

MINUTES
BROWARD CULTURAL COUNCIL
Thursday, January 8th, 2009 12:00 PM
Bienes Ceremonial Room, Main Library – 6th Floor

PRESENT: (1st Meeting) Edith Gooden-Thompson, Chair (p1,a0); Estelle Loewenstein, Vice-Chair (p1,a0); Anthony Abbate (p1,a0); Margaret Armand (p1,a0); Bonnie Barnett (p1,a0); Rose Bechard-Butman (p1,a0); Rose Marie Cossick (p1,a0); Dr. Claire Crawford (p1,a0); Arthur Crispino (p1,a0); Janet Erlick (p1, a0); Patrick Flynn (p1,a0); Commissioner Sue Gunzburger (p1,a0); Deborah Kerr (p1,a0); Roslyn Kurland (p1,a0); Vice-Mayor Charlotte Rodstrom (p1,a0); Alice Zendel Simon (p1,a0); Diane Weinbrum (p1,a0); Benjamin Williams (p1,a0)

ABSENT: Michael Bassichis (p1,a0); Amy Ostrau (p0,a1);

GUESTS: Maureen Kohler, President, ArtServe; Nerissa Street and Naisha Nichols, Emerging Cultural Leaders

STAFF: Mary Becht, Director; Andrea Froome, Assistant County Attorney; Earl Bosworth, Assistant to the Director; Jody Horne-Leshinsky, Marketing Director; Jim Shermer, Grants Manager; Lisa Lopez, Arts Assistant; Rowena Nocom, Division Administrative Assistant; Barbra Aleman, Recording Secretary

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson called the meeting to order and roll was called by Barbra Aleman at 12:22 p.m.

Chair Edith Gooden Thompson introduced and welcomed newly appointed council member Janet Erlick.

A motion was made by Arthur Crispino, seconded by Estelle Loewenstein to approve the minutes of December 4th, 2008 Broward Cultural Council meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Edith Gooden Thompson pulled item 6 and Claire Crawford pulled item 2 for discussion.

A motion was made by Estelle Loewenstein, seconded by Arthur Crispino to approve Items 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7 on the consent agenda as follows:

Approval of hoteliers: George Cozonis, Carlos M. Molinet, Andreas A. Ioannou as a potential pool of panelists to serve on the Cultural Tourism Program review panel.

Approval of final payment to artist Wendy Wischer in the amount of \$4,000 for the RCC Shuttle Fleet Artwrap at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, contingent upon completion of educational Outreach.

Approval of final payment to artists Ed McGowin and Claudia DeMonte in the amount of \$4,000 for the four Fire Rescue Facilities Projects.

Approval of final payment to Alison Sky LLC in the amount of \$27,295 for the Miramar Town Center ArtsPark Project, contingent upon completion of educational outreach.

Approval of Artist Selection Panel for the Roosevelt Gardens Park Project.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion followed on Item 2. Claire Crawford was concerned that the Lovewell Institute for the Creative Arts would not be eligible for the GOP grant funding unless they could show they had the required \$40,000 and questioned whether information on the application was verified. Several council members inquired if staff verified the accuracy of the applications and eligibility of grantees. Jim Shermer commented that staff has established eligibility.

Chair Edith Gooden Thompson recommended voting on Item 2 – the designation for the General Operating Program for FY10 individually.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Robbie Kurland to approve designating The Lovewell Institute for the Creative Arts, Inc. for the General Operating Program for FY10. The motion was approved with 17 in favor of and 3 opposed.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Deborah Kerr to approve designating The South Florida Musical Guild for the General Operating Program for FY10 contingent upon staff verification of that the income category of other is a gift and not a loan. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Arthur Crispino to approve designating The Old Dillard Foundation for the General Operating Program for FY10. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Claire Crawford, seconded by Arthur Crispino to approve designating Jubilee Dance Theatre for the General Operating Program for FY10 contingent upon staff verification of \$40,000 in revenue by staff. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Sue Gunzburger recommended that council be very critical when reviewing grant applications due to the budget reductions for FY10.

Director Mary Becht stated that item 6 was pulled to add “*contingent upon completion of artwork installation between January 11-17, 2009 confirmation by staff*”.

Discussion followed on the Wendy Wischer Artwrap. Commissioner Sue Gunzburger stated that Commissioner Wasserman-Rubin did not like the artwork on the buses and recommended that staff show the actual bus to Commissioner Wasserman-Rubin. Discussion followed.

Rose Marie Butman commented on the location at the airport where the Ed Carpenter Artwork would be placed and asked that a letter be drafted by the council to the Airport Expansion Program to relocate the mound. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Sue Gunzburger recommended that council members attend the Tourist Development Council (TDC) workshop on February 17th to show their support of Cultural Arts. Chair Edith Gooden Thompson asked council members to attend the workshop. Vice Mayor Charlotte Rodstrum suggested

drafting a letter to the newly appointed TDC pooled panelists to advise them that they have been approved prior to the TDC Workshop.

Maureen Kohler invited council members to attend ArtServe's 20th Year Anniversary Event at the Ritz Carlton Hotel on January 28th, 2009. Ms. Kohler stated that ArtServe will receive the State Arts Recognition Award from the Florida Arts Council and Governor Crist in March 2009.

Ms. Kohler gave a presentation on ArtServe's ArtsCalendar.com. Ms. Kohler stated that ArtsCalendar.com was originally funded by the Knight Foundation and that the grant will end in October. Corporate sponsorship is needed for continuation. The website covers Dade and Broward County, is user friendly and can track various information (such as Cultural Tourism). Cultural organizations can upload event information, add ticket sales and google maps to the website. With corporate sponsorship, the website could be updated every three to five days.

A motion was made by Anthony Abbate, seconded by Deborah Kerr to appoint Janet Erlick to serve as the Broward Cultural Council liaison at the Pembroke Pines ArtsPark. The motion was unanimously approved

Chair Edith Gooden-Thompson gave an update on a recent meeting with Commissioner Stacy Ritter's office and was pleased with her interest in the Sunset Provision. Chair Gooden-Thompson stated that a farewell letter was sent to the Broward Center for the Performing Arts President Mark Nerenhausen.

Chair Gooden Thompson announced that several council members asked to reschedule the February 5th BCC Meeting due to a conflict with the Symphony of the Americas Luncheon. Council meetings are arranged a year in advance and are difficult to reschedule. Chair Gooden Thompson asked that council members attend the BCC Meeting on February 5th, 2009.

Anthony Abbate recommended discontinuing phone conferencing at BCC meetings. Mr. Abbate stated that it interrupts the meeting and that certain rules need to apply. Chair Gooden-Thompson suggested that staff send a letter to council members stating phone conference protocol (how to correctly use the system and muting).

Director Mary Becht informed council that the ArtSpace Project at West Side School has not been completed due to the financial market decline. While ArtSpace stated that they are committed to the project, they do not have the liquidity to complete the project at the present time. The project is 90% complete. County Administration is reviewing various options to present to the county commission.

Director Mary Becht announced that the following will be on the County Commission Agenda: the Artist Hall of Fame and the South Florida Cultural Consortium (January 23, 2009). Ms. Becht gave an update on the Miami City Ballet written response regarding the use of live music.

Director Mary Becht stated that the Americans for the Arts held a webcast on Current Economic Conditions that Jody Leshinsky is planning a similar meeting with local arts organizations. Ms. Becht announced that Robbie Kurland and Anna Toms McDaniel will be attending Arts Day in Washington DC on March 30- 31, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned 1:47 pm.