

**Minutes
Broward Cultural Council
Executive Committee
Thursday, June 26th, 2008
Main Library, 6th Floor Administrative Office Conference Room
100 S. Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301**

Present: (3rd Meeting) Edith Gooden-Thompson, Chair (p2, a1); Arthur Crispino (p2,a1)
Anthony Abbate, Past Chair (p2, a1); Richard Simon (p2, a1)

Absent: Estelle Loewenstein, 1st Vice-Chair (p2, a1); Rose Marie Cossick, Member-at-Large (p2,a1);

Staff: Mary Becht, Director; Jody Horne-Leshinsky, Acting Assistant Director; Andrea Froome, Assistant County Attorney; Jim Shermer, Grants Administrator; Lisa Lopez, Arts Assistant; Rowena Nocom, Division Administrator

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm.

Discussion followed on the appreciation and farewell reception for past Broward Cultural Council (BCC) and Public Art & Design (PAD) committee members. The committee decided that a member must have served for at least one year to be honored. Mary Becht announced that a tour of the South Florida Consortium Artists' Exhibition will follow the event.

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson stated that she would like to add the Committee Reports and the Emerging Leaders to the BCC September Agenda. Chair Gooden-Thompson also announced that the Cultural Diversity Artist Forum will be held at the City of Hallandale Beach Cultural Community Center on June 26 at 6 pm.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Richard Simon, to approve the minutes of the April 10th, 2008 meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Items 1, 2, 3 and 6 were pulled for discussion.

A motion was made by Richard Simon, seconded by Anthony Abbate, to approve Item 4 and 5 on the Consent Agenda as follows:

Approval of Monica Capelluto, Nilda Comas, Jeff Breed, Jeremiah Jenner, and Steven Sylvester to be included in the Duane Hanson Allied Artist Pre-qualified Roster.

Approval of the artist team of Jeanine Centuori and Russell Rock (Urban Rock Design) for the Children's Reading Center & Museum Project in an amount not to exceed \$202,212 (\$182,000 art; \$20,212 contingency) with artist team of Matthew and Maria Salenger (Colab Studios) as the alternate.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion followed on Item 1. **A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Richard Simon, to approve Item 1 on the Consent Agenda as follows:** *Approval of a Grant Change Request for the Young at Art of Broward, Inc. (GOP29-2008) to change the exhibit Curious George to Cyberchase, The Chase Is On.....* **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Discussion followed on Item 2. Anthony Abbate recommended that the organization provide more information on the size of their audience for the change in number of performances at the next BCC Executive meeting on July 17th, 2008. **A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Arthur Crispino, to table Item 2 on the Consent Agenda until the BCC Executive Meeting on July 17th, 2008. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson announced that she will not be available to chair the next BCC Executive meeting on July 17, 2008 and will ask Estelle Loewenstein to chair the next meeting.

A motion was made by Richard Simon, seconded by Arthur Crispino to approve Item 3 on the Consent Agenda as follows: *Approval of a Grant Change Request for Bailes Ferrer, Inc. (GOP04-2008) to delete a dance company festival performance (\$800) and reallocate funds to rehearsals hours and one additional hour of operation.* **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Director Mary Becht gave an update on the Deerfield Beach Community Center Project. **A motion was made by Arthur Crispino, seconded by Richard Simon, to approve Item 6 on the Consent Agenda as follows:** *Approval of First Amendment to the Agreement between Broward County and artist George Gadson (Geophil Enterprises, Inc.) for Commissioned Artwork for the Deerfield Beach Community Center (formerly West Pompano Highlands Park Community Center) Project to increase compensation by an amount not to exceed \$1,950.* **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Director Mary Becht announced that during the budget workshop, Mayor Lois Wexler stated that the Tourist Tax Cultural Funding be on the agenda at the Tourist Development Council Meeting on August 21, 2008. Anthony Abbate recommended revising the graph to show dedicated tourist tax funding for arts programs and to show another graph starting at the million dollar line instead of zero to show that we are below the million dollar line in comparison with other counties.

Discussion followed on the final proposed County Budget Reductions. Mary Becht explained that at the June 17th workshop, cuts were 28% to the general fund (due to amendment 1 Property Tax Reductions) and 14% special purpose fund due to sales tax reduction. Consistent with the June BCC Meeting, staff calculated an 11% across the board reduction for grants. Ms. Becht advised that the general fund reduction of 28% is a transfer of expenses to the Public Art & Design Trust Fund. She advised that the Public Art Fund could sustain expenses for a few years, but eventually would be depleted. Funds earmarked for art would need to be utilized to support operating expenses. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Arthur Crispino, to accept recommended proposed County Budget Reductions (Attachment a). The motion was approved, 3 in favor of, 1 opposed.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Arthur Crispino, to approve use of \$22,500 from license plate revenues to fund two of the four consortium fellowship artists. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion followed on the resolution to amend the general eligibility requirements for the Education and Community Development Grants and to change the grant to a single year thus eliminating multi-year grants. Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson asked to table until the next BCC meeting on July 17th, 2008 to have an opportunity to review the proposed draft. **A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Arthur Crispino, to move forward as a draft resolution and to revisit the item at the next BCC meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Ms. Becht also stated that the Museum of Discovery and Science Grant Request from the county in the amount of \$1 million dollars from the Tourist Tax Revenue has been approved by the County Commissioners.

Director Mary Becht announced that the Arts Integration Conference will be held on August 13, 2008 at the Dillard Center for the Arts and at the Broward Center for Performing Arts and the South Florida Cultural Consortium Exhibition will be at the Museum of Art will open on Saturday, July 12th, 2008.

Ms. Becht also reminded council that the Tourist Development Council Meeting will be on August 21, 2008. Ms. Becht announced that Steve Shulman is leaving Hollywood Arts Park Foundation and that the Foundation is currently seeking Board Members.

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson urged members to join the Florida Cultural Alliance. Chair Gooden-Thompson also stated that the council has received letters from attendees of the Artists as Entrepreneurs Institute all commending the Micro Credit Program.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.