



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, February 20, 2020

A meeting of the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:12 pm at Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation, 13815 Kinsman Road in Cleveland.

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

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.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee Scott Taylor, to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2019 Board meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments on the meeting agenda items.

3. INTERIM 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

Nicolas Perry, executive director of Mt. Pleasant NOW shared the way art has been incorporated into Family Unity Day and the organization.

5. FINANCE REPORT

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

6. BOARD ACTION – Finance and General Business

Appointment of Audit and Finance Committee Member

Ms. Harris walked through the appointment of Luis Cartagena to the Audit and Finance Committee.

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee Scott Taylor, to approve the appointment of Luis Cartagena as the Audit and Finance Committee Member. Discussion: Trustee Garth shared concerns and

questions around transparency regarding this appointment and requested further clarification. Ms. Harris and Ms. Paulsen summarized Mr. Cartagena's experience and qualifications, also provided in the board materials, in both accounting and finance as well his experience working in accounting for public sector employers as well as his service on same type of board at CMHA. Vote: Aye: Hanson, Mendez, Scott Taylor, and Sherman. Nay: Garth. The motion carried.

7. PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Trustee Hanson updated the Board on the WolfBrown – strategic partnership. Trustee Hanson shared that that the parties continue to explore ways to collaborate and align work.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

At 5:12 pm executive session adjourned and the Board resumed the open meeting.

Trustee Sherman stated that during the executive session the Board discussed the hiring of Jill Paulsen as Executive Director of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, a decision that has the unanimous vote of the search team. Trustee Sherman stated that the Board has valued Ms. Paulsen's steady leadership over the past 20 months and the valuable input she has brought to the partnership work which has been underway for much of the past year.

Trustee Sherman thanked the community for their patience during this process. Trustee Sherman thanked fellow Board member, Trustee Hanson for his work during the search, and thanked the search team for their expertise, and Jill Paulsen for her leadership over the past year and a half.

Motion by Trustee Sherman, seconded by Trustee Garth, to hire Jill M. Paulsen as Executive Director and to approve that Charna Sherman have the ability to finalize contractual terms of this action on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

The next meeting will be held at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at LGBT Community Center, 6500 Detroit Ave, Cleveland OH 44102

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee Scott Taylor, to adjourn the meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 pm.

Charna Sherman, President, Board of Trustees

Attest:

Gwendolyn Garth, Secretary, Board of Trustees