

GREENSBORO CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING
December 13th, 2021; 5:30pm
Meeting held in person, Greensboro Cultural Center

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Bender, Juliette Bianco, Catina Bergevin, Duane Cyrus, Mignon Elkes, Leigh Ann Little, Victoria Milstein, Janine Robledo, Naomi Woods

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Ryan Deal, Josh Sherrick, Councilmember Nancy Hoffman

OTHER SPEAKERS PRESENT: None

WELCOME: Ryan Deal, Chief Creative Economy Officer, called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm, and welcomed the Commission and attendees. Nancy Hoffman gave short welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Updates on Previously Mentioned projects:

- a. Mr. Deal explained that the Neighborhood Arts: Kings Forest project was completed and spoke of the community spirit that was ignited from the project. Commissioners were invited to visit the neighborhood murals at their leisure.
- b. Mr. Deal announced the Downtown Arts program has received 37 submissions and the review panel will convene in January to make finalist selections.
- c. Mr. Deal gave wrap-up details from the Fall OPUS season of six concerts.
- d. Mr. Deal gave summary details of two drama productions currently being presented by Creative Greensboro. Short Tales for Children has 27 young people participating, with rehearsals in mid-January and performances January 29th & 30th. Wolves of Ravensbrück, written by local playwright Sally Kinka will be performed on January 13th through 16th.
- e. Mr. Deal discussed the successful Greensboro Cultural Center First Friday event in December.
- f. Mr. Deal announced new staff members of Creative Greensboro, Karen Archia, Gina Fisher, Zizi Barhouma, and Joy Cabador – each beginning their positions on January 1, 2022.

B. Discussion of Commission Duties & Upcoming Work

- a. Mr. Deal described the various goals and involvement of the commission and committees in 2022.
 - i. The Marketing committee will support increasing public awareness and participation in Creative Greensboro activities and increasing Greensboro City Council awareness of Creative Greensboro activities, especially as related to upcoming strategic opportunities.
 - ii. The Impact/Investment committee will support significant cash/in-kind investments facilitated by Creative Greensboro, including nonprofit tenancy at the Greensboro Cultural Center and a ‘Grants for the Arts’ program as outlined in the Cultural Plan.
 - iii. The Creative Placemaking committee will support significant community facing projects such as the continuation and expansion of the Neighborhood Arts Residency program, Downtown Arts, and an upcoming public art project funded through participatory budgeted at Hester Park.
 - iv. The commission will develop a Cultural Equity/Anti-Racism Statement for Creative Greensboro, along with corresponding policy, commitment, and guiding principles.

C. Discussion and Approval of November meeting minutes

- a. No discussion.
- b. Motion to Approve: 1st: Mr. Woods, 2nd: Ms. Bender;
Roll Call Vote: 9-0, the November meeting minutes approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Summary updates regarding the Greensboro Cultural Center:

- a. Mr. Deal offered a comprehensive review of current tenancy and participation within the GCC. Currently, the GCC hosts 18 nonprofit resident organizations, which draw more than 400,000 participant experiences annually. Overall, the City provides \$847,568 value of in-kind rent investment.
- b. Mr. Deal summarized future goals for residency in the GCC, including the need for stated outcomes and evaluation of tenants/partners.
- c. Mr. Deal offered updates regarding Creative Greensboro's other partnership programs at the GCC:
 - i. CAP (Creative Activation Partnerships)
 - ii. GROW (Greensboro Residency for Original Works)
 - iii. VDPS (Van Dyke Performance Space)
- d. Creative Greensboro staff hosted a walking tour of the Cultural Center, highlighting areas and opportunities relevant to the recently submitted request to the City's American Recovery Plan grant program.

B. Commission Leadership & Committee Assignments:

- a. A motion was entered by Mr. Cyrus, nominating Mr. Bender to serve as Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Ms. Robledo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0.
- b. A motion was entered by Ms. Woods, nominating Ms. Robledo to serve as Vice-Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bender. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0.
- c. Mr. Bender led a discussion on Committees and submitted the following:
 - i. Executive Committee members will be: Mr. Bender, Ms. Robledo, Ms. Little
 - ii. Marketing Committee members will be: Ms. Elkes (chair), Ms. Woods, Ms. Bergevin
 - iii. Impact and Investment Committee members will be: Ms. Bianco (chair), Ms. Bergevin, Mr. Cyrus
 - iv. Creative Placemaking Committee members will be: Mr. Cyrus (chair), Ms. Milstein, Ms. Little

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to Adjourn: 1st: Ms. Bianco, 2nd: Ms. Carlin Milstein; Roll Call Vote: 9-0 The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Josh Sherrick, Business Services Manager
Creative Greensboro, City of Greensboro