



MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD MINUTES

Meeting date: July 11-12, 2016
Location: MacRostie Art Center
405 1st Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Reif Performing Arts Center, Ives Studio Theater
720 NW Conifer Drive, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Attendance

- Members present July 11: Ardell Brede, Peggy Burnet, Uri Camarena, Michael Charron, Rebecca Davis, Dave Glenn, Tom Moss, Dobson West, Chris Widdess
- Members absent July 11: Sean Dowse, Jan Sivertson
- Staff present July 11: Jill Bode, Sue Gens, Renae Youngs
- Guests present July 11: Kathy Dodge; Patty Feld, Edge of the Wilderness Center; Margaret Holmes; Nikki Lehtinen; Amy Lucas-Peroceski; Tara Makinen, Itasca Orchestra and Strings Program; Katie Marshall, MacRostie Art Center; Sonja Merrill; Ward Merrill, Backus Community Center; Sam Miltich; Sheila Smith, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts; Aaron Squadroni; Ed Zabinski
- Members present July 12: Ardell Brede, Peggy Burnet, Uri Camarena, Michael Charron, Rebecca Davis, Sean Dowse, Dave Glenn, Tom Moss, Dobson West, Chris Widdess
- Members absent July 12: Jan Sivertson
- Staff present July 12: Jill Bode, Sue Gens, Richard Hitchler, Renae Youngs
- Guests present July 12: Robert DeArmond, Arrowhead Regional Arts Council; Laura Dehler-Seter, Region 2 Arts Council; Mary Ives; David Marty, Reif Performing Arts Center; Senator Tom Saxhaug, District 05, Minnesota Senate; Sheila Smith, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts

Call to order

Chair Tom Moss called the meeting to order July 11, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. The following board members were present, constituting a quorum: Ardell Brede, Peggy Burnet, Uri Camarena, Michael Charron, Rebecca Davis, Dave Glenn, Moss, Dobson West, Chris Widdess.

Roundtable discussions

Guests from the northern region of Minnesota – individual artists, arts organizations, teachers, civic leaders, charitable organizations – broke into small groups with board members, to provide insight on four topics: 1) How to build and sustain a thriving community of individual artists in greater Minnesota; 2) Using arts as a community development strategy; 3) The roles a thriving community arts center plays in a vibrant community or region; 4) Opportunities for lifelong learning in the arts in greater Minnesota.

The roundtable portion of the annual meeting ended at 4:30 p.m.

Annual business meeting

Chair Moss reconvened the annual meeting on July 12, 2016, at 9:05 a.m. The following board members were present, constituting a quorum: Brede, Burnet, Camarena, Charron, Davis, Sean Dowse, Glenn, Moss, West, Widdess.

Open Meeting Law

Moss stated that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with Minnesota's Open Meeting Law and noted that copies of the Arts Board's guidelines were available for visiting members of the public.

Agenda

Burnet moved to approve the agenda. Dowse seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Minutes

Dowse moved to approve the minutes for the meeting held on May 4, 2016. Charron seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Introduce new board members

New board members Uri Camarena and Chris Widdess introduced themselves and spoke about their backgrounds.

Grant recommendations

Sue Gens introduced Richard Hitchler, the Operating Support program officer.

Dowse moved to approve the grant recommendations for FY 2017 Operating Support, group one applicants (handout 6a). Charron seconded the motion. Burnet and West declared conflicts of interest; both members recused themselves from the discussion and from voting. All others voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Charron moved to approve the grant recommendations for FY 2017 Operating Support, group two applicants (handout 6a). Burnet seconded the motion. Davis and Dowse declared conflicts of interest; both members recused themselves from the discussion and from voting. All others voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Burnet moved to approve the grant recommendations for FY 2017 Operating Support, group three applicants (handout 6a). Charron seconded the motion. Dowse declared a conflict of interest and recused himself from the discussion and from voting. Acknowledging that the agency must consider a grant applicant's performance on prior grants before making a new grant award, Glenn moved to amend the motion as follows: The grant to Asian Media Access is not approved; if the grantee and Arts Board staff members are able to resolve issues related to a prior grant or grants, and if after such resolution, policy allows the grant to be awarded, then no further board action would be required to approve this grant. Brede seconded the amendment. All voted in favor, none opposed, Dowse abstained; the amendment to the motion carried. As to the amended motion, all voted in favor, none opposed, Dowse abstained; the motion carried.

