

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 22, 2014, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Souhegan High School, Amherst NH

Arts Councilors Present:

Chair Dr. Roger Brooks, Vice Chair Jacqueline Kahle, Angela Brown, Susan Duprey, Sara Germain, Amanda Merrill, William Stelling, Peter Warburton

Arts Councilors Absent:

Emile Birch, Elizabeth Morgan, Erle Pierce, Tim Sink, Billie Tooley, J. Christopher Williams

Guests: Mary McLaughlin

Staff Present:

Arts Division: Virginia Lupi, Director; Cassandra Mason, Chief Grants Officer (CGO); Catherine O'Brian, Arts in Education and Arts in Health Care Coordinator (AIE & AIH); Julianne Morse, Heritage and Traditional Arts Coordinator (H & TA)

MOTIONS (carried):

- To accept the minutes from the July 14, 2014 meeting
- To approve the Traditional Arts Apprenticeships (\$23,631)
- To approve the General Project Grants (\$63,750)
- To approve the Partnership with New England Foundation for the Arts (\$4,922)

I. Moment of Inspiration:

Prior to the call to order, Council members, staff and guest were invited to tour the school with Principal Rob Scully and listened to the Souhegan High School Jazz Band.

II. Open Meeting:

Chairman Brooks called to order the regular meeting of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, September 22, 2014 at Souhegan High School, Amherst, NH.

Chairman Brooks then introduced Mary McLaughlin who is the Regional Vice President and is also responsible for Health Care Financing for TD Bank. Chairman Brooks asked each person in attendance to introduce themselves and share their connections with the arts.

III. Minutes from Last Meeting:

MOTION PASSED

Chairman Brooks called for a motion to accept the minutes from the July 14, 2014 meeting. Councilor Mandy Merrill moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Sara Germain.

The minutes from July 14, 2014 were unanimously approved.

IV. Director's Report:

Director Lupi presented an overview of the personnel positions that she anticipated filling by the beginning of the new year. In response to a question from Councilor Germain, Lupi explained that the current plan was to redefine one position to align with duties that are currently assigned to the Chief Grants Officer and reclassify the position as Assistant Director. Additionally Lupi indicated that both positions are full-time and are important to matching our funds from the NEA.

Lupi reported that the State budget had been submitted per the direction of the Governor's Office. She also provided Councilors with an overview of the staff's activities during the previous three months.

BUSINESS:

V. Grant & Partnership Approvals:

CGO Mason reminded everyone that the meeting was in public session and asked that all grant applicants be referred to by their application number.

Traditional Arts Apprenticeships

Grants Coordinator Morse provided an overview of the Traditional Arts Apprenticeships program and process.

- **Motion to approve the Traditional Arts Apprenticeships:** Councilor Jackie Kahle
- **Second:** Councilor Susan Duprey
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

In response to a question from Councilor Duprey, Coordinator Morse indicated that any team may apply for two consecutive apprenticeships if they demonstrate the need for continued investment.

General Project Grants

Coordinator Mason provided a summary of the General Project grant applications and panel process.

- **Motion to approve the General Project Grants:** Councilor Merrill
- **Second:** Councilor Angela Brown
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

In response to questions from Councilor Duprey and Councilor Germain, Mason indicated that some applicants failed to provide work samples as requested in the guidelines and each applicant receives summarized panel comments with their notifications. In addition, each applicant may submit a draft for review to the grant coordinators and those applicants generally rank higher in the panel. Councilor Kahle asked us to indicate who is a new applicant when we issue the memos. Director Lupi announced that the NHSCA would be moving to online applications for 2016. She said she saw dramatic improvement in quality of applications in an online system in her previous position.

New England Foundation for the Arts Partnership

Coordinator Mason provided an overview of the history of the partnership between NEFA and the NHSCA. Chairman Brooks elaborated on the search for NEFA's new Executive Director and the advocacy meeting NEFA scheduled in September at UNH Manchester.

- **Motion to approve the New England Foundation for the Arts Partnership:** Councilor Germain
- **Second:** Councilor Kahle
- **Nays:** None
- **Recusals:** None

Traditional Arts and Folklife Listing/Cultural Conservation Grants (Moose Plate): Memos
Councilors were provided with memos outlining projects that were approved for Cultural Conservation funding and artists juried onto the Traditional Arts and Folklife Listing.

VI. Committee Reports

2015 Governor's Arts Awards:

Councilor Bill Stelling updated Councilors on the plan for the GAA event in November, 2016. All funds for this event are privately raised and the plan is to start early to get into the philanthropic queue of businesses. Additionally, it would be ideal to have a primary sponsor for the event which will also be the culmination of the NHSCA's 50th anniversary. Chairman Brooks distributed a list of contacts from the previous event and asked Council members to add any other contacts that should be included on the list. Director Lupi distributed an informational sheet with talking points for the 50th anniversary.

Councilor Duprey indicated that it would be helpful to have information on how much each identified contributor had previously made, what the target is for the fundraising and what events are scheduled. She had previously been asked to fundraise for another organization that was an arm of the state and funds had been used for a project that had not been presented to the committee. Director Lupi indicated that she anticipates the planning process will begin in early October. Councilor Kahle suggested each member contact Chairman Brooks privately for information on donor history. Chairman Brooks also stated that information on what was raised for the last event would be provided to Councilors.

Coordinator O'Brian informed the Council that this is the 10th anniversary for Poetry Out Loud and the new NH POL Coordinators will also be fundraising for a special event for that program.

Recruitment:

Chairman Brooks stated that Mary McLaughlin is awaiting her appointment to the Council and the Governor's Office would like another member from northern NH.

Citizens for the Arts:

NH Citizens for the Arts hosted a successful event at the home of Paul and Peggo Hodes on September 3rd for Governor Hassan.

Prior to the adjournment of the meeting Director Lupi informed Councilors that the NHSCA Facebook Fan page has increased traffic and asked them to like the page and share it with their friends. In addition she is researching a defunct Twitter account for the NHSCA and as an alternative is using #NHArts. Coordinator Morse shared the Heritage Arts Twitter feed @NHTradArts and commented that it has been a useful tool for the constituency.

Chairman Brooks also mentioned the unified effort of the Cultural Resources Divisions in the budget process. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

VII. ADJOURN:

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