

**Kentucky Arts Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Kentucky Folk Art Center
Morehead, KY
Sept. 29, 2017
10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Members present: Mary Michael Corbett, Andee Rudloff, Janice Turpen, Angela Rice, Sallie Lanham, Doug Adams, Lindsey Jaeger, Elizabeth Griffith, Jeanie Dorton, Dior Cotten, Luanne Mattingly, Everett McCorvey

Members absent: Paul Fourshee, Nathan Mick, James Boler

Others present: Matt Collinsworth, Ashley Gillam

Staff in attendance: Dave Blevins, Jean St. John, Tamara Coffey, Mark Brown, Emily Moses

Comments by Board Chair: Mary Michael Corbett called meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Mary Michael said she wanted to applaud the staff for their great work during a year that had been one of great transition. She said Executive Director Lydia Bailey Brown had resigned her position and she thanked Acting Executive Director Chris Cathers for his leadership during this time.

Cabinet Report: Deputy Secretary Regina Stivers thanked Chris Cathers for stepping into the ED role and also thanked Bailey Brown for her work. Stivers said she was proud of KAC staff who do such a great job.

Stivers said the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet has 16 agencies that focus on various areas. She said Cabinet Secretary Don Parkinson recently attended the UNESCO conference in Paducah and returned energized about the arts. She said Gov. Bevin wants to clean up the state's welcome centers and the Cabinet is working on that, including a project at a center in Simpsonville that incorporated arts and culture into the structure. Stivers said she has been meeting with tourism groups, especially in smaller communities, and much of their focus is on art and promoting local artists. She has told all of them about Cabinet agencies that deal with the arts. She thanked the board for all they do to promote the arts.

Corbett thanked Stivers and the Cabinet for being hands-on during the transition and giving extra support to staff. Corbett said Secretary Parkinson assured her the Cabinet will do all they can to support the arts council in the upcoming budget session.

In relation to the minutes, Andee Rudloff said action taken in the last meeting needed to be addressed. She said with so much enthusiasm, one panel chair had made a motion to approve the recommendations from the panel she oversaw and Andee didn't think we could operate that way. A review of the minutes showed all panels had been approved in that fashion and that had been the standard. The Board Chair made a motion that all grants and reports from the previous meeting be accepted and approved. All board members voted in favor of the motion.

Executive Director's Operational Update:

Chris Cathers thanked the Cabinet and Board for support during his transition into the acting ED role. He assured the board the staff has not missed a beat, even though they carry heavy workloads. He said the staff is interested in getting back to basics and in line with our mission and goals. He introduced Kentucky Folk Art Center Director and Curator Matt Collinsworth who gave a presentation about the folk art center. Collinsworth's presentation was followed by KAC Folk and Traditional Arts Director Mark Brown, who presented on KAC folk and traditional arts programs.

After a break, Cathers continued his report, which included work that had taken place in the previous several months

- Staff negotiated the contract for The Kentucky Crafted Market which moves the show to Louisville, March 2-4, 2018.
- Mark Brown, Folk & Traditional Arts Director, began new sessions of Community Scholars training program in Bowling Green and Beaver Dam. This nationally recognized program trains Kentucky residents to identify, document and conserve folk arts and traditions in their own communities.
- Staff met collaboratively with Labor Cabinet Secretary Derrick Ramsey on the integration of arts curriculum into statewide higher education workforce programming and creative apprenticeships.
- Todd Cremeans, Community Arts and Access Director, attended the Kennedy Center's Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disabilities conference in Austin, TX focusing on federal requirements and best practices for working with people with disabilities.
- Staff attended the Artists Thrive Summit in Berea, co-sponsored by the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, that brought 150 philanthropists to the state; showcased demonstrating arts, performers and local foods for evening reception.
- Chris chaired the in-house panel review for the TranspARTation grant program; the panel reviewed 27 applications.
- Emily Moses, our Executive Staff Advisor requested and received an extension to allow KAC two additional weeks to submit the annual National Endowment for the Arts funding application.
- Dave Blevins, Arts Marketing Director, will conduct panel review for the Kentucky Crafted program in October.
- Kate Sprengnether, Public Art & Design Director, resigned in August to accept a position with the University of Kentucky Art Museum.
- Dan Strauss, Senior Program Analyst, retired at the end of August.
- Staff are planning for Creative Industry Summit in Morehead, KY, this winter.
- Program staff are planning for regional workshops for Kentucky artists, organizations, and others, that will include valuable info about KAC and include step-by-step guidance on how to apply programs and grants.

Staff Reports:

Emily Moses gave a brief history of the Kentucky Creative Industry Report and the Creative Industry Summit.

Jean St. John explained the TranspARTation grant that provides travel funding to schools to attend arts-related field trips. She also discussed the Arts First Aid program.

Dave Blevins gave a report on the Kentucky Crafted Program and Kentucky Crafted: The Market 2017.

Board reports

Nominating Committee: Corbett said the board had three members who were given one-year terms and the nominating committee was requested all three be reappointed.

Governor's Awards Committee: Andee Rudloff said the Governor's Awards Committee met in Frankfort and reviewed nominations. She thanked all board members who had made nominations. She said nominees have been submitted to the Governor. She said the date for the awards would be rescheduled.

Constituencies Committee: Everett McCorvey said all board members are private citizens and represent different constituencies around the Commonwealth. He said the KAC staff cannot advocate for the arts council because they are part of state government. He said the committee had been working to identify different constituencies and create focused messaging board members are all "singing out of the same hymnal." Janice Turpen said one of the first groups targeted were legislators and that board members should meet with legislators. She said it was important for board members to spend more time in Frankfort to discuss the importance of the arts. McCorvey suggested a card with talking points be developed for board members to carry to use when needed. Dep. Sec. Stivers suggested having materials available to give a legislator or to leave with their staff. Mary Michael Corbett said one of the most important days to remember is Arts Day in Kentucky when arts partners come in and meet with their legislators and take photos with them. She said it's a great day for arts and legislators to coexist and a great chance to talk. She said the March board meeting in Frankfort presented a good time to visit with legislators. She said the board needed to be aware that some organizations seek line item funding, which takes away the arts council's ability to objectively award funds through adjudicated processes.

Abstentions: Jean Dorton is now on the Opera Lex board and added the organization to her abstentions.

Grant approvals: The board approved the TranspARTation grants as recommended by an in-house panel. Jean Dorton made a motion to accept; Sallie Lanham seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Cathers thanked everyone for coming and said if there were questions about anything to contact him. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.