

**New Hampshire State Council on the Arts  
Council Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2016, 9:30 a.m.  
Plymouth State University, 2 Pillsbury Street, 5th Floor Conference Room, Concord, NH**

**Arts Councilors Present**

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks, Emile Birch, Angela Brown, Sara Germain, Vice Chair Jacqueline Kahle, Mary McLaughlin, Elizabeth Morgan, William Stelling and Billie Tooley

**Arts Councilors Absent**

Tim Sink, Jason Tors, Peter Warburton and J. Christopher Williams

**Staff Present**

Department of Cultural Resources Acting Commissioner Michael York; Department of Cultural Resources, Arts Division: Ginnie Lupi, Director; Cassandra Mason, Chief Grants Officer (CGO); Julianne Gadoury, Arts Education Coordinator (AE); and Emily Killinger, Visual Arts Associate (VAA)

**Guests Present**

R.P. Hale and Vivian Beer

**Motions (carried)**

- Accept the minutes of the September 26, 2016 meeting

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks called the meeting of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts to order at 9:30 a.m. on November 14, 2016.

Chair Brooks introduced R.P. Hale and Vivian Beer, who at Friday's Governor and Council meeting will be approved as members of the Arts Council. He then asked everyone to give a brief introduction of themselves, their background, their role with the Council and what brought them to the arts.

**II. MINUTES**

Chair Brooks called for a motion to accept the minutes from the September 26, 2016 meeting. Councilor Jacqueline Kahle moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Mary McLaughlin. The minutes from September 26, 2016 were unanimously approved.

**III. BUSINESS**

**Acting Commissioner's Remarks**

Acting Commissioner Michael York expressed appreciation for the Arts Advocacy session at the Arts Education conference this past weekend in Claremont, NH. He reported that the first hearing for the FY18-19 State Budget will be held on Friday, a process with which he is very familiar. He stated that the DCR will have 15 minutes to speak and that the DCR Business Manager, Kathy Stanick, will be involved in the budgetary process.

York invited the Councilors to the Department's upcoming celebration of the life and work of Van McLeod, which will be held Wednesday, November 30, 2016 from 5-7 p.m. at the State Library on Park Street in Concord.

York praised the work that went into the recent report from the HB 279 Commission, and explained how the Department plans to use the information from the Commission report during the upcoming budget process. He thanked those that served on the Commission and named some of them including their roles.

Additionally York explained that he will be filling out the remainder of Commissioner McLeod's term until September 2017, when it will be up to the Governor to appoint the next Commissioner.

### **HB 279 Commission Report**

Printed copies of the report were handed out to those needing/wanting them. Chair Brooks began with a brief history of the Commission with Councilor Sara Germain adding a few remarks as well. Director Lupi went on to explain that the arts 2-page portion of the report will be an extremely useful tool for advocacy during the budget process. Remarks were made by Chair Brooks and Councilors McLaughlin and Stelling which spoke to the importance of arts and culture in New Hampshire. Director Lupi pointed out that the report's recommendations include funding for a full-time Community Arts position at the Arts Council. She hopes this report will be seen and valued by Governor-Elect Sununu.

### **FY18-19 Budget Update**

Director Lupi stated that the current proposed budget includes full funding of the Community Arts position, which was not funded in the last biennium. Councilor Kahle voiced concern asking if the upcoming proposed budget, if enacted, will help the agency meet its NEA match. Director Lupi said yes; the position will be fully state funded. She gave a brief description of how the Arts Council currently attempts to make its federal match.

## **IV. STAFF REPORT**

CGO Mason reported that NEFA's survey of Creative Employment ends Friday, November 18, and encouraged all Councilors to take the survey and encourage anyone they know working in or around the creative sector to take it as well. She invited everyone to [NEFA's Creative Communities Exchange](#) in New London, CT, June 8 - 9, 2017. She also invited Councilors to encourage people they know who are involved in innovative creative economy projects to apply to be presenters at the CCX. Applications can be found on NEFA's website. Mason also reported that she and AE Gadoury recently attended NEFA's Idea Swap, where most of the presentations were STEAM related.

Regarding Arts and Health, Mason reported she recently attended the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging's *Cross-Border Conversations on Aging*, where she learned about a program UNH is working on which might be eligible for an AIH grant. She also attended the *Counting the Days Conference*, which included the arts program for children of incarcerated parents NHSCA has been supporting in some NH corrections facilities. Additionally she went on a site visit to Citizens Public Housing for Seniors in Greenville, NH for the kick-off of their grant with Meals on Wheels, which will feature storytelling and story creation by Rebecca Rule and members in different

communities. She also reported attending the National Christmas Tree Ornament decorating event at the Currier Museum of Art, which hosted military families with someone currently deployed.

Mason presented her recently updated “Flashes of Inspiration” PowerPoint talk which she presented at NASAA Assembly 2016. Mason’s presentation featured NHSCA’s Arts in Corrections program, Bach with Verse, a camp for NH Children of Incarcerated Parents, Percent for Art, and the Improbable Players at Raymond HS. She ended with a snapshot of “Telling My Story” which is not yet connected to the Arts Council.

