**GREENSBORO CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING**

**October 9th, 2023; 5:30pm**

**Meeting held via zoom**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**, Catena Bergevin, Janay Green, Victoria Milstein, Mignon Elkes, Juliette Bianco

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:** Doug Bender, Janine Robledo, Naomi Woods

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jocquelyn Boone, Chief Creative Economy Officer, Ethan Lodics Finance & Facility Operations Specialist

**OTHER SPEAKERS PRESENT:** None

**I. WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

A. Commissioner Victoria Milstein led this month’s meeting in Mr. Bender’s absence. Commissioner Milstein welcomed the commission and Creative Greensboro staff to the virtual meeting. Ms. Boone shared updates about the latest programming in the Cultural Center and encouraged Commissioners to experience the last two residencies of GROW for 2023, with Tuari Walker and SunQueen Kelsey rounding out the year. For Curated Programming updates, Ms. Boone shared that artist and community engagement was underway in the Random Woods and Mill District neighborhoods and also that the Downtown Arts Program application opens Oct 24th and runs through Dec 5th.

**II. BUSINESS:**

1. Business of the Commission at-large- Commissioner Victoria Milstein, Jocquelyn Boone (CCEO)

i.September meeting minutes (approval requested)

1. Approved unanimously, *5*-0.

B. Impact & Investment Committee

i. Sustaining Creativity Grant

Ms. Boone shared that the Sustaining Creativity Grant was opening this month and shared the proposed change to have tiered grant awards for award recipients instead of a flat award across all grantees. This was the only proposed change to the grant program in efforts to maximize impact and to deepen equitable funding to all organizations. Several commissioners asked if this change would discount current grantees from reapplying or disqualify other small grassroots organizations from receiving funding. Ms. Boone explained that it would not. The commissioners were in full support of this proposed change.

ii. GCC Tenant Lease Process

Ms. Boone shared a presentation about the proposed changes for specific tenants in the cultural center. She laid out the plan of action and next steps for follow up. The proposed changes would free up Creative Greensboro to allow more community use within the building, something the sector has been extremely vocal about for years. The changes also allow for Creative Greensboro to utilize space for the growing storage needs for programming that take place inside the building and support a preliminary plan to convert the third floor of the cultural center into a co-working space. Commissioner Milstein asked if organizations had been presented the opportunity to advocate for their space. Commissioner Green asked if organizations changed their programming, would they be allowed to get their space back. Ms. Boone and Mr. Lodics explained that if any of the organizations did change their scope of programming, and their new line of programming had a direct impact within the cultural center, then they could utilize space through the CAP program. Mr. Lodics also discussed assisting some of the tenants with the transition of some of their items from the storage facilities to other locations. Commissioner Milstein had to leave the meeting early and Ms. Boone led the rest of the meeting.

iii. Graduated Rent Program

Ms. Boone discussed the preliminary idea of introducing a graduated rent program for tenants in the building with the remaining five commissioners. She shared that the idea is still in its infancy but wanted commissioners to know this was also something that would be broached in future conversations.

1. Creative Placemaking Committee
2. Ms. Boone mentioned that Creative Greensboro staff are in active conversations with the Fisher Park community about the Flower Mural located under the Church Street bridge. The bridge is undergoing repairs and the mural will need to be replaced.
3. Marketing Committee, Mignon Elkes (Committee Chair)

No Update.

**III. Additional Items:**

1. Speakers from the Floor: None.

With no additional comments from the Commission, the meeting was adjourned by Ms. Boone at 6:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jocquelyn Boone, Chief Creative Economy Officer

Creative Greensboro, City of Greensboro