



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, December 11, 2019

A meeting of the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) Board of Trustees was called to order at 3:33 pm in the Nord Classroom, Idea Center, 1375 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland.

The roll call showed that Trustees Hanson, Mendez and Sherman were present. It was determined that there was a quorum.

Trustee Garth arrived at 3:52 pm.

Also in attendance were: CAC staff: Jill Paulsen, interim CEO + executive director; Luis Gomez; Meg Harris; Heather Johnson-Banks; Dan McLaughlin; India Pierre-Ingram; and Jake Sinatra.

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee Mendez, to adjourn into executive session to consider the compensation of public employees. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hanson; aye; Mendez, aye; Sherman, aye. The motion carried.

At 3:49 pm executive session adjourned and the Board resumed the public meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Trustee Hanson, to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2019 Board meeting and from the special meeting on November 21, 2019. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. 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. BOARD ACTION - Grantmaking

Approval of Grants: Support for Artists

Ms. Johnson-Banks presented grant recommendations for the Support for Artists initiative as detailed in the memo shared with the Board as part of this meeting's materials.

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee Mendez, to approve grants for Support for Artist initiatives. Discussion: None. Vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

Resident-led arts and culture projects

Ms. Paulsen presented grants to ioby (In Our Back Yards) and Neighborhood Connections as detailed in the contracts shared with the Board.

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Trustee Hanson, to approve a grant to ioby in the amount of \$72,000 and a grant to Neighborhood Connections in the amount of \$75,000 for programs in 2020. Discussion: Trustee Sherman asked about the \$12,000 increase to ioby from this year. Mr. McLaughlin shared that the increase is due to how quickly the funds were used this year and allowing for more communities and artist the opportunity to gain matching funds. Vote – Ayes: Hanson, Mendez, Sherman. Nays: None. Abstain: Garth. The motion carried.

Downtown Orchestra Concert Grant

Ms. Paulsen presented grant for \$125,000 for the Cleveland Orchestra to perform the free concert on Mall for the residents of Cuyahoga County.

Motion by Trustee Garth, seconded by Trustee Mendez, to approve a grant for \$125,000 to The Cleveland Orchestra for a free concert in downtown Cleveland in 2020. Discussion: None. Vote – Ayes: Garth, Mendez, Sherman. Nays: None. Abstain: Hanson. The motion carried.

5. FINANCE REPORT

Ms. Harris' report can be found [here](#).

6. BOARD ACTION – Finance and General Business

Approval of 2020 Operating Budget

Motion by Trustee Garth, seconded by Hanson, to approve the CAC's 2020 operating budget. Discussion: None. Vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

Contracts

Ms. Paulsen an overview of the various contracts included in the board packet for Board approval.

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Trustee Hanson, to approve a contract up to \$19,500 with Neighborhood Connections to design, host and conduct outreach and follow-up for four Arts & Culture Network Nights throughout Cuyahoga County in 2020. Vote – Ayes: Hanson, Mendez, Sherman. Nays: None. Abstain: Garth. The motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Garth, seconded by Trustee Hanson, to approve a twelve-month contract for \$40,000 with Compelling Communications for work in the areas of communications and media relations and to approve a twelve-month contract for \$9,000 with FreshWater Cleveland for a paid media partnership to highlight CAC funded organizations through feature stories and promotion to Cuyahoga County residents. Discussion: None. Vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

WolfBrown – Strategic Alliance

Trustee Mendez shared an update of the last meeting with WolfBrown. Trustee Mendez shared that it was a positive meeting as all parties continue to explore ways to collaborate.

Executive Director Search

Trustee Hanson had no update on the search.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

The next meeting will be held at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation, 13815 Kinsman Road, Cleveland OH 44120.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Sherman thanked the CAC staff for their great work over the year and thanked her fellow Board members for their commitment and hard work.

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Trustee Garth, to adjourn the meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 pm.

Charna Sherman, President, Board of Trustees

Attest:

Gwendolyn Garth, Secretary, Board of Trustees