AE Gadoury thanked all who attended the [Arts Education Conference](#) last weekend. She reported the Conference had 32 speakers and presenters in four buildings throughout Claremont, showcasing a diverse presentation of what leadership looks like. Racially diverse speakers covered each of the six arts focus areas, including experts in the field from all aspects of learning. Gadoury reported she held an Artist Roster artist orientation in October and that it went very well. She also visited a school in Hopkinton. Gadoury reported that Poetry Out Loud (POL) now has 40 schools registered. Two POL teacher orientations have already occurred (which had approximately 45% turnout rate), and a Student Clinic is scheduled for early January.

AE Gadoury also reported attending and presenting at the NH Social Studies Conference. She co-presented with a fifth grade social studies teacher who is also a fiber artist; together they shared highlights of the upcoming Traditional Arts lesson plans that NHSCA’s Traditional Arts program has been developing. Once the lesson plans are ready for distribution they will be offered as free downloads. The lesson plans are designed for fourth and fifth graders. This model was decided following a listening session conducted with a variety of NH teachers. The lesson plans have been written and will be packaged with ancillary material for distribution once the new Traditional Arts person is hired.

AE Gadoury noted that NHSCA had a very successful Traditional Arts field worker training workshop. Those the agency has contracted with will be collecting research in a variety of NH communities, taking oral histories and writing reports about Bhutanese dance, craft in Carrol County, women in NE social dance music, fly tying, luthier and French Canadian art forms still in NH.

Director Lupi reported that she has been developing an outline for a Creativity Connects convening. NHSCA received an additional \$6,000 from the NEA for this project, which is designed to connect individual artists of all disciplines with resources and supports and the larger/broader business community. A report on research related to Creativity Connects can be found [here](#). Lupi said she is working with the NH Art Association to develop entrepreneurial trainings for visual artists and develop a hub on their website listing professional development opportunities available throughout the state.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Artist Laureate* – Chair Brooks reported that the Artist Laureate position is currently vacant and that the committee is gathering names to make a recommendation to the Governor-Elect, with hopes that an official announcement can be made sometime between February and March of 2017.

*Events and Fundraising* – Councilor Stelling reported that the committee discussed the following at its last meeting: 1. Holding regional house parties to raise visibility and awareness of the Council, which would start in January and wrap up before POL finals in March; and 2. Continue the tradition of the Governor’s Arts Awards and tie the NH Artist Laureate in with this program. The committee is exploring the possibility of celebrations of the awardees in their communities, and is surveying past award winners.

*Government Affairs and Advocacy* – Councilor McLaughlin briefly reported that during the committee’s meeting they quickly learned that the Events and Fundraising and Government Affairs and Advocacy committees are closely linked. She also reported that she will be the Council’s representative to the Board of NH Citizens for the Arts. McLaughlin reported that she was inspired by the advocacy session at the Arts Education conference featuring MASSCreative director Matt Wilson, which made her aware of the NH Department of Education’s ESSA-focused listening session in Concord later this week.

*Council Development and Recruitment* – No report.

*Strategic Planning* – No report.

## **VI. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES ROUND ROBIN**

Councilor Germain reported that the Peterborough Players will be having a winter season for the first year and she encouraged everyone to attend the performances. The recent Monadnock Artist Open House was successful.

Councilor Billie Tooley reported about her work with her non-profit and the work they are doing to bring the arts to the disability community.

Councilor McLaughlin reported that she enjoyed the portion of the Arts Education Conference she attended, and that the Currier Museum has a new director and she is interested to see what direction he will take the museum.

Councilor Brown reported attending an opening at the Berlin Makerspace and an Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire presentation of Arabic music and dance from Karim Nagi. She also attended the Department of Education ESSA listening session in her area, and is excited about a painting class she is signed up to take later this week. Finally Brown reported that with her Arts in Health work thus far for 2016 she has provided 79 hours of therapeutic music with 467 residents and in total since she started keeping records (2015-2016) she has conducted 150 hours with 780 residents.

Councilor McLaughlin reported attending *Sister Act* at The Palace Theatre.

Councilor Emile Birch reported that his extensive residency work with the Spaulding Youth Center is coming to a close.

Councilor Kahle reported attending Monadnock Music’s “Music Under the Stars” fundraising event, which was very successful. She also reported that The 24 Hour Plays: Monadnock was a great success and that she is currently serving on a steering committee for rebranding the town of Wilton, NH. She thanked Chair Brooks and her fellow Councilors for the opportunity to serve with them on the Council as she concludes her term.

Chair Brooks and Director Lupi proceeded to thank Vice Chair Kahle for her dedication and service to the Council with some kind words, and a token of appreciation.

## **VII. ADJOURN**

- Motion to adjourn from the business meeting: Councilor Kahle
- Second: Councilor Brown
- Nays: None
- Recusals: None

Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.