

**MINUTES**  
**BROWARD CULTURAL COUNCIL**  
**Thursday, November 6, 2008 10:30 AM**  
**Governmental Center, Room 430**

**PRESENT:** (10<sup>th</sup> Meeting) Edith Gooden-Thompson, Chair (p9,a1); Estelle Loewenstein, Vice-Chair (p10,a0); Anthony Abbate (p7,a3); Bonnie Barnett (p10,a0); Michael Bassichis (p9,a1); Rose Bechard-Butman (p6,a2); Rose Marie Cossick (p7,a3); Dr. Claire Crawford (p7,a3); Arthur Crispino (p10,a0); Patrick Flynn (p9,a1); Commissioner Sue Gunzburger (p10,a0); Deborah Kerr (p8,a0); Roslyn Kurland (p9,a1); Amy Ostrau (p9,a1); Vice-Mayor Charlotte Rodstrom (p7,a2,e1); Alice Zendel Simon (p8,a0); Richard Simon (p8,a2); Diane Weinbrum (p7,a3); Benjamin Williams (p7,a3)

**ABSENT:** Margaret Armand (p8,a2)

**GUESTS:** Al Tucker, VP, Multicultural Business Development, GFLCVB; Caroline Rucker, Director, Gospel Complex for Education and Preservation

**STAFF:** Mary Becht, Director; Andrea Froome, Assistant County Attorney; Jody Horne-Leshinsky, Marketing Director; Jim Shermer, Grants Manager; Grace Kewl-Durfey, Arts Education Specialist; Adriane Clarke, Grants Specialist; Rowena Nocom, Division Administrative Assistant; Barbra Aleman, Recording Secretary

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Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson called the meeting to order and roll was called by Barbra Aleman at 10:40 a.m.

Chair Edith Gooden Thompson stated that there is an amendment on the date of consent agenda item 1... FROM: *Approval of cancellation of the June 1, 2008 deadline* TO: *Approval of cancellation of June 1, 2009* and consent agenda item 5 should be regular agenda item 1 as it is not a part of the consent agenda. Anthony Abbate stated that the Executive Committee minutes were included on the agenda and not the council minutes. Chair Edith Gooden Thompson stated that the correct minutes will be on December's agenda.

**A motion was made by Rose Marie Cossick, seconded by Commissioner Sue Gunzburger to approve Items 1 2, 3, and 4 on the consent agenda as follows:**

*Approval of the grant panel's recommendations for the Mini Grant Program from the October 27, 2008 panel meeting.*

*Approval of cancellation of the June 1, 2009 deadline for Mini-Grant applications for FY09, pending full utilization of funds for the February 1, 2009 deadline.*

*Approval of final payment to artist Robert Calvo in the amount of \$14,000 for the Miramar Community Library Project.*

*Approval of revised Artist Selection Panel for Airport Media Arts Project III.*

**The motion was unanimously approved.**

Discussion followed on regular agenda item 1, removal of the sunset provision and cap of \$600,000. Commissioner Sue Gunzburger stated that a minimum of five commissioners need to sponsor the motion in order to pass. Several council members spoke about meeting with individual commissioners and the outcome. Chair Edith Gooden Thompson informed council that five commissioners are willing to sponsor the motion. Benjamin Williams added that with the support of five commissioners, now is a good time to proceed with the motion.

**A motion was made by Michael Bassichis, seconded by Estelle Loewenstein to approve removal of the sunset provision and continuation of Ordinance Nos. 88-69 and 90-38, scheduled to expire October 1, 2010, and to change the wording to remove the cap of \$600,000. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Discussion followed on the negative press received from the Whirls, Swirls and Vortex Sculpture at Central Regional Park. Anthony Abbate stated that BCC is doing an ineffective job with public relations and should turn the focus on how art affects the feeling of the community, not just comment about the artist and their artwork. Discussion followed. Commissioner Gunzburger recommended that Jody Leshinsky contact Broward County's Public Relations Department for assistance with negative press. Alice Simon stated that the Cultural Executives Committee need to mobilize arts people to share the importance of the arts with the Broward County Commissioners and start their own campaign to advocate for the arts and let the public know the importance of the arts.

Al Tucker, Vice President of Multicultural Business Development, GFLCVB gave a brief history on Dr. Bobby Jones and the project plans for the Gospel Complex for Education and Preservation. Mr. Tucker stated that the complex will focus on music education and economic empowerment. The 90,000 square foot complex will have a gospel museum, recording studio and educational center and will be the first gospel complex in the United States. The Dr. Bobby Jones Gospel will broadcast their cable show live from facility and create jobs in Broward. The economic benefits are expected to bring 150,000 tourists and generate more than \$5 million on annual basis, bring new housing, construction and economic redevelopment to Lauderhill as well as home to possible record labels.

Estelle Loewenstein summarized the 2009 goals for the Broward Cultural Council.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Sue Gunzburger, seconded by Anthony Abbate to approve the 2009 Broward Cultural Council Goals. The motion was unanimously approved.** Anthony Abbate reported that the nominating committee has proposed the following slate of officers for 2009: *Edith Gooden Thompson, Chair, Estelle Loewenstein, Vice Chair, Arthur Crispino, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Rose Marie Cossick and Amy Ostrau, Members-At-Large.*

Bonnie Barnett reported that the Artist Hall of Fame committee has recommended criteria for nominating artists for the Artist Hall of Fame. Discussion followed.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Sue Gunzburger, seconded by Arthur Crispino to approve the criteria for Artists Hall of Fame and the first five (5) artists: Duane Hanson, Vinnette Carroll, Cannonball Adderly, Jaco Pastorius, Stuart McIver. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Discussion followed on the location of Artist Hall of Fame memorial.

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson suggested that council members renew their Florida Cultural Alliance membership. Chair Gooden-Thompson also encouraged council members to sign up for 2009 grant evaluations.

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson explained the Gift Law for project and activity evaluations. Chair Gooden-Thompson reminded committee chairs to submit annual meeting schedules.

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson stated that the Anna McDaniel farewell party was a success and that Anna enjoyed the event.

Chair Gooden Thompson briefly reviewed the Americans for the Arts Congressional Report Card and asked council members to advocate with the representatives outside of Broward County that did not support the arts.

Director Mary Becht reminded council that the following items will be on the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission Agenda: the 2009 South Florida Cultural Consortium budget and Inter-local agreement. Ms. Becht added that the Friends of the African American Research Library Committee are requesting a waiver of deadline for submission of a grant application for FY2010 to the Cultural Diversity Program.

Director Mary Becht announced that the City of Tamarac submitted a Proclamation that October will be National Arts and Humanity month. Director Mary Becht reported on the Central Broward Outreach for Alice Aycock Event on October 29th. Ms. Becht also stated that the City of Hallandale Beach ECD grant was returned for FY2008.

Bonnie Barnett announced that Art Basel will open on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and has become the largest fair in the United States. Ms. Barnett asked if the December BCC meeting could be rescheduled so council members could attend Art Basel on opening day. Chair Edith Gooden Thompson stated that it would be difficult to reschedule the council meeting that is arranged a year in advance. Director Mary Becht announced that members could attend the council meeting via conference call if a quorum is present.

The meeting was adjourned 12:05 pm.