

Kentucky Arts Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2015
Noon – 3 p.m.

Members Present: Todd Lowe, Helen Mountjoy, Kathleen Setterman, Mary Michael Corbett, Wilma Brown, Lacy Hale, Jo Curris, Josephine Richardson, Randall Vaughn, Everett McCorvey, John Hockensmith, Darlene Mazzone, Ron Johnson, Paul Fourshee, Jayne Waldrop

Members Absent: Andee Rudloff

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet: Deputy Secretary Lindy Casebier

Others Present: Bill Francis; Miriam Silman; Bianca Spriggs and arts council staff members Lori Meadows, Chris Cathers, Emily Moses, Tom Musgrave, Marl Renfro, Dan Strauss, Tammie Williams

Note Taker: Tammie Williams

Welcome and Comments from guests:

Mary Michael Corbett welcomed **Lacy Hale** to the arts council board and asked the board and staff to introduce themselves. **Hale**, an artist from Letcher County thanked everyone for their hospitality. Hale went on to say she looked forward to the work ahead.

Approval of minutes from the December 2014 meeting

Motion to approve: **Kathleen Setterman**

Seconded: **Randall Vaughn**

No opposition, Motion carried

Corbett welcomed former KAC board chair Bill Francis and Miriam Silman both representing Jenny Wiley Theatre. Silman spoke about the history of Jenny Wiley Theatre. Silman spoke about receiving dual funding; line item funding through the outdoor drama grants and funding from the KAC. A grandfather clause was granted to recipients of the outdoor drama grants. The clause did not apply to the tourism grant, which replaced the outdoor drama grant. The theatre was no longer eligible for arts council funding after they received the tourism grant. Silman spoke about the theatre's financial struggles after they did not receive arts council funding in FY15. Silman asked the board to consider an affiliation with the arts council and Jenny Wiley Theatre in some form.

Corbett asked the line item task force to consider comments from the Jenny Wiley Theatre.

Comments by the Board Chair

Corbett thanked the board and staff for their support during the past quarter. Corbett thanked the poet laureate committee and line item task force for their work. Corbett also thanked the stakeholders committee. Corbett extended an invitation to board members to join the stakeholders committee. Corbett also thanked the Governor's Awards in the Arts committee which will meet on March 31, 2015. Corbett asked about the interactive mural at the Market. Meadows talked about the 20 foot-long mural. The outline was drawn by Andee Rudloff, who specializes in community engagement murals. During the Market, people were encouraged to paint a section of the mural. Currently, the mural is in the arts council's office.

TAH Report

Corbett asked Casebier to give the Tourism, Arts and Heritage report. Casebier spoke about the upcoming meetings with Kentucky congressional delegation and staff during Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. Meadows spoke about the meet and greet with Secretary Stewart and Tourism Commissioner Michael Mangeot. Secretary Stewart invited the Kentucky Society and staff members of the Kentucky congressional delegation to attend a meet and greet on March 25 from 5-7p.m. Jim Beam will host a bourbon tasting and a short presentation on status of the arts and tourism in Kentucky will be given.

Darlene Mazzone asked about the dates for the 2016 Arts Advocacy Day. Fourshee added that a concerted effort by the board should be made to attend the 2016 Arts Advocacy Day. Mazzone and other board members agreed. Corbett stated that a group may be able to meet more legislators. Richardson asked if the 2016 dates might be available at the conclusion of this years' session. Meadows said it was a possibility. Casebier suggested board members join the Americans for the Arts.

Consent Agenda (No grants to approve.)

Abstentions:

Todd Lowe asked to remove Speed Museum and add Fund for the Arts to his list of abstentions.

Governance Process

TranspARTation grant recipients receive funding to assist with transportation costs to arts educational activities on the TranspARTation Directory. The organizations on the TranspARTation Directory are usually KAP organizations. An additional application process is required to be on the TranspARTation Directory. The TranspARTation grants awarded in the spring are usually for fall travel. There are five TranspARTation grants recommended for funding.

