

**New Hampshire State Council on the Arts**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**July 10, 2017, 9:30 a.m.**

**Plymouth State University, 2 Pillsbury Street, 5th Floor Conference Room 1, Concord, NH**

**Arts Councilors Present:** Chair Dr. Roger Brooks, Angela Brown, Sara Germain, R.P. Hale, Mary McLaughlin, Elizabeth Morgan, Tim Sink, William (Bill) Stelling, Sarah Stewart, Jason Tors\* and Peter Warburton

\* - *via phone*

**Arts Councilors Absent:** Vivian Beer, Billie Tooley and J. Christopher Williams

**Staff Present:** Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) Commissioner Jeffrey Rose; DNCR Arts Division: Ginnie Lupi, Director; Cassandra Mason, Chief Grants Officer (CGO); Kayla Schweitzer, Heritage and Traditional Arts Coordinator (HTA); and Emily Killinger, Visual Arts Associate (VAA)

**Staff not present:** Julianne Gadoury, Arts Education Coordinator (AE)

**Motions (carried)**

- Accept the minutes of the May 22, 2017 meeting
- To approve Arts Education Conference Partnership \$15,000
- To approve Poetry Out Loud Partnership \$24,000
- To approve Public Value Partnership Grants \$319,850
- To approve Artist Residencies in Schools Grants \$12,970
- To approve Youth Arts Project Grants \$36,475
- To approve Arts in Health Project Grants \$22,440

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks called the meeting of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts to order at 9:36 a.m. on July 10, 2017.

**II. MINUTES**

Chair Brooks called for a motion to accept the minutes from the May 22, 2017 meeting. Councilor Angela Brown moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Bill Stelling. The minutes from May 22, 2017 were unanimously approved.

**III. BUSINESS:**

**A. GRANT APPROVALS**

**Artist Residencies in Schools (AIR) (\$12,970):** The grants panel review took place June 14, 2017. Six applications were received, and the panel ranked them all favorably. One artist attended the panel review as an observer. CGO Cassie Mason mentioned that when she served on a panel review in Maine she learned that all of their panels are open to the public. The panel recommended approval of all six applications for a total of \$12,970.

Chair Brooks called for a motion to approve the **Artist Residencies in Schools** recommendations. There was no discussion and the Council unanimously approved.

- **Moved:** Councilor Sara Germain
- **Second:** Councilor Elizabeth Morgan
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

**Youth Arts Project (YAP) (\$36,475):** The three-member panel review took place June 16, 2017. Eleven applications were received, and the panel ranked them all favorably. The panel recommended approval of all eleven applications for a total of \$36,475.

Chair Brooks called for a motion to approve the **Youth Arts Project** recommendations. There was no discussion and the Council unanimously approved.

- **Moved:** Councilor R.P. Hale
- **Second:** Councilor Mary McLaughlin
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

**Arts in Health (AIH) (\$22,440):** The panel review took place June 28, 2017. Six applications were received, and the panel ranked them all favorably. The panel recommended approval of all six applications for a total of \$22,440.

Chair Brooks called for a motion to approve the **Arts in Health** recommendations. There was no discussion and the Council unanimously approved.

- **Moved:** Councilor Angela Brown
- **Second:** Councilor McLaughlin
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

**Public Value Partnership (PVP) (\$319,850):** The panel review took place July 5 and 6, 2017. 37 applications were received, and the panel ranked 32 favorably. The panel recommended approval of those 32 applications for a total of \$319,850. It was noted that Councilor Mary McLaughlin attended day two of the panel and served as facilitator.

Chair Brooks called for a motion to approve the **Public Value Partnership** recommendations. Following discussion regarding the PVP panel process, the Council unanimously approved.

- **Moved:** Councilor Tim Sink
- **Second:** Councilor McLaughlin
- **Nays:** One
- **Recusals:** Two

## **B. PARTNERSHIP APPROVALS**

**Fiscal Year 2018 – Arts Education Conference Partnership (\$15,000):** Planning is in full swing for the Arts Education Conference, which will take place November 3 and 4, 2017 in Littleton. Staff recommended approval of this partnership for a total of \$15,000, which was noted to be level funding with 2016.

Chair Brooks called for a motion to approve the **Arts Education Conference Partnership**. There was no discussion and the Council unanimously approved.

- **Moved:** Councilor Stelling
- **Second:** Councilor Morgan
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

Councilors expressed interest in the possibility that NHSCA convene a similar conference and/or workshops for NH cultural non-profit organizations. It was noted by staff that discussions have already begun regarding a partnership with the NH Center for Nonprofits, to hold a round table day for new Executive Directors.

**Fiscal Year 2018 – Poetry Out Loud Partnership (\$24,000):** Additional support and outreach to schools located in at-risk or underserved areas of the state is planned for this coming year’s programming. Staff recommended approval of this partnership for a total of \$24,000.

Chair Brooks called for a motion to approve the **Poetry Out Loud Partnership**. There was discussion regarding the high quality and value of this programming, and the Council unanimously approved.

- **Moved:** Councilor Hale
- **Second:** Councilor Germain
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

#### **IV. Informative Business**

**ARTS EDUCATION ROSTER:** CGO Mason explained the process: application, initial panel review, and secondary panel interview. 11 applicants made it to the final interview round, from which 8 teaching artists were recommended to be added to the Roster.

