

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – November 13, 2023
Via Zoom & at Positive Street Art, Nashua

Arts Councilors Present

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks, Bill Stelling, Jason Tors, Juliana Bergeron, Catherine Sununu, Mary McLaughlin, Cecilia Ulibarri, Tim Sink (*zoom*), Amanda Whitworth (*zoom*), R.P. Hale (*zoom*), and Angela Brown (*zoom*)

Arts Councilors Absent

Vivian Beer, José Lezcano

Staff Present

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) Arts Division: Adele Bauman, Director; Cassandra Mason, Chief Grants Officer (CGO) (*zoom*); Kayla Schweitzer, Heritage and Traditional Arts Coordinator (HTA); Lisa Burk-McCoy, Creative Communities Coordinator (CC) (*zoom*); Allison Hawkins, Arts Education Coordinator (AE); Carey Johnson, Curatorial Specialist (CS); Emily Killinger, Arts in Health Coordinator (AH); and Christina Hoppe, Administrative Support.

Staff Absent

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR): Sarah Stewart, Commissioner

Motions (carried)

- Accept the amended minutes of September 11, 2023 Council meeting
- Approve Artist Entrepreneurial Grants: Round 3 (\$1,971)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks called the meeting of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts to order at 9:11 AM.

II. INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

(HTA) Kayla Schweitzer led the Council in a Land Acknowledgement. All are encouraged to visit <https://native-land.ca/> for an interactive map and to learn more about the indigenous peoples that lived/live in New Hampshire.

III. POSITIVE STREET ART WELCOME BY COUNCILOR CECILIA ULIBARRI

IV. MINUTES

Chair Brooks called for a motion to accept the minutes from the September 11, 2023 meeting, including an amendment to the Arts for Community Engagement Grant approvals where a motion to approve by Councilor Juliana Bergeron would be replace Councilor Jason Tors' motion. The minutes from September 11, 2023 were unanimously approved.

V. ARTIST ENTREPRENEURIAL GRANT APPROVAL

Artist Entrepreneurial Grants- Round Three (\$1,971): (CGO) Cassie Mason reported that six applications were received, and three were recommended for funding. One application was not recommended on the basis of the applicant not yet being a resident of New Hampshire for a full year. The other two applications were not recommended due to a lack of adequate documentation for funding opportunities. All three applicants will be encouraged to reapply. Councilor Catherine

Sununu moved to approve the grants, while Councilor Bill Stelling seconded. Councilor Cecilia Ulibarri abstained. The grants were unanimously approved, with one abstention.

VI. STAFF REPORT

Director Bauman reported that former Visual Arts Associate, Emily Killinger, has been promoted to Arts in Health Program Coordinator. Interviews for Emily's former position will be starting soon. (AE) Allison Hawkins updated the Council on the Arts Partnership Conference, which took place on October 27th and 28th at Sanborn Mills Farm. Approximately 100 attendees registered for the two day conference, which included 16 workshops. Working with writer Terry Farish on thematic content and Jules Good of Neighborhood Access as an accessibility consultant, the conference went smoothly and received positive feedback.

Director Bauman reported that she attended the annual NEFA board meeting in New Canaan, CT and will be taking Harold Steward, the new Executive Director of NEFA, on a two and a half day tour of New Hampshire. Director Bauman continued, noting that she had the opportunity to attend the Monadnock Region Art Leadership Conference in Lebanon, where she also met with representatives from Upper Valley Music Center, AVA Gallery and Lebanon Opera House. She spent some time at the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music as well, for a discussion regarding a recent economic prosperity report as well as a workshop by Phil Wyzik, Executive Director of Monadnock Family Services.

Director Bauman concluded her report by adding that the Governor's Arts Awards received great feedback.

VII. 2023 GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS UPDATE

Councilor Juliana Bergeron reported that the watch party in Keene at the Colonial Theatre was attended by approximately 20 people, including 2017 Lotte Jacobi Living Treasure Award winner Richard Whitney. Councilor Catherine Sununu noted that the awards committee will meet in January to debrief and brainstorm improvements. She observed that there were about 500 viewers of the awards, which is about twice as many as would have attended in person. Chair Brooks added that many awardees were excited to be part of a television production, and he believes it is important to preserve that aspect in future iterations of the awards.

VIII. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT VIA DIRECTOR BAUMAN

Director Bauman shared DNCR updates on behalf of Commissioner Sarah Stewart:

On November 8, there was an Executive Council breakfast at the NH State Library, during which each DNCR division presented pieces from their collections in order to underscore the importance of preserving historical/collections items properly.

Additionally, the Department is hiring a Curator, and the announcement will likely be made in January. Councilor Catherine Sununu asked if they had discussed the creation of an exhibition space at the library. Director Bauman answered that yes, they are trying to move things around to make room for that space.

Director Bauman also noted that she and (CGO) Cassie Mason will be attending NASAA's Executive Forum in Santa Fe, NM during the first week of December.

IX. ARTIST LAUREATE UPDATE

Chair Brooks announced that he has formed a committee to look at nominations for Artist Laureate, which will meet on December 18, 2023. He encouraged interested Councilors to contact him to join the committee.

X. COUNCILOR ROUND ROBIN

Chair Brooks asked each Councilor to tell the Council how they have been faring and to provide updates on what they have been doing. Councilors reported on a wide range of arts activities.

XI. ADJOURN

Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 10:13 AM. Councilor Mary McLaughlin moved to approve, while Councilor Bill Stelling seconded.

Next Council Meeting:

January 8, 2024