Approval of five TranspARTation grants

Motion to approve: **Wilma Brown**

Seconded: **Kathleen Setterman**

No opposition, grants approved

Corbett asked Ron Johnson to talk about the line item task force meetings. Johnson spoke about the implementation of a policy to maximize the use of funds available to Kentucky arts organizations through the Kentucky Arts Council.

When an organization seeks or is given line item funding, it decreases the amount of overall funding that is available to Kentucky arts organizations. It also allows an organization to circumvent the processes that are in place to insure fairness to all Kentucky arts organizations.

The exemption that was mentioned by Jenny Wiley Theatre is actually a grandfather clause. The grandfather clause was tied to the outdoor drama grants. The outdoor drama grants were replaced by the Tourism grants. Organizations that received funding from the Outdoor Drama grants can now receive funding through the Tourism grants. The Tourism grants are not attached to a grandfather clause.

The line item task force will meet with Jenny Wiley Theatre board members to explain and clarify the policy and process. Corbett asked for additional comments. Vaughn said he looked forward to meeting with Jenny Wiley Theatre board members. Lowe talked about accountability and keeping to a higher standard throughout the process. Corbett thanked the line item task force for their work.

Richardson suggested that the meeting include as many Jenny Wiley board members as possible.

Everett McCorvey spoke about more education being needed regarding the processes of the Kentucky Arts Council.

Johnson talked about educating legislators regarding the role of the Kentucky Arts Council and the processes that are in place to provide fair and equal treatment to all.

Executive Director's Operational Update

Meadows ask Dan Strauss to speak about Arts Day. Arts Day was held in the State Capitol Rotunda on Feb. 11, 2015. Strauss said there were good representations from legislators and Kentucky Arts Partnership (KAP) organizations. Lexington and Louisville KAP organizations took group photos. The photos of KAP organizations and legislators were sent to newspapers across the state. Strauss thanked the board members for their participation.

Meadows asked Chris Cathers to speak about the Market. Cathers spoke about the success of the Market despite the many obstacles. Cathers stated that the KAC staff and the Lexington Convention Center staff worked together so exhibitors could come in one day early to avoid the impending weather. Over 80 exhibitors took advantage of the earlier arrival time. Friday, buyers' day, hours were adjusted to begin two hours later. Saturday, KAC staff engaged people attending the UK game to stop by the Market. There was a \$15 parking fee, which may account for the lower traffic on Saturday and the higher traffic on Sunday. Cathers thanked the board members for their attendance and efforts via social media. Cathers also thanked the KAC staff and the Lexington Convention Center staff.

Jo Curris thanked the staff for their efforts and stated that all the work involved to make the Market a success was masterful. Curris asked if KAC considered partnering with UK to promote the Market. Meadows did contact UK. Meadows asked about making an announcement during the UK game. The cost for an announcement during a UK game is \$5,000. Meadows also sent a personal invitation and passes to Coach Calipari. Coach Cal tweeted about the Market.

There was discussion about possible offsite parking, if there is a UK game during the Market in 2017.

Meadows thanked Cathers and the KAC staff for their efforts.

Meadows asked Emily Moses to give a creative industry update. Moses spoke about the KAC presentations being given around the state. Meadows gave a presentation on the creative industry and the film industry at the Louisville Film Conference. Many film makers were not aware of the film incentives in the state of Kentucky.

In April, Moses will present at the Kentucky Association of Economic Development Conference.

Cathers and Moses are scheduled for a site visit and presentation with Appalachian Philanthropy in Owingsville and Vanceburg.

Meadows and Moses met with Dan Kahl and Alison Davis of the Community & Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK).

The Breeder's Cup staff contacted Meadows to ask about setting up a mini Market during the Breeder's Cup. Plans are still being developed.

KAC staff is working in eastern Kentucky with the city of Hindman. Hindman received an Our Town grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for their Dulcimer Project.

KAC has also met with Michael Flynn, the program director of the Kentucky School of Craft, in Hindman.

