

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



**June 18, 2021**

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**MEETING TIME & PLACE:**

9:00 a.m.

Daytona Beach Shores Community Center 2<sup>nd</sup> FL  
3000 Bellemead Avenue  
Daytona Beach Shores, FL

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lloyd Bowers  
Mike Fincher, Chair  
Tariq Gibran  
Tom Laputka  
Dr. Andrei Ludu  
Nancy Maddox, Vice Chair  
George Pappas

**STAFF:**

Robert Redd, Cultural Coordinator  
Sebrina Slack, Assistant County Attorney  
Andrea Kerr, Assistant County Attorney

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tom Roberts

## **GUESTS:**

## **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.

Mr. Fincher thanks Ms. Maddox for providing meeting space. Mr. Fincher welcomed new assistant county attorney Andrea Kerr and council member Dr. Andrei Ludu. Both members introduced themselves.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

### **A) March 26, 2021 minutes**

Motion to approve: Mr. Bowers

Second: Mr. Pappas

Motion passed unanimously

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **A) Daytona Beach International Airport Art in Public Places**

Contracts have been sent to all artists. Airport staff has been provided with artist information in order to arrange payment. Artists will be delivering work to the airport at a mutually convenient time.

Mr. Fincher asked about commissioned pieces. Only one piece is a commission.

Ms. Maddox suggested holding the November meeting at the airport if art has been installed.

A sculptural piece is still to be commissioned. A proposed budget will be approximately \$30,000. Mr. Redd asked Council to brainstorm names of any artists they may know who work in the field of sculpture.

## **B) ECHO GALLERY**

Council members were provided two documents outlining the pieces selected for the upcoming exhibit. The pieces selected were submitted as a pre-curated exhibit. Art is to be delivered to the Ocean Center at the end of June.

Mr. Redd commented on the professional level of this proposal.

Information on an opening event will be provided to Council members once set.

Mr. Laputka, a member of the selection committee, commented upon the quality of applicants. He also mentioned the location of the gallery area and hope that it could be in a higher traffic area. Mr. Pappas asked about public access to the gallery. The gallery is open to the public and new signage has been placed. Ocean Center staff has been directed to allow members of the public to access the gallery area depending upon events schedules. Mr. Pappas asked about visitation numbers. The Ocean Center is unable to determine that and can only provide overall Ocean Center attendance.

### **C) License Plate mini-grant report**

The fund started the fiscal year with slightly over \$58,000. Efforts have been made to publicize the opportunity. Revenues for the year are approximately \$6,800 and expenses year to date are \$14,500. The current balance is approximately \$51,000.

Two organizations were on hand to present their already approved applications. Copies of applications have been provided to Council.

Mr. Fincher reminded applicants that expenses related to the grant must be removed from the Community Cultural Grant.

Art League of Daytona Beach—Eileen Long discussed the Sunday with the Artist program. This will be a yearlong program with one artist per month. Events will be filmed and shared on their website. Mr. Bowers commented on the excellent action plan that is part of the application.

Southeast Volusia Historical Society—Greg Holbrook discussed a new historic preservation award program that SVHS is developing with input from the public. He discussed how this program is separate and different from other local historic preservation awards. Education is a key component of this initiative. The first year award announcement is to be made in early 2022. Mr. Fincher asked about the possibility of collaborating with IMAGES Tour of Homes. Mr. Holbrook stated that at this time they are working individually. Ms. Maddox suggested that local winners be considered for state level awards.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A) Sunshine Law and Roberts Rules of Order**

Ms. Slack provided a presentation and review of Florida Sunshine Laws. As a public board, we are required to hold meetings in the sunshine. Meetings are to be open to the public. Meetings must be noticed. Meeting minutes must be taken. Meetings mean any gathering of two or more members where board business is discussed. This includes phone conversations, text messages, etc. Staff may be consulted but not used as a go-between. Records created as a part of the Council are public record. Creation of records vs. copies was discussed. Personal notes for private use only are not public. Public records requests may only be for existing documents. New documents are not to be created.

Roberts Rules of Order were not discussed.

Mr. Fincher asked about recusal during the Cultural Grant process. Ms. Slack stated that employees or those substantially involved with an organization should recuse themselves. If a member is on an organization board that can be disclosed. As long as you are not benefitting you may still possibly serve. If members recuse themselves, they may or may not leave the room based upon personal choice.

### **B) Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Mr. Fincher called for nominations for Chair.

Mr. Laputka nominated Ms. Maddox for Chair.

Mr. Bowers seconded the motion. Mr. Bowers discussed her background and qualifications.

Ms. Maddox was elected unanimously.

Mr. Fincher called for nominations for Vice Chair.

Mr. Bowers nominated Mr. Pappas for Vice Chair.

Ms. Maddox seconded the nomination.

Mr. Pappas was elected unanimously.

**C) Community Cultural Grant update for 2021/2022**

For the current cycle, there are 30 applicants in comparison to 32 last year. Both non-returning applicants are festival based and were impacted due to COVID.

For the current FY, requests are \$764,857 as opposed to \$849,700 LY.

Four organizations are requesting more, 17 are requesting less, and 9 are within \$1,000. Anticipation is that next year will also show COVID related impacts.

A budget request of \$611,758 is being submitted to County Council.

Ms. Slack addressed the issue of Amendment 10 and how it could influence the County budget as a whole.

**D)Information on a new local theatre group**

Information was provided to Council on a group with the name Halifax Repertory Theatre that is new in the county. Little is known about the group as of the meeting date. The organization reached out to the county requesting assistance with startup funds.

**VCCA REPORT:**

None

**MEMBER/STAFF ITEMS:**

Mr. Fincher thanked the Council for their support and willingness to allow him to serve as Chair. Ms. Maddox thanked Mr. Fincher for his service as Cultural Council chair.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next CCVC meeting will take place on July 23, 2021 in DeLand at County Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**Motion: Second:**

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on September 24, 2021 by Robert Redd,  
Cultural Coordinator, County of Volusia.