

**CULTURAL COUNCIL of VOLUSIA COUNTY**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 28, 2005**

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**MEMBERS:**

**Donna Sue Sanders, Chair**  
**Tippen Davidson, Vice Chair**  
**Terri Ford Cobean**  
**Bob Dahlen**  
**Bill Dreggors**  
**Christina Shallow**  
**Sandra Wilson**

**MEETING PLACE:**

**Training Rooms 1 & 2**  
**TCK Administration Building**  
**123 W. Indiana Ave., DeLand**

**Staff: Nancy Maddox, Mike Fincher**

**Guests: Gary Libby, Ann Brady, Tim Ludwig, Hank Mason, Betty Parker, Gene Self, Jeaniene Jennings, Barbara Wolfson**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

In the absence of both Chair and Vice Chair, the most senior member, Terri Ford Cobean, called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. Roll was called. Absent was Chair Donna Sue Sanders and Vice Chair Tippen Davidson.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – From December 13, 2004**

**MOTION** by Member C. Shallow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member B. Dreggors *“To accept minutes as presented.”* **Motion passed unanimously.**

**III. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS & INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

M. Fincher recognized the guests attending from the VCCA and Ms. Jeaniene Jennings, a Volusia County employee attending as part of a Career Development program.

M. Fincher introduced Mr. Bob Dahlen, new CCVC member appointed by Carl Persis to replace Steve Gosney. Also appointed by Council Member Persis is Mr. Paul Politis who will be seated at the next meeting on April 1, 2005.

**IV. DISPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL PER CAPITA FUNDS/REPORT FROM VCCA REPORT – WORKSHOP COMMITTEE INDIVIDUAL ARTIST SUPPORT**

Betty Parker, President of the VCCA, presented the Alliance’s recommendation for the allocation of the additional per capita funding. They recommend that each organization that received CCG funding be funded at the full amount of their eligibility for 2004/05. Any remaining funds to either be held to use for individual artist grants or if individual artist grants are not approved, the funds should be distributed to all recipient organizations in accordance with their distribution percentage of the larger pool.

Before finishing discussion on this issue, it was agreed to hear the report from the Workshop Committee on Individual Artist Grants:

*Tim Ludwig reported that the committee looked at models from several counties and the State of Florida and funding ranged from a low of \$500 to a maximum of \$15,000. It is the committee's recommendation that grants be made available to assist beginning, emerging and established artists in advancing their careers, but with primary emphasis placed on beginning and emerging artists*

*Awards should be directed toward filling career development needs, specifically such areas as workshops, apprenticeships, residencies, equipment acquisition, entrance fees, etc. Due to the difficulty in ascertaining artistic quality, and the subjectivity associated with any such effort, it is recommended instead that awards be granted on the basis of demonstrated potential, growth and need. In order to have the broadest impact on the individual artist community, the committee recommends that awards be limited, at least initially, to a maximum of \$2,500.*

*The committee concurs with the VCCA recommendation to initially utilize unallocated per capita funds remaining after fully funding 2004 CCG recipients to their requested amount. A grant program modeled after the State of Florida Artist Enhancement Grant should be developed and availability should be advertised immediately upon approval.*

There was much discussion about the appropriateness of using this money, which has always been allocated to non-profit, culture producing organizations. Gary Libby stated that he felt like other funds, such as License Plate revenue, would be more appropriate for this use. Tim Ludwig reminded the group that there was a positive attitude on the part of the County Council toward individual artist support. Terri Cobean expressed concern as to whether Staff had enough time left in this fiscal year to get County Council approval, create a new grant program, advertise it adequately and award funds before the end of the year. Nancy Maddox advised that it would be difficult, but not impossible, if the decision is made right away. Christina Shallow asked if there was any possibility of carrying these funds over until next year. Nancy Maddox said that monies coming from the General Fund typically could not be carried over but that she could ask the County Council if they would approve an exception for this program.

There was a consensus that we should try to get approval to carry these funds over so more time is available to develop the program properly. Further, it was suggested that we set this up as a two year program, dividing funding over two years so we can ascertain if there is sufficient growth in the per capita allocation to fund this in future years without negatively impacting support to the cultural organizations.

**MOTION** made by Member Wilson and seconded by Member Dreggors “*To approve disbursement of unallocated funds to the 2004/05 CCG recipient organizations at their maximum requested amount. Further, with any remaining monies, establish a two-year grant program for individual artists in the amount of \$2,500 each for as many grants as the surplus allow, in accordance with the provisions recommended by the special workshop committee. Further, Staff to request permission from the County Council to carry over these funds beyond the fiscal year end, as required, in order to have sufficient time to properly develop this program. No commitment shall be made to continue this grant beyond the initial two-year period until there has been sufficient opportunity to evaluate the funding impact this grant has on the recipient organizations of the Community Cultural Grant.*” **Motion passed unanimously.**

V. **REPORT – WORKSHOP COMMITTEE ON CCG RE-STRUCTURE**

This workshop sub-committee was tasked with looking at three major areas of potential change to the existing CCG program. (1.) Consider a multi-tier structure to allow small to medium size organizations and start-up programs to seek funding without competing directly against larger, more experienced organizations; and give them access to awards at a larger relative percentage of their budget. (2.) Increase the maximum funding cap for large budget organizations. (3.) Initiate an iteration scoring methodology, similar to the State of Florida’s General Operating Support Grant scoring and allocation procedure in which funds are allocated in direct proportion to their overall grant score as determined by the CCVC panel.

*Hank Mason presented the subcommittee’s recommendations. In lieu of a separate multi-tier program, it is recommended that the percentage of total operating budget that organizations can request be increased for the first \$40,000 of budget from 15% to 20%. This will substantially increase the benefit to the smaller budget organizations and special programs that apply without the CCVC having to administer two different programs and having to estimate the size budget pool to allocate to each program.*

*It is further recommended that the maximum cap be increased from \$75,000 to \$85,000 for the five organizations whose budgets would likely limit them to the maximum award.*

*The subcommittee also recommends that the CCVC adopt a form of iteration scoring tying the grant allocation directly to the overall grant score. The methodology recommended is a modification of the State of Florida’s model which reduces iteration allocation down by a standard percentage after the first pass when re-computing to fit awards to the budget pool. This modification eliminates a double penalization to lower scoring organizations.*

*Finally, the committee recommends adoption of an optional three-year level funding program for organizations whose budgets are unlikely to change much and who are satisfied with their approved level of funding. By selecting this option, after the grant review, organizations who so desire can accept the same approved allocation for three consecutive years without having to resubmit a*

*grant application in the second and third year. Once an organization has selected this option, they cannot change until the three-year period lapses.*

*Only organizations that have previously received money under this grant, and have been in continuous operation for a minimum of five years, are eligible to select this option. Organizations selecting this option will still be required to supply an accountability statement at the end of each fiscal year of the grant.*

**MOTION** by Member Shallow, seconded by Member Wilson “***To accept the recommendation of the CCG Re-structure Subcommittee with regard to increasing the baseline budget percentage on the first \$40,000 from 15% to 20%, increasing the maximum cap from \$75,000 to \$85,000, adoption of a modified iteration scoring algorithm and establishment of an optional three-year level funding plan for qualified organizations.***”  
**Motion passed unanimously.**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Allocated time for the meeting having expired and two members having to leave that would result in no quorum, Acting Chair Cobean adjourned the meeting with no additional business conducted at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted- Mike Fincher, Cultural Coordinator and Recording Secretary