Several meetings scheduled for the Market were canceled, however, Moses did meet with Lori Daugherty, executive director of the Governor's School of Entrepreneurs, regarding partnership opportunities with KAC.

Meadows and Moses have also meet with Danny Isaacs of Mountain Association of Community Economic Development (MACED) and Bill Schutters of the Kentucky Highland Investment Corporation (KHIC) regarding the facilitation of more business training opportunities for artists as recommended in the Creative Industry report.

KAC was invited to apply to present at the 2015 Community Development Society Conference, in July.

KAC is also working with the Kentucky Innovation Network, Kentucky League of Cities, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue to develop partnerships.

Melissa Aguilar, executive director of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, interviewed artists at the Market and is helping to find funding for apprenticeships and business training.

The Creative Industry Summit will be in November.

Meadows shared a copy of the Strategic Plan and a detailed work plan for KAC.

Writer's Day and the Poet Laureate induction of George Ella Lyon is April 24, 2015, in the Capitol Rotunda, at 10 a.m. Additional information will be provided soon.

KAC is making changes to the grant panels. More panels are being conducted using teleconferencing. Some panels are still in-person, while other public teleconference panels allow constituents to call in to listen.

Meadows asked Strauss about panel signup sheets. Corbett asked if the panel signup sheet could be emailed to the board.

Board Schedule

Corbett asked the board to consider locations for upcoming board meetings. Corbett suggested Bowling Green be confirmed as the location for the June 12, 2015, meeting and eastern Kentucky be considered for the September 2015 board meeting.

Meadows asked the board to consider touring the Greenway Project in Hazard, which received a creative placemaking grant. The meeting would be held in Hindman, which was the recipient of an NEA Our Town grant for their dulcimer project.

Upcoming events:

Arts Advocacy Day-Americans for the Arts- March 23-24, 2015

National Arts in Education Week is Sept. 14-18, 2015

Performing Arts Exchange (PAE) is Sept. 28 – Oct. 1, 2015, in Baltimore, MD.

October is National Arts and Humanities month

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) Leadership Conference is Oct. 7-9, 2015, in Salt Lake City, UT.

Governor's Awards in the Arts are in October 2015.

The Creative Industry Summit is in November.

December is the 50th anniversary of the executive order that established the Kentucky Arts Commission and March 2016 is the anniversary of the legislation that created the agency.

McCorvey suggested programming celebrating the 50th anniversary of the agency.

Guest: Bianca Spriggs

Meadows introduced Bianca Spriggs, an Affrilachian poet and Cave Canem Fellow. Spriggs thanked the board and gave a brief biography. Spriggs spoke of working with Meadows on an interim grant for The Thirteen Project, a multi-media post reconstruction of the lynching of 13 black Kentucky women.

Spriggs spoke about the SwallowTail Project, creative writing for incarcerated women.

Spriggs talked about making a living as an artist. Spriggs added the importance of having a space to work. Spriggs talked about giving back to the community through mentorships for young artists.

Spriggs talked about the importance of people attending arts events.

Spriggs spoke of collaboration with organizations and other artists. Spriggs collaborated with Kurt Gohde and Kremena Todorova on the Lexington Tattoo Project. Spriggs wrote the poem about the city of Lexington, which is tattooed on 253 Lexington residents.

In addition to her many projects, Spriggs is working as the literary arts liaison with the Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning in Lexington. Spriggs thanked the board.

Corbett thanked Spriggs for her attendance and speaking with the board.

Meadows gave Spriggs a signed copy of the Abraham Lincoln of Kentucky book.

Board Evaluation:

McCorvey asked for suggestions or comments.

Mazzone suggested that the board hear from more performers.

John Hockensmith thanked the board for his re-nomination and re-appointment.

Hale enjoyed the meeting.

Fourshee commended how well the beginning of the meeting was handled. Other board members agreed.

McCorvey spoke of the importance of opportunities for voices to be heard.

Corbett adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.