



MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, 17 December 2024, via Zoom

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Andi Arnold, Tony Boldt, Sophia Chai, Steve Dietz, Rob Hardy, Elisha Marin, Jon Swanson, Amy Wightkin

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kjel Alkire, Laurel Stinson

STAFF PRESENT: Anastasia Shartin, Sharon Mansur, Karen Miller, Jacque VanRavenhorst

1:44pm Dir. Marin, Board President, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

Dir. Hardy moved and Dir. Wightkin seconded approval of this meeting's agenda, as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Swanson seconded approval of the minutes from the 19 November 2024 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

- See attached.

Grants Committee Report

- ED Shartin described current discussion points at the Grants Committee, including equity in the application process and discouraging excessive fees to artists by hosting organizations. General Operating Support is the next major subject to be examined. All board members are invited to attend the next committee meeting (January 6, 2025 at 10am).

New Business

- AFTA Economic Impact Survey Report
ED Shartin highlighted the continued progress of survey collection by Johanna Frisch and Taliesin Nyala. Dir. Marin commended them for achieving such an impressive number of responses.
- Needs Assessment Survey Report
See presentation by Jacque VanRavenhorst at the following link.
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1kpR4Xgr9FsmVbBOZxgRp-WlwfsW-S6EDliq7prLRW1E/edit?usp=sharing>

Dir. Swanson moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to adjourn.

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.

Executive Director Report for Board Meeting December 17, 2024

Grantmaking:

- Continued work with Karen on grant eligibility and rules
- December 2 – Grants Committee Meeting

MSAB/McKnight/MCA/FACM:

- AFTA Economic Impact Survey collection completed with a total of 402 surveys
- October 29 – Submitted McKnight Final Report for FY2024
- November 20 – FACM Policy Manual Meeting
- December 3 – Biennial Plan “Deep Dive” with Sue Gens
- December 5 – 6 – FACM meeting (Alexandria, MN)
- December 11 – met via Zoom with Annick Dall-Desbois, Outreach and Accessibility Coordinator for MSAB, and Sharon about program MSAB is planning in Owatonna/Rice County

Regional Networking (November 16 – December 13, 2024):

- December 2, Rochester, **Olmsted County** –met with Omar Nur, Somali American Social Service Association
- December 7, Winona, **Winona County** – attended the Driftless Dance Film Tour, curated by Sydney Swanson
- December 11, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Simon Huelsbeck, artist and art instructor at RCTC
- December 12, Austin, **Mower County** – met with Angela Sedgwick Perry, ED Matchbox Children’s Theatre
- December 12, Austin, **Mower County** – met with Tom Robbins, ED Austin ArtWorks
- December 12, Austin, **Mower County** – met with Jon Kittleson, artist

Communications:

- December e-newsletter sent to 1,179 recipients

Other:

- Met weekly with John Skillings, financial trainer with Propel for Non-profits
- On-boarded Sharon Mansur, Outreach and Accessibility Manager
- Needs Assessment Survey – worked with Jacque as she prepared the report and organized staff meeting with Elisha Marin where she presented the report to be shared with the Board
- November 22 – Met with Andi Sutton, ED Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, and Anna Pollock, ED Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council