

GREENSBORO CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING
February 13th, 2022; 5:35pm
Meeting held in-person at the Creative Greensboro Conference Room

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Bender, Catena Bergevin, Leigh Ann Little, Janine Robledo, Naomi Woods, Juliette Bianco, Mignon Elkes

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Victoria Milstein

STAFF PRESENT: Ryan Deal, Josh Sherrick

OTHER SPEAKERS PRESENT: Nasha McCray, Assistant City Manager

I. WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Chairman Doug Bender called the meeting to order at 5:35pm and welcomed the Commission. Mr. Bender also expressed gratitude for the Commission and their dedication to this board. He also made a statement of gratitude and appreciation for Mr. Deal's commitment and work to set a course for Creative Greensboro and a path for success in the creative sector.
- B. Assistant City Manager Nasha McCray spoke to the Commission about the City Managers Office's desire to remain engaged with Creative Greensboro to ensure that the work and progress moves forward. Simultaneously, the CMO will contract with an outside agency to conduct a nation-wide search for the new Chief Creative Economy Officer and she expects the process to take approximately 90 days.

II. BUSINESS:

- A. Approval and Discussion of December meeting minutes. Motion to approve minutes; Ms. Robledo 1st, Ms. Bianco 2nd, passed unanimously, 8-0.

Ms. Bianco inquired if the transition of Mr. Deal will affect any of the Capital Improvements scheduled for the Cultural Center. Mr. Deal summarized a meeting that was held with Project Managers from the City where updates and timelines were given for relevant projects.

Ms. Bergevin asked what discussions have taken place with the tenants of the Cultural Center. Mr. Deal explained that until the transition plan is decided, he hasn't informed the tenants of any plans.

- B. Impact & Investment Committee Report:
 - i. Ms. Robledo has participated in the 'Residency at the Hyers' application and selection process, along with Ms. Elkes and Lauren Joyner from Dance Project. Evaluative criteria were rooted in need and previous City support. The applicants were were a diverse selection of theatrical and dance offerings. Out of 22 applicants, (4) week long residencies were offered to Joye Movement, Ancestral, Soliloliques, StrangeFruit, and American Body.
 - ii. Staff Report: Mr. Deal presented the GCC Tenant Partnerships: Classroom & Studio Usage report with data from September 2022 through January 2023. He also presented GCC Tenant Partnerships: Gallery Operations report with data from the same timeline. Plans are in place for staff to continue conducting the usage reporting.
- C. Creative Placemaking Committee Report:
 - i. Ms. Little informed the group that artist Darlene McClinton has submitted her final design for the Hester Park PB Mural Project. Next steps are to obtain an encroachment resolution from City Council and then final approval from NC DOT.

- ii. Ms. Little also explained the progress with the Peeler Recreation Center mural project. Artist James Raleigh has submitted final design for the mural and installation is expected in March. Ms. Elkes spoke of her experience at the Peeler Recreation Center grand-opening day.
- iii. Ms. Milstein spoke of the Downtown Arts program selection process. The committee chose 11 finalists (out of 35) to have their work displayed on the digital kiosks throughout downtown. Artist Bevelyn Ukah was selected for a commissioned piece of work for City Hall.

D. Marketing Committee Report:

- i. Commissioners were asked to share their cultural experiences in recent months.

III. Additional Items:

- A. Commissioners expressed gratitude and positive wishes for Mr. Deal's future aspirations.
- B. Mr. Bender explained that he spoke with Mayor Vaughn about the Commission's opening and that the opening has been transitioned to Councilperson Hoffmann for appointment.

With no additional comments from the Commission, Mr. Bender called for a Motion to Adjourn: 1st: Ms. Bianco, 2nd: Ms. Little; Unanimous, 8-0; The meeting was adjourned at 6:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Josh Sherrick, Business Services Manager
Creative Greensboro, City of Greensboro