Dowse moved to approve the grant recommendations for FY 2017 Operating Support, group four applicants (handout 6a). Burnet seconded the motion. Charron declared a conflict of interest and recused himself from the discussion and from voting. All others voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Gens explained that Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota extends its capacity by using the Arts Board, and its Operating Support review process, to regrant Wells Fargo funds.

Glenn moved to approve the grant recommendations for FY 2017 Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota (handout 6b). Burnet seconded the motion. Davis declared a conflict of interest and recused herself from the discussion and from voting. All others voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Charron moved to approve the grant recommendations for FY 2017 Arts Learning (attachment 6c). Glenn seconded the motion. West declared a conflict of interest and recused himself from the discussion and from voting. All others voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Percent for Art contract

Glenn moved to approve entering into schematic design proposal contracts with the three finalists for the Minnesota Historical Society Oliver Kelley Farm project (attachment 7a) and to approve entering into a commission contract with Ann Klefstad for the Central Lakes College project (attachment 7b). Davis seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Grant program advisory panel nominations

Gens noted that Juliet Patterson has withdrawn from the literary arts prose panel recommendations.

Burnet moved to approve the panel member nominations for FY 2017 Artist Initiative poetry, prose, dance, music, and theater (attachments 8b-1 and 8b-2), FY 2017 Minnesota Festival Support, FY 2018 Operating Support artistic evaluators, and Percent for Art –City of Duluth Wade Stadium (attachment 8e). Charron seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Regional arts council report

Robert DeArmond, executive director of the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, gave an overview of region three and reported on the programs and services offered.

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts report

Sheila Smith, executive director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA), reported on recent advocacy and legislative activities.

[The board took a tour of the Reif Center and had a lunch break for 55 minutes.]

Election of FY 2017 officers

Burnet moved to approve the slate of officers nominated to serve in FY 2017. Widdess seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried

Chair – Moss

Vice chairs – Charron and Davis

Secretary/Treasurer – Dowse

Officer at-large – Burnet

Treasurer's report

Dowse gave a summary of the May 31, 2016, FY 2016 year-to-date financial statement. The financial statement reflects cash basis accounting, except that grant transactions are shown using accrual based accounting.

- Total revenue budgeted at \$35,751,924. Amount received is \$35,751,924.
- Total expenses budgeted at \$35,751,924. Amount spent is \$34,666,234.

Glenn moved to accept the treasurer's report. Widdess seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Executive director's report

Gens reported the following:

- Gens gave a recap of the 2016 legislative session.
- Gens outlined the Arts Board's internal controls to monitor regional arts councils with regard to review and documentation, and the grant reconciliation process.
- In May, the board approved FY 2017 regional arts council block grants. This year, Five Wings Arts Council (FWAC) will be the fiscal sponsor for the Forum of Regional Arts Councils, rather than Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, resulting in a revision to the amounts appropriated to each of them; the total amount of the block grants has not changed.
- The rulemaking process in which the Arts Board has been engaged is expected to be completed in a few weeks.
- The search for a director of communications and external relations is progressing; interviews have been completed and there are three finalists.

The business portion of the annual meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Planning session

Chair Moss convened the planning session portion of the annual meeting at 12:50 p.m.

National Center for Charitable Statistics

Moss presented information about public versus private investment in the arts in Minnesota, and posed a series of questions to generate discussion on how the Arts Board should or could influence change in this area.

Senator Tom Saxhaug

Senator Tom Saxhaug, of district 5, and Mary Ives, a local business owner and philanthropist, engaged in conversation with the board about the arts in the district.

Arts Board artist needs assessment

Renae Youngs gave a status report on the artist needs assessment, which is designed to answer the question: What do artists need to thrive in the State of Minnesota? She is in the process of analyzing data collected in a statewide survey and presented a summary of preliminary findings to the board. Youngs will create an executive summary that the board can use to help make policy decisions and take action.

Allocation of Arts Board resources

The board reviewed charts and statistics related to the allocation of Arts Board resources and trends over time. This was the beginning of a discussion to determine if, and how, the board may wish to reallocate its resources or revamp current programs to meet changing needs.

Adjourn

The planning session portion of the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by,
Jill Bode, Minnesota State Arts Board staff