



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

MILWAUKEE ARTS BOARD

ALD. MICHAEL J. MURPHY, CHAIR

Ald. Nik Kovac, Vice-Chair

**Daisy Cubias, William DeLind, David Flores, Donald Fraker,
Marcela Garcia, Vedale Hill, Anne Kingsbury, Tina Klose,
Diane Kosarycki, Emilia Layden, Sandra McSweeney, Polly
Morris, Tim Murphy, and Paula Phillips**

**Staff Assistant: Molly Kuether-Steele, 286-2775, Fax: 286-3456,
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**Legislative Liason: Tea Norfolk, 286-8012,
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**Staff to Arts Board: Sally Witte, 286-5794,
sally.witte@milwaukee.gov**

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

4:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Call in number: +1 (669) 224-3412 Access Code: 999-701-493

Meeting convened at 4:04 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Also present:

Sally Witte, DCD

Present 12 - Murphy, DeLind, McSweeney, Morris, Flores, Fraker, Kosarzycki, Murphy,
Kovac, Klose, Layden and Phillips

Absent 3 - Cubias, Hill and Garcia

Excused 1 - Kingsbury

2. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from March 10 and April 14, 2020 were approved without objection.

3. Public Art Subcommittee Report

-Funding Recommendations

Member Morris said that the subcommittee will hold an additional meeting to deliberate applications.

4. 2020 Artists of the Year and Friends of the Arts

Members discussed delaying nominations, recommendations, and the ceremony until later in the year and to try to hold a physical event as opposed to a virtual one.

Member Flores moved that the board delay and make nominations and recommendations by July but not to surpass August and to possibly hold a physical ceremony event in September or later in the year whenever feasible. Seconded by member Morris. There was no objection.

5. Project Grant Program

Ms. Witte gave an update. For the 2019 extension, 24 organizations with projects in progress were asked about final reporting. All but 5 replied back, and 7 indicated needing more time. The 2020 project grants were suspended, and an internal committee came up with revised guidelines and an application form.

Member Flores gave an overview of the guidelines and application form. Of note is a project description section with 4 questions relating to how an organization has been impacted by the Covid 19 virus, explanation of a financial recovery plan, how grant funds would be used, and how operations would be sustained. New applicants may have to submit additional information. Eligibility would be based on an organization having carried out a project grant within the last 4 years. There was debate about the pool of applicants and the level of funding amounts. The consensus was for a smaller pool of applicants with larger, equal award amounts given to each applicant. A tiered funding mechanism would produce the burden of requiring additional evaluation work. Typical requirements would be the same such as 501 3(c) status and having a Milwaukee office location.

Ms. Witte added comments. About \$273,000 is available. About 50 organizations would be eligible. About \$5000 would be awarded to each organization. Funds would be given 50 percent upfront with the remaining 50 percent after 6 months on the backend after reassessment of the organization. The grant would not be a competitive one.

Chair Murphy said that controls are in place to prevent fraud and misuse of the funds.

Member Flores moved approval, seconded by member Morris, of the Program Grant Program guidelines and application for 2020. There was no objection.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Announcements

Member Flores announced the continued plan to hold the free Romeo and Juliet play production by Off the Wall Theater this summer. Dates and logistics are still in development.

Member Phillips announced the postponement of "Day of Music" event, the ability to hold some high school chorus performances, and an upcoming \$15,000 award to a City

educator from the music artist Chance the Rapper.

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

**Chris Lee, Staff Assistant
Council Records Section
City Clerk's Office**