships, Mid Atlantic Teaching, Artist Retreat, Arts Data Project, Arts Ed for All Act.	Casey Polczynski	Handouts for POL Teachers Handbook	<p>-AIEx –Eight applications to date</p> <p>-Fellowships (Poetry)—37 applications. Sushmita Mazumdar will observe the November 18th panel at the Visual Arts Center in Richmond.</p> <p>-Teaching Artist Roster--Four applications with panel on November 17th. Jan Monroe will observe this panel</p> <p>--Mid Atlantic Teaching Artist retreat to begin earnest planning in January 2022.</p>
IDEA: Learning and Leading	Dena Jennings		Will be tabled until the December Commission Meeting.
Commissioner Regional Reports	All Commissioners		<p>Laurie Naismith mentioned that Pharell Williams will no longer be associated with a large festival in VA Beach which will impact the entire region and especially associated artists. Mike Markley said that the urban/rural divide is growing exponentially due to COVID. Frazier mentioned CultureWork’s artoberVA, which is a great way for local arts organizations in Richmond to collectively tell their story and bridge the gap between people in urban/suburban/rural settings.</p> <p>Barbara Parker mentioned that the Prizery and Opera on the James hired international artists who were unable to get back into the US due to COVID.</p> <p>Asa Jackson mentioned that PFAC which has now become the Torgler Museum is being managed by former ED from Arlington Arts Center.</p>

Old Business/New Business	Asa Jackson		Old Business: Executive Committee may need to be increased to include Committee Chairs. This would bring it to 6. Deb Love said in terms of bylaws, if you only have 3 members, if two speak, then that is considered a meeting. This will be discussed at the next meeting in December.
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Comments/Contributions from the Public: None

Review of the Upcoming Meeting Schedule: The next meeting will be held on December 15-16, 2021 in Abingdon, VA.

Time Adjourned: 1:40 PM