



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,
tea.norfolk@milwaukee.gov**

**Staff to Arts Board: Sally Witte, 286-5794,
sally.witte@milwaukee.gov**

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

4:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Call in number: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 287-034-453

Meeting convened at 4:09 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present 11 - Murphy, DeLind, McSweeney, Morris, Fraker, Murphy, Kovac, Klose,
Layden, Garcia and Phillips

Absent 3 - Flores, Kosarzycki and Hill

Excused 2 - Cubias and Kingsbury

Also present:

Sally Witte, Dept. of City Development

2. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from June 9, 2020 were approved without objection.

3. Public Art Subcommittee Report

Member Morris said that the subcommittee recommended to award \$2,400 in regular New Work Fund to the Downtown BID relating to its "Road of Democracy" project for the period of the DNC to December.

*Member Fraker moved approval, seconded by member Tim Murphy, to award \$2,400 in regular New Work Fund to the Downtown BID relating to its "Road of Democracy".
There were no objections.*

4. Project and Sustaining Grants Update

Ms. Witte gave an update. Two-thirds of the final reports have been completed for 2019. One-third of the reports are still pending. There will be 44 organizations applying for the grant, which will assist in an organization's operating and/or administrative costs. The grant is not tied to projects.

Member Morris said for there to be included a thank you clause.

5. Vote on Annual Friends of the Arts and Mildred L. Harpole Artist of the Year Awards

Members discussed and reviewed the following nominations:

Mildred L. Harpole Artists of the Year:

- The Milwaukee Artist, nominated by David Flores, who are all artists and arts organizations collectively.*
- Ras 'Ammar Nsoroma, nominated by Polly Morris, who is a muralist, portraitist, and mixed media painter.*
- Klassik (Kellen Abston), nominated by Polly Morris, who is a multi-instrumentalist producer and performer.*
- Rosy Petri, nominated by Marcela Garcia, who is a multidisciplinary artist from Milwaukee.*

2020 Friends of the Arts:

- Mike Fischer, nominated by David Flores, who is an advocate for labor and employment issues.*
- Marie Kohler, nominated by Ald. Michael Murphy and David Flores, who is a founding member of Renaissance Theaterwork and a major contributor to support the arts.*
- Fatima Laster, nominated by Polly Morris, who operates the 5 Points Art Gallery & Studios (a mixed-use art space with a gallery, shop, studio, and living space).*
- Tonon (Sara) O'Connor, nominated by Anne Kingsbury, who made a 40-year career in non-profit professional theatre and serving 20 years a managing director of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater.*

Members voted on their top two persons for each award, and the results are as follows:

Mildred L. Harpole Artists of the Year:

- The Milwaukee Artist with 0 votes*
- Ras 'Ammar Nsorom with 9 votes*
- Klassik (Kellen Abston) with 6 votes*
- Rosy Petri with 7 votes*

2020 Friends of the Arts:

- Mike Fischer with 0 votes*
- Marie Kohler with 11 votes*
- Fatima Laster with 9 votes*
- Tonon (Sara) O'Connor with 2 votes*

Members moved approval of Ras 'Ammar Nsorom and Rosy Petri, who both received the highest two votes, as the Mildred L. Harpole Artists of the Year. There were no objections.

Members moved approval of Marie Kohler and Fatima Laster, who both received the highest two votes, as the 2020 Friends of the Arts. There were no objections.

Members discussed doing a virtual celebration, press release, and a public kiosk display with bios, pictures, and/or works of the recipients in the City Hall rotunda.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Announcements

There were no announcements.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

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