



MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, 11 February 2025, via Zoom

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Andi Arnold, Tony Boldt, Sophia Chai, Rob Hardy, Elisha Marin, Laurel Stinson, Jon Swanson, Amy Wightkin, Melissa Wray

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kjel Alkire, Steve Dietz

STAFF PRESENT: Anastasia Shartin, Sharon Mansur, Karen Miller

1:34pm Dir. Marin, Board President, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Approval of the Minutes

Dir. Stinson moved and Dir. Wightkin seconded approval of the minutes from the 14 January 2025 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Dir. Wray moved and Dir. Boldt seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report for the months of December and January. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

- See attached.

Grants Committee Report

- The committee discussed the impact that suspending the rule for individual artists to sit out one or two years between applications has had for SEMAC.

Monitoring Reports

- Dir. Hardy attended two capstone events for advancing artist grantees Stephanie Cox and Gao Hong. His reports will become part of the permanent record for those grants.

New Business

- Conflict of Interest Policy and Disclosure Form
Each director is encouraged to review their current conflict disclosure form and update it as appropriate.

- Arts Action Week – March 3-7
Zoom meetings to be held throughout the week with an in-person rally and “meet your legislator” event on March 4.
- Update on Biennial Plan
Our goal is to have the board approve a final draft of the preliminary plan at the March 11 board meeting. A Zoom discussion is planned for February 27.
- Panel Candidate Scott Roberts
Dir. Swanson moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the appointment of Scott Roberts as a panel generalist on the SEMAC Arts Advisory Panel. Motion passed unanimously.

Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Arnold seconded the motion to adjourn.

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 2:40pm.

Executive Director Report for Board Meeting February 11, 2025

Grantmaking:

- Individual Artist Grant application closed January 28; reviewed all applications for project eligibility; 66 began applications; 46 submitted; 43 advanced to Panel review
- January 18 – Grant workshop with MSAB at Owatonna Art Center
- January 29 – Pre-panel Review Meeting to share Needs Assessment feedback re panel review process and to present revised plan for panel meeting process
- February 3 – Grants Committee Meeting

MSAB/McKnight/MCA/FACM:

- January 31 – FACM Executive Committee Meeting
- February 7 – FACM Board Meeting

Regional Networking (January 11 – February 7, 2025):

- January 16, Northfield, **Rice County** – attended capstone event for Stephanie Cox at Northfield Public Library
- January 17, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Mary Beth Magyar, artist
- January 24, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – attended reception for Tierney Parker’s exhibit at Griot Arts
- February 7, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – met with Rene Halsey from RNeighbors

Communications:

- Weekly check-ins with Sharon and Jacque
- February e-newsletter sent to 1,245 recipients
- February 6 – review of SEMAC website with Jacque and staff

Other:

- Met weekly with John Skillings, financial trainer with Propel for Non-profits
- Continued work on Biennial Plan
- January 16 – Conversation with Alycia Overbo, Supervisor for the Communications & Strategic Initiatives Unit at Minnesota Department of Health who also is part of the Clean Water Communicators group
- January 20 – Initial meeting of SEMAC’s JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) Committee
- January 23 – Sharon and I met with Nancy Ariza at Springboard for the Arts about contracting with them to present Artist Development Workshops
- January 27 – Sharon and I met with Aamera Siddiqui and Suzy Messerole to plan DEI and IDI trainings for Board and Panel at end of FY25 and early FY26
- January 29 – Met with Scott Roberts, who applied to join the Arts Advisory Panel
- February 3 – Staff met with Aamera Siddiqui and Suzy Messerole re FACM Statewide DEI Survey funded by FACM