

## MINUTES

### BROWARD CULTURAL COUNCIL

Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 – 12:00 PM

Main Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Bienes Ceremonial Room

**PRESENT:** (10<sup>th</sup> Meeting) Anthony Abbate, Chair (p9,a1); Edith Gooden-Thompson, 1<sup>st</sup> Chair (p10,a0); Margaret Armand (p9,a1); Michael Bassichis (p10,a0); Rose Marie Cossick (p9,a1); Dr. Claire Crawford (p9,a1); Arthur Crispino (p9,a0); Patrick Flynn (p9,a1); Teresa Hall (p8,a2); Roslyn Kurland (p7,a3); Estelle Loewenstein (p7,a3); Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom (p9,a1); Richard Simon (p7,a3);

**ABSENT:** Bonnie Barnett (p9,a1); Richard Gray (p2, a2); Anna Toms McDaniel (p8,a2); Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin (p3,a7); Diane Weinbrum (p7,a3); Benjamin Williams (p7,a3)

**GUEST(S):** Judith Carney, Managing Director, Florida Grand Opera; Cynthia Morani, Attorney & ROP Panelist; Rebecca Munden-Correa, Director, Parks and Recreation, City of Hallandale Beach

**STAFF:** Mary Becht, Director; Earl Bosworth, Assistant Director; Andrea Froome, Assistant County Attorney; James Shermer, Grants Manager; Jody Leshinsky, Marketing Director; Grace Kewl, Project Manager, Public Art & Design; Rowena Nocom, Division Administrative Assistant; Lisa Lopez, Arts Assistant; Barbra Aleman, Senior Secretary

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Chair Anthony Abbate called the meeting to order and roll was called by Barbra Aleman at 12:19 PM.

Chair Anthony Abbate announced that Mary Becht has been with Broward County for 25 years and presented a gift of appreciation from the council members.

**A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Edith Gooden-Thompson, to approve the minutes of the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Broward Cultural Council (BCC) Meeting and Annual Planning Forum. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Edith Gooden-Thompson, to approve Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 on the Consent Agenda as follows:**

*Steve Shulman, Hollywood ArtsPark Director, to the Cultural Tourism Call to Action Committee.*

*Wayne Alexander to serve on the Advocacy Committee.*

*Design Arts Program grant to the City of Oakland Park, Florida (DAP03-2008).*

*Individualists to serve as grant panelists for all programs: Dr. Dianne Avery B. Wright, Associate Professor, FAU; Bruce M. Berger, CPA, CVA, ABV; David Spangler, Program Administrator, NSU Interdisciplinary Arts Master's Program; Fran Mulcahy, Arts in Education Committee Member.*

*Fifteen (15) day extension for the City of Hallandale Beach, FL., (ECD 03-2007) for late submission of the Project Report due 11/30/07.*

*Stephanie Cunningham to be added to the Pool of Artist Selection Panelists.*

*Design proposals by artists John Pitman Weber and Nina Smoot Cain for the Pooled Libraries South Branches Project: Riverland, Davie/Cooper City, Dania Beach, and Carver Ranches in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.*

*Direct purchase of the artwork "Tree Rain" by artist team of Suzanne Scherer and Pavel Ouporov in an amount not to exceed \$20,000, including equipment and installation.*

*Thirty-day (30) (total 60-day) extension for submission of annual audit FY2007 for the All Florida Youth Orchestra, Inc. (GOP01-2007).*

*Thirty-day (30) (total 60-day) extension for submission of annual audit FY 2007 for the Museum of Art, Inc. (MCI03-2007).*

*Approval of additional thirty-day (30) (total 60-day) extension for submission of annual audit FY 2007 for Maximum Dance Company (ROP05-2007).*

**The motion was unanimously approved.**

**A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Margaret Armand, to approve Item 9 on the Consent Agenda as follows:** *Broward Cultural Council Slate of Officers for 2008: Edith Gooden-Thompson, Chair; Estelle Loewenstein, 1<sup>st</sup>- Vice Chair; Arthur Crispino, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair; and Rose Marie Cossick, Member-at-Large.* **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Judith Carney, Director of the Florida Grand Opera, stated that the Opera has had twenty-two (22) performances with almost to capacity audiences for the past two years. It is a year of opportunity and growth for the Opera. The Florida Grand Opera is the 7<sup>th</sup> oldest and ranked the 10<sup>th</sup> largest Opera companies in America. Ms. Carney stated that The Florida Grand Opera's mission is to present Opera music with a live orchestra; educate audiences, enrichment Opera art form and to make Opera a part of cultural community now and in the future. Ms. Carney asked Broward Cultural Council to continue the fight for government funding for arts organizations as well as finding new sources of funding.

A lengthy discussion followed on the proposal of a Young Professionals Mentoring Program entitled "Emerging Cultural Leaders Program". Mary Becht explained that the idea generated by staff is to create an advisory body of young professionals to assist council members by reviewing grants, evaluating programs, and meeting with cultural organizations in the community and to be

mentored by council members. Mary Becht asked the council to consider drafting by-laws for the program and to identify young professionals. Chair Anthony Abbate suggested that further discussion is needed at the next BCC Meeting and that an ad hoc committee be created and that the members meet and report at the next meeting. Committee volunteers include: Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom, Dr. Claire Crawford, Estelle Loewenstein, Richard Simon, and Diane Weinbrum.

Chair Anthony Abbate reminded council members to sign up for Grants Evaluations and to review the BCC 2008 Calendar. Chair Anthony Abbate stated that the Cultural Tourism Committee Meetings have been productive and that the committee will continue to meet on a quarterly basis. The Atlantic Hotel will give a presentation at the February BCC Meeting on their combined success with ArtServe.

Chair Anthony Abbate announced that Michael Bassichis will speak at the Broward Legislative Delegation Hearing on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 6:30 pm at the BCC/FAU tower, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor. **A motion was made by Dr. Claire Crawford, seconded by Arthur Crispino, to approve the Legislative Delegation Cultural Affairs Outline. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Director Mary Becht urged council to become a Florida Cultural Alliance Member. Ms. Becht announced that Lois Wexler is the new Broward County Mayor and the Vice-Mayor is Stacy Ritter. Mayor Lois Wexler will select the next Broward County Commissioners liaison to the council. Ms. Becht also announced that Amy Ostrau has been appointed to the BCC Council and Beverly Stracher was selected to serve on a another board and will be leaving the BCC council.

Director Mary Becht stated that there are Grant Change requests from the Mosaic Theatre (change in production of Talk Radio) and ArtServe (reduction on minimum cost range for Technical Assistance). Ms. Becht also reported that a vender was still needed to produce the Cultural Quarterly.

The council recognized outgoing Chair, Anthony Abbate with the Council Leadership Award and thanked him for an outstanding job. Claire Crawford was also acknowledged for concluding her 8 years of service on the Executive Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.