

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



March 26, 2021

MEETING TIME & PLACE:

9:00 a.m.

County Council Chambers
123 W. Indiana Avenue

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Barbara Bonarrigo
Lloyd Bowers
Mike Fincher, Chair
Tariq Gibran
Nancy Maddox
George Pappas
Sylvia Sabatini

STAFF:

Robert Redd, Cultural Coordinator
Sebrina Slack, Assistant County Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tom Laputka
Mike Osowski

GUESTS:

Bryce Hammond-VCCA

Heather Paternoster-VCCA

Julia Bussinger-Ormond Beach Historical Society

Erlene Turner-Ormond Beach Historical Society

Kendra Lott-Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Mr. Fincher called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was announced as present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A) January 22, 2021 minutes

Motion to approve: Ms. Maddox

Second: Ms. Sabatini

Motion passed unanimously

OLD BUSINESS:

A) Daytona Beach International Airport Art in Public Places

County Council approved selections made by the Art Selection Committee during their March 16 meeting. All artists have been notified and contracts are being completed.

There will be funds left over after the purchases are finalized. The Art Selection Committee will reconvene after a final budget is determined to create a new Call to Artists document in order to secure a sculptural piece.

No approval needed.

B) ECHO GALLERY

Council members were provided with a press release about the Call to Artists for the next ECHO Gallery exhibit; titled Naturally Volusia. As of the meeting date three artists had submitted work for consideration.

C) License Plate mini-grant report

An exact fund balance was not available. It is estimated that the fund has approximately \$58,000. Ormond Beach Historical Society and Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach have received staff approval for \$3,000 grants. Representatives from OBHS were on hand and had prepared an in depth report on their use of funds. Their exhibit and education program is titled *Stitching Lives Together: Stories and Symbols of Freedom*. A representative from Little Theatre discussed their upcoming summer camps and the use of grant funds. The discussion covered the value of theatre work in preparation for many careers.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Item removed from agenda per advice from Legal staff. This item will be placed on the June meeting agenda once a new Council is appointed.

B) Arts District DeLand website

Information was provided about a new website that is relevant to Cultural Council. The site url is www.artsdistrictdeland.com.

This site contains listings of venues and programs associated with various arts themes: visual, culinary, performance, architecture, and education.

C) VCCA Mini Grant Application Review and Vote

This application must be reviewed as it is outside of staff approval guidelines in terms of amount and number of awards for the same event. In addition, this application was submitted such that Council could not review it until after the event occurred. Ms. Slack reminded Council that the license plate fund is auditable by the state. The event is outside of local guidelines (three-year limit) and possibly outside of state guidelines (administrative expense including food and beverage). Mr. Pappas agreed that Cultural Council needed to be cognizant of audit procedures. Mr. Fincher asked whether County Council would still approve this application. Mr. Redd stated that these awards are not taken to Council for approval per County Manager's office direction.

Mr. Fincher addressed the idea of amending guidelines to include exceptional circumstances. Ms. Slack recommended that Cultural Council revisit the guidelines, including dollar amounts available.

Mr. Hammond spoke on behalf of VCCA. This event helped show that despite COVID-19 the arts are alive in Volusia County. He highlighted how the license plate program was supported during the event.

Ms. Patternoster discussed the importance of honoring contributors to the arts. She discussed how the event was able to provide engagement while also providing for social

distancing. The value of in-kind services was highlighted as part of the community support VCCA received.

Mr. Fincher discussed the actual intent of the application and that governmental organizations should be flexible toward such. He believes Cultural Council should support VCCA.

Mr. Pappas asked VCCA representatives why the application was submitted late. Ms. Paternoster explained that VCCA was unsure if the event could proceed and at what cost. Ms. Slack clarified that Council approvals should be made in advance of events no matter when the application is submitted. Ms. Bonarrigo asked if a motion including exception could be made. Ms. Slack stated that the motion should be highly specific.

Motion by Ms. Maddox—Move to approve for \$2,500, half of the requested amount, removing the \$2,500 request for food and beverage. This motion was stated to allow for exceptional circumstances due to COVID-19 and uncertainty as to whether the event would be held.

Second—Mr. Bowers

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Slack thanked VCCA for their participation. This application will allow Cultural Council to improve upon processes and make improvements to the program.

VCCA REPORT:

Gateway Center for the Arts will be exhibiting Volusia Students Create exhibition. There will be 167 pieces on exhibit.

Mr. Hammond has a show at the Museum of Art DeLand.

MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:

Mr. Gibran noted that Cultural Council needed to be able to adapt as times change, particularly in the mini-grant program.

Mr. Bowers and Mr. Pappas asked for a copy of the state statute regarding specialty plate funds usage.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

NEXT MEETING:

The next CCVC meeting will take place on June 18, 2021 at the Shores Community Center, 3000 Bellemead Drive, 2nd Floor, Daytona Beach Shores.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion: Second:

Meeting adjourned at:10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on June 18, 2021 by Robert Redd, Cultural Coordinator, County of Volusia.