

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – March 25, 2019
Hatbox Theatre (Concord, NH)

Arts Councilors Present - Chair Dr. Roger Brooks, Angela Brown, Sara Germain, R.P. Hale, José Lezcano, Mary McLaughlin, Tim Sink, Peter Warburton

Arts Councilors Absent - Vivian Beer, Elizabeth Morgan, Sandhya Sridhar, William Stelling, Catherine Sununu, Leah Woods

Staff Present - DNCR Arts Division: Ginnie Lupi, Director; Cassandra Mason, Chief Grants Officer (CGO); Julianne Gadoury, Arts Education Coordinator (AE); Kayla Schweitzer, Heritage and Traditional Arts Coordinator (HTA); Lisa Burk-McCoy, Creative Communities & Arts in Health Coordinator (CC/AH); Emily Killinger, Visual Arts Associate (VAA)

Staff Absent - Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) Commissioner Sarah Stewart

Motions (carried)

- Accept the minutes of the January 28, 2019 Council meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks called the meeting of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts to order at 9:41 a.m. on March 25, 2019.

II. MINUTES

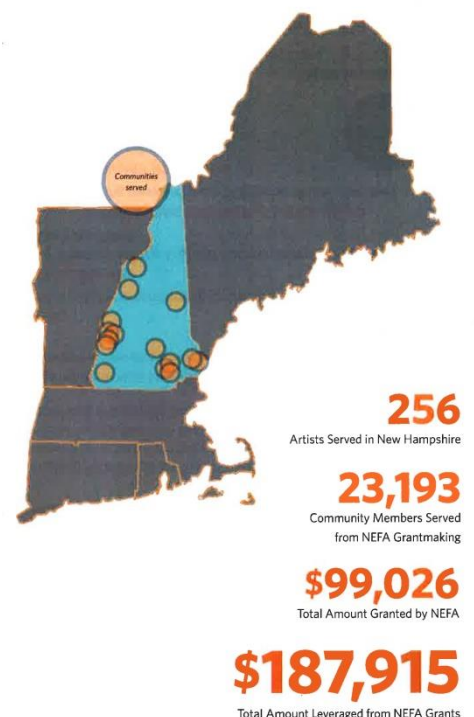
Chair Brooks called for a motion to accept the minutes from the January 28, 2019 meeting. Councilor Mary McLaughlin moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Sara Germain. The minutes from January 28, 2019 were unanimously approved.

III. POET LAUREATE NEWS

Director Ginnie Lupi briefed the Council on the status of the Poet Laureate nomination, which has been reported on by the Union Leader and NHPR. Governor Sununu put forth his own candidate rather than nominating the NH Poetry Society's candidate. DNCR Commissioner Sarah Stewart requests that the Council not speak to the media about this matter, but instead let the process play out.

IV. SPECIAL GUEST: CATHY EDWARDS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, [NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS \(NEFA\)](#)

Chair Books introduced NEFA Director Cathy Edwards, who presented an informative PowerPoint about her organization. The presentation highlighted NEFA's vision, mission, and goals, including a visual display of the organization's FY18 New Hampshire impact (*shown at right*). She discussed NEFA's grant categories and programming, including: New England State Touring (NEST) grants, Idea Swap, National Dance Project, Creative City program (in Boston), and coming in 2019, a Public Art Learning Fund. A video highlighting NEFA's 2017 study on creative sector jobs in New England was presented, and information on the biennial [Creative Communities Exchange](#) convening and [CreativeGround.org](#), [NEFA's](#) online cultural directory of artists, creative businesses and cultural organizations, was shared.



V. STAFF REPORTS - Reports from the four program coordinators were distributed to all present at the meeting.

HTA Kayla Schweitzer reported on her ongoing work on the traditional arts interview archiving and database project, blog posts featuring master artist and apprentice teams, participation in the social studies standards leadership team and the Endowment for Health's Race and Equity in NH convenings. Later this week she will send the 2019 Traditional Dance Brochure to print. As part of her work to further expand programming, she coordinated three traditional artist demonstrations at [Discover WILD NH Day](#) and will be running a pilot Foodways Apprenticeship in maple sugaring. She concluded her report with an invitation to see the exhibit [New Hampshire Folk Art: By the People for the People](#) at Discover Portsmouth.

