



## Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday- September 2, 2021, 5:00 pm

Sandler Center for the Performing Arts / Classroom 1 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

### Commissioners Present:

- Emma "Em" Davis, Vice Chair
- Megin R. Kennett, Treasurer
- C. Cheyney Cole, Jr.
- Mia K. Guile
- Olga Torres-Baker

### Cultural Affairs Department Staff Present:

- C. Alex Dye, Media and Communications Coordinator
- Hillary L. Plate, Cultural Programs & Grants Coordinator
- Nina Goodale, Public Art & Placemaking Coordinator
- Emily S. Labows, Cultural Affairs Director

### Absent:

- Susan C. Grube, Vice Chairman
- Michael Cloud-Butler
- Brenda J. Roberts, Secretary
- Cynthia Romero, MD
- Hon. Winship C. tower (Ret.)

### I. **Welcome**

Vice Chair Em Davis called the meeting to order at **5:03pm**. New Commissioner **Ms. Mia K. Guile** was welcomed by the Commission and staff. Some background information shared: Public Art Committee member, painter and can speak Dutch, German, French and Japanese.

### II. **Approval of Minutes**

#### MOTION I.

Mr. C. Cheyney Cole Jr. made a motion to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup> Minutes. It was seconded by Ms. Olga Torres-Baker. Vice Chair Em Davis asked all in favor to say "Aye". The motion passed to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup> minutes.

### III. **Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Megin R. Kennett reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Commission. The current total funds available as of August 2021 is \$11, 950. The Board had no questions about the report.

### IV. **Old Business**

- a. FY22 Grants are to be disbursed this month on time.

- b. CCAG deadline updates are in effect.
- 1<sup>st</sup> round deadline due Sept 15 to vote on Oct meeting
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> round deadline due Nov 15 to vote on Dec meeting
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> round deadline due Feb 15, 2022 to vote during March deliberations, if any funding leftover.

## V. **New Business**

a. Leadership & Organizational Development (LOD) Grant

Ms. Rita Cohen, Founder of Tidewater African Cultural Alliance made a request to the Commission for \$500 to fund a Board Retreat for their Board to strengthen their bond and learn how to create a Strategic Plan to effectively lead and govern an organization.

The Commission asked for clarification on an accrued compensation. It was explained that the Tidewater African Cultural Alliance Board granted the Executive Director a \$10,000 stipend for her volunteered services.

*Vice Chair Davis* stated that the Commission would like to work with Ms. Rita Cohen and encouraged her to apply for grants. *Vice Chair Davis* recommended that a liaison be assigned to the group to assist with their application process.

### **MOTION II.**

*Treasurer Kennett* made a motion to assign a liaison to Tidewater African Cultural Alliance. It was seconded by *Ms. Olga Torres-Baker*. *Vice Chair Em Davis* asked all in favor to say "Aye". The motion passed to approve to assign a liaison to Tidewater African Cultural Alliance.

- b. A complete AHC Marketing Overview was presented by Media and Communications Coordinator, Alex Dye. A hard copy of the presentation was also provided to the Commission.
- c. A liaison list was distributed to the commission.

## VI. **Committee Reports**

a. Champion for the Arts Committee/ Committee Chair: Cynthia Romero, MD

- The reception for Nancy Creech at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts is the prototype for future events.
- Nominations will begin January 2022
- Deadline to submit nominations is February 15, 2022.
- Decisions will be made in April/May 2022
- There was no 2021 recipient due to Covid.
- There were a total of five champions.

- b. Advertising & Marketing Committee/ Committee Chair: Brenda Roberts  
Mr. Alex Dye presented his report earlier.

c. Advocacy Committee/Committee Chair: Megin Kennett

Megin's top 3 groups for the month were:

1. Globe Trotters
2. Little Theatre of Virginia Beach Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery
3. Mama Mia II

d. Public Art Committee/ Committee Chair: C. Cheyney Cole, Jr.

C. Cheyney Cole, Jr. shared the following information:

- There was no August PAC Meeting.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mural Fest took place from August 20-29.
- Introduction of **THE AVE**: a re-imagined section of Atlantic Avenue between 17th and 20th Streets
- Don't miss THE AVE kickoff event on Friday, September 3, 2021 at 5 p.m.
- Next PAC meeting is Sept 24 at 9:30 AM.

e. Cultural Equity Committee/ Committee Chair: Olga Torres-Baker

Ms. Olga Torres-Baker reported that committee had not been able to meet but will have an update before the November Meeting.

**VII. Commissioner Comments**

- *Hillary Plate*: Thanked the Commission for their support on VB Arts on Tour series.
- *Emily Labows*: Councilperson Michael Berlucchi is the new city council liaison for the AHC.

**VIII. Public Comments:**

The following organizations presented event updates and announcements:

- Dr Edwin Brow / Symphonicity
- Kelsey Backe / Hurrah Players
- Frances Loyer / MOCA
- Patrick O'Brien / Virginia Symphony
- Rita Cohen / Tidewater African Cultural Alliance
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**IX. Next Meeting – Sandler Center, Second floor**

- a. Nov 4/4:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting (Conference Room)
- b. Nov 4/5:00 pm: Business Meeting (Classroom 1)

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting ended at **6:03 pm**

Submitted by Arts and Humanities Commission Recorder: Mari R. Coronado, Executive Assistant II