

Iowa Arts Council Board of Directors Meeting

March 1, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Amber Danielson, Donna Dostal, Michelle Hargrave, John Mayne, Akwi Nji, Claudia Rivera

Board Members Present on Zoom/Phone: Jennifer Dutcher (left early), Andre Perry (arrived late)

Board Members Absent: Suzanne Conquest, Frank Sposeto

Staff Present: Director Chris Kramer; David Schmitz; Jon Berg; Sarah Florian; EJ Philby Burton

Guest(s) Present: Lesley Wright, Virginia Muturi (Intern at Hancher Auditorium)

Call to Order

Welcome

Danielson called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

Roll Call

Florian called the roll and determined a quorum was present when Perry arrived.

Approval of Minutes

Mayne moved to approve the November 3, 2022 Minutes. Nji seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from Chair

Danielson shared information about terms ending and the communication board members affected would receive. Kramer clarified that board members have to reapply through Talent Bank, not just reply to the email, and can also let DCA staff know.

Report from Department Director

Kramer shared that in January Governor Reynolds announced a government realignment bill reducing the number of state agencies from 37 to 16 agencies. Kramer shared additional details on the process at this stage and how this bill impacts the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

Danielson asked a question about the IAC board moving forward with the introduced legislation. Kramer shared that DCA staff connected with the NEA on the federal code to continue to establish the IAC as the official state arts agency and the next steps in this process. Schmitz shared additional information on the founding legislation of the Iowa Arts Council, which includes the board. Kramer also provided a brief overview of the impact on the history division as well.

Florian noted that Andre and a guest have joined the meeting.

Hargrave asked for additional talking points that were discussed at the November meeting. Danielson will follow up. Schmitz clarified the efforts of the staff compared to the board.

Danielson expressed gratitude for the efforts of Director Kramer and the team. Kramer shared more about the efforts of the department and moving forward.

Kramer noted that the Department of Cultural Affairs opened the Iowa History Research Center last week and elaborated on the efforts associated with this substantial project. More information and statistics will be included in the quarterly board report. March 1 starts Iowa History Month and Women's History Month; this afternoon will include the Governor's Arts Awards reception and ceremony.

Kramer noted that the fiscal year 2024 grant cycle is still moving forward as planned. Additionally, the department is currently in the process of updating the website.

Report from Iowa Cultural Coalition

Wright shared that the ICC has been working towards today's legislative breakfast and talked to an estimate of 20 people. All legislators were sent the full ICC report and will resend as requested. Wright shared that she is sitting in on many committee meetings as it relates to arts and culture efforts. Kramer shared an update on the upcoming committee presentations by the DCA. Blair Massa and Lesley Wright have met with Director Durham; a meeting with Director Steen has not occurred yet. The efforts are surrounding one dollar per lowan for the arts messaging and increasing investment in arts and culture. Wright will share talking points and slides with the board. Invictus Media has offered services for these efforts and a video is now in circulation. Wright shared more context on the meetings scheduled today.

Kramer gave an update on the meetings she has been a part of recently. Wright shared a few outcomes and thoughts from conversations today. Schmitz shared additional context from the morning's event and what was shared. Kramer thanked Wright for her efforts.

Report from Division Administrator

Schmitz echoed gratitude for Wright's efforts recently. Schmitz encouraged board members to review the newsletter and quarterly board reports.

Schmitz noted that tonight we will be honoring 25 lowans that are being recognized as part of this year's Governor's Arts Awards. Schmitz provided additional information on the history of the Governor's Arts Awards as well as efforts around today's events. This weekend, we will be hosting nine students at the state Poetry Out Loud at the State Historical Building. Berg shared an update on the upcoming Iowa Great Places annual meeting and focused this event on arts at the center of community development. Schmitz also shared that we are currently in a designation cycle for the Iowa Great Places program. Kramer shared congratulations for the Quad Cities for the recent Destination Iowa award. Schmitz also shared a brief update of the following topics and upcoming events: AEP6, Meet the Artist events, regional grant workshops, Scholarship for the Arts, and the Iowa Fine Arts Summit.

A question was raised about grant workshop locations; grant workshops will be held in Creston, Storm Lake, Ottumwa, and Cedar Falls. Schmitz also offered the opportunity for additional workshops in other communities as needed and/or interest warrants. Nji asked about the schedule for Meet the Artist events; David shared they will start in Marshalltown on April 10; they will wrap in September.

Per Kramer's request, Schmitz shared additional information about an artist roster partnership opportunity with the Des Moines Arts Festival. Schmitz noted the past challenges with maintaining artist rosters and how this opportunity will be structured moving forward.

Community Updates

Board members gave updates from their communities, which included highlights from the arts and culture sector around the state.

Public Comment

Danielson asked for public comment. No public comment.

Adjournment

Danielson adjourned the regular meeting at 12:09 p.m.







2023-03-01 - Meeting Minutes - Iowa Arts Council

Final Audit Report

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