



MSAC Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2022

The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council, make recommendations to the Council, and shall perform other duties as specified...

In attendance: Jackie Copeland, Julie Madden, Shelley Morhaim, Zoe Charlton, Carol Alexander, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Tim Riford, Laura Weiss, Ryan Koons, Chad Buterbaugh, Keyonna Penick

Jackie Copeland called the meeting to order after reading the guiding documents at approximately 11:05am.

Executive Director Report:

Staffing Update -

- Grants Director in the final steps of hiring
- The Deputy Director position is still being classified
- The new CAD/A&E Director, David Mitchell, will begin on June 1, 2022. David has worked extensively with the Arena Players and founded the UALP program at GBCA.
- Grants Management Associate position is also still pending
- Capital Grants program begins in FY24. Looking to hire a contractual position in FY23 with the hope of transitioning that position to a Director role in FY24.

Arts Relief Grants -

- Arts & Tourism Relief passed in session
- Purpose is to support Arts Grants allocated by the Maryland State Arts Council and can include, but are not limited to entities traditionally funded by the council
- Have had some conversations with MCA and Commerce to discuss allowable and non-allowable uses of funds
- Understanding where the needs are and the intent of the discussion around the additional funding is top of mind; goal of supporting both organizations and independent artists
- The May newsletter included information about this and a survey. The plan that we have discussed internally is in alignment with the recommendations seen in the survey
- Capacity is top of mind as we cannot use the funds for additional staff



- Currently developing a plan and reviewing with Commerce. After that, we will share the plan with the Council.

Arts Relief Funding Outline

- Divided into four buckets
 - General operating support
 - Grants for organizations, creativity, County Arts Development, Folklife & Arts & Entertainment Districts
 - Artist Grants Pilot
 - Project support
 - Creativity, Public Art, Folklife Apprenticeships, Arts in Education
 - Other
 - Maryland Folklife Festival, Capital, Emergency Grants for Artists
- Considerations
 - Staff capacity of processing applications and grant payments is important to consider
 - Also thinking about the capacity of the grantees is important
 - Keep the process/application as simple as possible
 - Reversion of funds at the end of FY23
 - Still some questions around this but considering the timing of the funds (FY23 and/or FY24 uses)
 - We want to clearly delineate the GFO amount versus the additional funding
 - There will be two separate amounts that are clearly defined
 - If we are able to use funds over two years, we will also make this clear
 - Another example would be a clearly defined temporary increase in maximum grant amounts
 - Also looking at ways of how to collect data around the impact of this additional funding

Tom also congratulated the staff and leadership for this additional funding. This is something that has never happened before. To process this is a huge effort. The staff has been very pro-active and diligent in their work around this additional funding. This funding is transformative and revolutionary.

Steven also noted that this additional funding is also on top of record “normal” funding.

FY23 Budget Overview

- There are comparisons between FY21 actuals, FY22 budget, actuals through the end of April 2022, and the proposed budget for FY23.
- The total budget is just under \$69 million
- The total administrative budget includes an increase



- This includes a Capital Grants position
- Also looking at shifting some Special Grants to a Contracts model, which would be included here instead of the Grants line
- Potential contractual positions to assist in grants processing
- Increase in staff travel for PD opportunities
- Inclusion of panelist payments in this line
- Considering bringing in contractors for continuing PD opportunities for constituents
- The GFO line includes a \$1 million increase
 - Additional relief will also go to these orgs through the additional emergency relief
- The other grants line total is a little over \$1.5 million
 - This accounts for increases in Creativity and PD Grants
 - This also includes a revision process for the Special Request Program
 - Editing process would occur from July 2022 - January 2023
 - Emergency Grants for Artists would also continue, along with NOD Grants
- A&E, CAD, and AiE also have increases in their overall budgets
- IAA is recommending a “pause” for the FY23 year
 - We are at the end of a 3 year cycle
 - We have a lot of feedback from the past 3 years
 - The timing doesn't allow for editing AND running the process in one year
 - Aiming to bring the program back for FY24
- Large increase in Traditions program, including operating support grants for folklife centers

Laura shared broad details on overarching feedback that we have received over the past three years, including feedback on how the rubric and scoring works in connection with all artistic disciplines.

Steven also added that staff capacity is top of mind - the ability to complete a thoughtful editing process and run the program is not a possibility

Artists Employment Initiative (Grants for Artists)

Chad Buterbaugh presented Grants for Artists Program policy proposals

- Phase 3: program development, spring 2022
- Phase 4: program marketing, summer and fall 2022
- Editors Panel
 - 12 editors working as artists in various media, of diverse backgrounds and experiences, and living across the state
 - Two April meetings to formalize recommendations
 - Proposals are based on editors' recommendations, with staff input on capacity



and available resources

- Policies for Program Policy Evaluation Committee
 - Grant Amount
 - Grantee Selection
 - Quarterly Awards
 - Ability to Reapply
 - Ineligibility for Next Cycle if Awarded
 - Eligibility
 - Use of funds
 - Questions and Rubric

June Council Meeting Agenda Review

- Executive Director's Report
- Staff Reports
- Program Policy and Evaluation Committee Report
- Finance Committee Report
- Grants Committee Report
- Election of Officers

Jackie thanked staff and adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:57am.