CC/AH Lisa Burk-McCoy started with a call to action – her goal to have 100% of Arts Councilors participate in the [Creative Communities Network](#). Those who are not yet part of the email listserv should send an [email to Lisa](#) to join, and those Councilors on social media should search for and join the [NHCCN Facebook group](#). She shared a large list of emerging creative community initiatives with a current focus on building partnerships in the Upper Valley. She continues her program work with several partnerships including the NHCCN steering committee, which is exploring their organizational model and the potential of hiring a consultant to facilitate a strategic assessment process. She announced that this year's [Arts in Health grants](#) will be expanding to include correctional institutions in the application pool. Lisa will be presenting at several events including: [Southern NH Planning Commission](#), on Arts in Health (March 26); the [American College Dance Association's NE Regional Conference](#), on the creative economy (April 4); and UNH Cooperative Extension Main Street Academy, on the creative economy (April 30 – [Main Street Academy: Growing Economy](#)).

AE Julianne Gadoury thanked everyone who helped out with [Poetry Out Loud](#) (POL) and/or [Youth Arts Month](#) (YAM). This year POL featured student photographers and musicians and welcomed a new finals emcee, Victoria Adewumi. This year 42 schools registered and 38 held contests. 8-10 thousand students participated, led by 152 teachers, reaching 90+ communities. This was the second year NHSCA and NH DOE partnered on YAM to showcase arts education statewide. The month included art installations in both the NH State Library and the State House legislative tunnel, and the presentation of five Commendations of Excellence in Arts Education presented at the March 13 Governor and Executive Council meeting. Ms. Gadoury's work in progress is currently focusing on project clean-up and reflection, outreach for the upcoming [AIR](#) and [YAP](#) grant deadlines, internal work-plan progress meetings, attending regional peer collaboration meetings, and beginning to plan the upcoming NH Arts Leadership connector and Arts Education Conference, both of which will occur in the fall of 2019.

CGO Cassandra Mason began her report with celebratory announcements of: Lisa completing her first year at NHSCA; Kayla her second year; Carey her fifteenth year; Julianne being honored as one of the Union Leader's top 40 under 40; and VAA Emily Killinger for playing a key role in keeping our POL events running smoothly and producing the program designs for all semi-final and championship events. She invited Councilors to facilitate upcoming grant panels and passed around a sign-up sheet. She also urged Councilors to attend one of the NH Theatre Project's [Elephant in the Room Series](#) performances, presented in partnership with the NH Charitable Foundation and NH Humanities Council. She reported having a very full [Percent for Art](#) project load, including upcoming tours of the Jenness State Park bathhouse, and having six additional projects in the queue. A brief mention was made of meeting with the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts group currently working in MA but looking to expand their efforts regionally. She has been contacting established NH non-profit groups regarding our upcoming [Public Value Partnership grants](#), which are available bi-annually and provide unrestricted operational funding. Ms. Mason also reported that she only has one grantee final report withstanding and she is working diligently to file our final report with the NEA by the end of the month. As always Cassie attended many meetings, and will be presenting "Grant Writing 101" at both the [NH Center for Nonprofit's Conference & Expo](#) (May 13), and the [NH Governor's conference on Volunteerism](#) (May 20).

VI. GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Brooks reported that both the steering and fundraising committees for Governor's Arts Awards (GAA) have begun their efforts. The steering group has identified the awards that will be given this year, event location and formatting of the evening, and the fundraising committee is identifying donors. Dr. Brooks encouraged Councilors to make their GAA donations as soon as possible; checks should be payable to the Park Street Foundation and sent to the NHSCA office at 19 Pillsbury St. Concord, NH 03301.

VII. ARTS4NH ADVOCACY UPDATE

Councilor Mary McLaughlin reported on recent activities of the advocacy group Arts4NH, including their recent legislative breakfast, involvement in the DOE Arts Education curriculum revision project, and planning for the upcoming Arts Advocacy Day (Thursday, May 30) to be held at the NH Historical Society in Concord, which will feature the annual Arts Advocate of the Year awards. The group is preparing an RFP for a new website design and recently hired a part-time administrative assistant.

VIII. COUNCILOR ROUND ROBIN

Councilors reported on a wide variety of recent and upcoming arts activities.

IX. ADJOURN

- Motion to adjourn: Councilor R.P. Hale
- Second: Councilor Tim Sink
- Nays: None
- Recusals: None

Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:07 PM