



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
*Tuesday, 14 January 2025, via Zoom*

---

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kjel Alkire, Andi Arnold, Tony Boldt, Sophia Chai, Steve Dietz, Rob Hardy, Elisha Marin, Laurel Stinson, Amy Wightkin, Melissa Wray

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jon Swanson

STAFF PRESENT: Anastasia Shartin, Sharon Mansur, Karen Miller

---

1:31pm Dir. Marin, Board President, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

**Dir. Stinson moved and Dir. Alkire seconded approval of this meeting's agenda, as written. Motion passed unanimously.**

Approval of the Minutes

**Dir. Arnold moved and Dir. Boldt seconded approval of the minutes from the 17 December 2024 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

Presentation

- "Pathways to Prosperity," Andi Sutton, ED, Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership
- Link to the full report and appendices: <https://hdl.handle.net/11299/268280>

Executive Director's Report

- See attached.

New Business

- Biennial Plan Process
  - Includes points from Grants Committee Report
  - Plan submission target date April 1/April 8
- Panel Candidate Mike Speck (résumé attached)  
**Dir. Wightkin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the appointment of Mike Speck as a theatre panelist on the SEMAC Arts Advisory Panel. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Dir. Chai moved and Dir. Wightkin seconded the motion to adjourn.**

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

# Executive Director Report for Board Meeting January 14, 2025

## Grantmaking:

- Individual Artist Grant application opened December 28 (January 28 deadline)
- January 6 – Grants Committee Meeting
- January 9 – Individual Artist Grant Writing Workshop (with Sharon) Zoom and recording distributed; 28 registrations

## MSAB/McKnight/MCA/FACM:

- January 4 – 7 – met twice with Sue Gens, ED MSAB, and corresponded via e-mail regarding anonymous e-mail received January 3
- January 8 – FACM Policy Manual Meeting
- January 9 – MSAB Board Meeting (Zoom)
- January 10 – FACM Meeting (Zoom)

## Regional Networking (December 14, 2024 – January 10, 2025):

- December 16, Winona, **Winona County** – met with Mike Speck, panel applicant
- December 18, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Mary Beth Magyar, artist
- December 18, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Sara Grover, Project Outdoors, based in Wabasha County
- December 19, Lanesboro, **Fillmore County (Zoom)** – met with John Torgrimson, Co-founder/Editor, Root River Current
- January 4, Lanesboro, **Fillmore County** – attended capstone event for Lanesboro Arts Rural Arts Production Training Program

## Communications:

- January e-newsletter sent to 1,179 recipients

## Other:

- Met weekly with John Skillings, financial trainer with Propel for Non-profits
- Worked with Sharon to outline a 3-month, 6-month, and long-range work plan
- Began work on Biennial Plan
- January 10 – phone conversation with US Bank regarding short term investments to yield more interest income