

**CULTURAL COUNCIL of VOLUSIA COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**



November 22, 2019

MEETING TIME & PLACE:

9:00 a.m.

Arts on Douglas

New Smyrna Beach

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Barbara Bonarrigo

Mike Fincher, Chair

Tom Laputka

Nancy Maddox, Vice Chair

Mike Osowski

George Pappas

Sylvia Sabatini

STAFF:

Robert Redd, Cultural Coordinator

Dawn Thomas, Activity Project Manager

Michael Dyer, Assistant County Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lloyd Bowers

GUESTS:

John Wilton

Nancy Lowden Norman

Meghan Martin

Carol Anderson McLean

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Mr. Fincher called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken. Thanks were given to Nancy Lowden Norman and the Atlantic Center for the Arts for hosting. Ms. Martin gave a history and update about Arts on Douglas. Ms. Lowden Norman provided an update on the public art initiative happening in New Smyrna Beach. This initiative is being undertaken at the direction of the mayor and includes representatives from several local organizations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A) October 4, 2019 regular meeting.

Motion to approve: Mr. Pappas **Second:** Mr. Laputka
Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A) ECHO Gallery

The drone photography exhibit continues to be on display. A “call for artists” document has been created for the 2020 exhibit tentatively titled *Too Good to be Threw: Art from Recycled Materials*. This is to be put on the street in January. Ideas were discussed for four future exhibits. These are broadly written with one for each letter of ECHO. These will be brought to County Council for approval and then will be refined by the ECHO Gallery Committee. The goal is to have exhibit ideas that will run through 2024-25.

Dr. Wilton has resigned from the Cultural Council in order to participate in the Airport Call to Artists. The Cultural Council will need to vote and appoint a new member to the ECHO Gallery Committee. Mr. Fincher requested the item be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

B) License Plate Fund Report

Mr. Redd provided an updated financial report. The license plate fund balance as of November 15th was \$51,551.03. Recent awards have been approved for \$1,500 each for ArtHaus Foundation, Inc. and HUB on Canal. These awards will be reflected on the next report.

The new requirements for VCCA were discussed. They will be eligible to apply for up to \$2,500 per year.

C) Daytona Beach International Airport Art in Public Places

An update on the pieces to be deaccessioned was provided. The report will be presented to County Council on December 10 for approval.

Pieces that will no longer be in the Airport collection will be put to public auction. This will allow the widest possible audience to bid and acquire the sculptures. It is believed the auction company will provide promotional efforts.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Community Cultural Grant application review

Updates suggested at the October meeting have been incorporated.

Motion to approve: Mr. Osowski **Second:** Ms. Maddox
Motion passed unanimously.

B) 2020 Meeting Location ideas

Suggestions for meetings were provided and discussed. It was agreed that locations provided will work well and staff was instructed to complete the yearly schedule.

C) Member Updates

Thanks were given to Dr. Wilton for his years of service to the Cultural Council.

The appointment for the open position will be made by Ben Johnson. The applicant will be a West Side at-large appointment. The application is available on the county website.

VCCA REPORT:

Stephanie Mason-Teague gave the VCCA report. She thanked the Cultural Council for their approval of up to \$2,500 in license plate grant funding. She mentioned several workshop ideas that are being discussed for local organizations.

Lowell and Nancy Lohman will be the Tippen Davidson award recipients. Nancy Long and Barbara Perotti are co-recipients for the Brady-Coolidge award. The annual dinner will be February 27 at the Hard Rock Hotel.

Mr. Fincher suggested that VCCA could host a grant writing workshop specifically geared toward the Community Cultural Grant and the state operating grant.

Ms. Maddox brought forward the issue of judging/scoring at the state level. Local participation is needed in the process. A discussion on the process was held. Grant review is done through conference calls and there is little chance to interact.

A listing of Community Cultural Grant applicants who have applied for state operating funds was provided to Council. Carol Anderson-McLean (Atlantic Center for the Arts) was congratulated for having the highest score from Volusia applicants.

Ms. Mason-Teague discussed the importance of engaging with our local Representatives and Senators. It is important to meet them locally, when they are home. It is important to invite them to events and show the importance of the arts to our communities. Publicly recognizing their support is important.

MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Wilton wanted to say his goodbyes to the group. Dr. Wilton asked if VCCA can add the Cultural Council meeting to their calendar. He expressed concern over the process for removing the Lin Emery piece from the public. He would have preferred finding a buyer specifically for it. He did express that he has heard of interest from several potential bidders. He hopes the

sculpture will stay locally. He finished with a reminder that the DeLand Fall Festival of the Arts is scheduled for that weekend and invited everybody to attend.

NEXT MEETING:

The next CCVC meeting will take place on Friday, January 24, 2020, 9 a.m. at Commemorative Air Force, Florida Wing at the DeLand Municipal Airport.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business before the board, Mr. Fincher called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Second:

Meeting adjourned at: 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on January 24, 2020 by Robert Redd, Cultural Coordinator, County of Volusia.