**ARTS IN HEALTH DIRECTORY:** CGO Mason explained this directory is on a rolling deadline and there have been no recent applications.

NHSCA is in the process of transitioning/migrating its artist rosters to New England Foundation for the Arts’ (NEFA) [CreativeGround.org](http://CreativeGround.org) system. This change will give roster artists greater flexibility in designing their profiles as well as a regional reach. VAA Emily Killinger and staff have been and will continue offering assistance to artists through this transition.

#### **V. STAFF REPORTS**

Director Ginnie Lupi reported that the Governor’s Arts Awards (GAA) will be held November 1, 2017. The Council has contracted with Monica Holt (Ping PR) for marketing, planning and assistance with fundraising for this event, which is supported with 100% private funds (through the Park Street Foundation). Director Lupi has been fielding phone calls regarding nominations.

Director Lupi reported that NHSCA’s FY16 NEA grant included additional funds for Creativity Connects, a project to connect the arts and non-arts sectors. In New Hampshire, this project will convene artists, arts organizations and non-arts businesses to discuss entrepreneurship and small business assistance. The convening is tentatively scheduled for October 3 at Capitol Center for the Arts and will also serve as a springboard for the agency’s strategic planning process.

Director Lupi announced that the FY18-19 Biennial Budget includes funds for a currently vacant position which was de-funded two years ago. The position will focus on community arts development, the creative economy and arts in health.

VAA Killinger reported working on a variety of office assistance tasks for the grants team, assisting artists with their CreativeGround.org roster profiles, and taking notes at grant panel meetings.

HTA Kayla Schweitzer reported that she held her first panel for Arts Conservation License Plate grants (Mooseplates), with Councilor Stewart facilitating. Schweitzer is continuing work on the Traditional Arts curriculum and hopes to have it reviewed in a classroom this fall. Following review, the curriculum will be available online. The Traditional Arts & Folklife Listing has received an applicant and their submission is under review. Traditional Arts Apprenticeship grants received 10 applications and Schweitzer is working on convening a panel in September. FY17 field work is also being completed at this time. In addition to the many activities/involvements of her new position she was able to attend a cordwaining workshop and coordinated an artisan alley for Concord’s Multicultural Festival.

CGO Mason reported she presented a grant writing workshop with Katie Collins from Capitol Center for the Arts at the Governor's Conference on Volunteerism, attended the NH Charitable Foundation's Annual Meeting with staff members HTA Schweitzer and AE Julianne Gadoury, where 3 NH Poetry Out Loud students performed recitations. In addition to making several site visits, CGO Mason attended NEFA's Creative Communities Exchange (also with HTA Schweitzer and AE Gadoury), and will present at the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies' (NASAA's) fall conference. She noted the Request for Proposals (RFP) is posted for the Percent for Art project at the new women's prison and will close on Friday, September 8. Finally she reported that it is our "off" year for our NEA grant application; the application is due at the end of September.

CGO Mason reported for AE Gadoury, who was attending a Higher Order Thinking (HOT) Schools Conference in Connecticut. CGO also shared that AE Gadoury gave the [commencement speech at Granite State Arts Academy](#), has been meeting with and working with the NH Arts Learning Network regarding their state-wide efforts/plans for National Arts Education week, and has begun work on this year's Poetry Out Loud (POL) programing.

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) Commissioner Jeffrey Rose joined the meeting and discussed the departmental reorganization. Commissioner Rose spoke about Governor Sununu's vision to follow the model of other states by combining our natural and cultural resources. Commissioner Rose applauded Van McLeod's work and expressed his respect for Van. Chair Brooks asked whether there is a timeline for the agency transition; Commissioner Rose responded that he hopes to have an integration plan on paper by the fall. It was noted that the Commissioner should be given a list of the various arts advocacy groups.

## VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Events and Fundraising** – Councilor Bill Stelling reported that the committee's last meeting was on June 21. The committee discussed GAA fundraising strategies, including 100% participation by Councilors. A memo regarding this will be sent out shortly to the full Council. Performing artists will be needed for the event and ideas are welcomed. Manchester Community TV has agreed to film the awards ceremony.

**Artist Laureate** – Director Lupi reported that on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. there will be an after-hours event and reception at the Currier Museum in honor of the new Artist Laureate, Gary Samson. Gary will give an artist talk at 6 p.m., followed by a reception. Councilor McLaughlin noted that the Currier will focus on community partnerships at this After Hours event.

**Advocacy** – Councilor McLaughlin reported that NH Citizens for the Arts had a Board retreat, where they formed three strategic subcommittees, and everyone left with an action list of what they can do to better serve the organization. Citizens plans to have these three subcommittees (legislative advocacy, branding and identifying focus groups/partners, and organization governance and operations) meet between the group's regular board meetings.

**Council Development and Recruitment** – No report.

**VII. COUNCIL ARTS ACTIVITIES ROUND ROBIN** – All councilors in attendance spoke of the variety of arts activities and endeavors they are busy with in their regions of the state.

## VIII. ADJOURN

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

Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.