



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022

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A regular meeting of the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:07 p.m. at the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Public Library 1876 S Green Rd, South Euclid, OH 44121

The roll call showed that Trustees Isenhart, McGowan, Mendez, Scott Taylor, and Sherman were present. It was determined that there was a quorum.

Also in attendance were: Jill Paulsen, executive director; Meg Harris; Heather Johnson-Banks; Julia Murphy, Johnnia Stigall and India Pierre-Ingram.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2021 Board meeting. Discussion: Trustee Sherman said she circulated an amended version of the minutes. Trustees McGowan and Mendez said level of detail in the amended minutes was beyond what is the norm. Trustee Scott Taylor stated that the Board shall take action to approve the minutes as originally submitted. Ms. Sherman stated that she provided her written comments from this meeting to all Board members and would like that noted. Vote – Ayes: McGowan, Mendez, Scott Taylor. Nays: Sherman. Abstain: Isenhart (not on Board or present at the meeting). The motion carried. Ms. Sherman said she would not sign the minutes.

Motion by Scott Taylor, seconded by Mendez, to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2021 Board meeting. Discussion: None. Vote – Ayes: Isenhart, Mendez, Scott Taylor. Nays: Sherman. Abstain: McGowan (not present at the meeting). The motion carried.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no comments on the meeting agenda items.

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Paulsen thanked everyone for joining her and the Board. Ms. Paulsen's remarks can be found [here](#).

**4. CONNECT WITH CULTURE**

Ms. Stigall introduced Erik Mann, Executive Director of Cleveland Classical Guitar Society. Mr. Mann stated that he is joined by Damian Goggans, an alumnus of the education program. Mr. Mann provided an overview of CCGS's programs and Mr. Goggans performed two pieces of music.

Trustee Sherman thanked Mr. Goggans for the performance and congratulated Cleveland Classical Guitar Society for being a part of General Operating Support.

## **5. BOARD ACTION - Grantmaking**

### **CAC Grantmaking Overview refresher and early-stage preview of 2023 Project and 2023 Cultural Heritage Programs**

Trustee Sherman stated that this is an opportunity for the staff to refresh the Board with an overview of the CAC's grantmaking processes and programs. Ms. Paulsen stated this overview is about understanding the historical process that has taken place and how CAC's grantmaking works. The materials prepared by staff allow for a better understanding of grantmaking historically and currently. Ms. Paulsen added that she hopes this information allows for Board members to be champions of the work and provides a baseline for future grantmaking.

Ms. Johnson-Banks presented the high-level themes from the [grantmaking overview](#) included in the Board Materials. Discussion ensued between the Board and staff with questions relating to past grantmaking processes and outcomes.

*(Trustee McGowan left at 6:33 pm.)*

## **6. BOARD ACTION – Finance and General Business**

The finance report can be found [here](#).

### **Contracts and Policies**

Ms. Paulsen provided an overview of the contract included in the meeting materials for Board approval.

Motion by McGowan, seconded by Isenhart, to approve a contract with Aztek in the amount of \$30,000 to redesign CAC's website. Vote – Ayes: Isenhart, McGowan, Mendez, Scott Taylor. Nays: None. Abstain: Sherman. The motion carried.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Jeremy Johnson, CEO of Assembly for the Arts, provided an update on the current advocacy efforts for additional funding for the arts. He said CAC and Assembly are working together to bring a unified approach to advocacy. Mr. Johnson said that Mayor Bibb released his 100-day plan which includes a recommendation from the Transition Committee to allocate \$10 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to the arts. Trustee Isenhart stated that we need to continue to advocate together in this work. Mr. Johnson responded in agreement that CAC and Assembly must continue to be aligned and work toward equitable funding for all.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee Mendez, to adjourn the meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

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Karolyn Isenhart, Secretary, Board of Trustee