

**CULTURAL COUNCIL of VOLUSIA COUNTY**  
**2005/06 COMMUNITY CULTURAL GRANT REVIEW SESSION**  
**JUNE 3, 2005**  
**8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

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**MEMBERS:**

**Donna Sue Sanders, Chair**  
**Tippen Davidson, Vice Chair**  
**Bob Dahlen**  
**Bill Dreggors**  
**Steven Hardock**  
**Tim Ludwig**  
**Paul Politis**  
**Christina Shallow**  
**Sandra Wilson**

**MEETING PLACE:**

**County Council Chambers**  
**Thomas C. Kelly Admin. Bldg.**  
**123 W. Indiana Ave.**  
**DeLand, FL**

**Staff: Nancy Maddox, Mike Fincher**

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

Chair Sanders called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. Roll was called with all members answering present.

**II. GRANT SCORING PROCEDURES**

1. Nancy Maddox asked the Council if they wished to drop the high and low score from the panel's cumulative total for each applicant prior to calculating the applicant's average score. This will help smooth the curve and not have any applicant's average score unfairly affected by an extremely high or low single score. **MOTION** by Vice Chair Davidson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Politis to ***“Remove the highest & lowest individual score from the panel's cumulative total prior to calculating applicant's average score.”*** Motion passed unanimously.
2. Chair Sanders brought up an item which had been discussed in the grant workshop about the possibility of providing some form of bonus credit or scoring consideration to large organizations who demonstrate that they provide “mentoring” to smaller organizations to help them with development. It was the opinion of the Council that the organizations had not been adequately notified of this idea and that it was premature for this year. It was agreed to table this and bring it up for discussion prior to next year's workshops.

**III. GRANT REVIEW**

The following organizations were represented and participated in the review of their CCG application. Each representative was given the opportunity to provide a brief update on their organization's activities since the time of application submission and then to respond to CCVC member's questions:

African-American Museum of the Arts  
Art League of Daytona Beach  
Arthaus Foundation  
Atlantic Center for the Arts  
Black Heritage Festival  
Central Florida Cultural Endeavors  
Daytona Beach Choral Society  
Daytona Beach Symphony Society  
DeBary Art League  
DeLand Museum of Art  
DeLand Naval Air Museum  
Friends of the Bandshell  
Halifax Historical Museum  
Iranian American Society  
Little Theater of New Smyrna Beach  
Museum of Arts & Sciences  
Ormond Beach Historical Trust  
Ormond Beach Memorial Museum & Gardens  
Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts  
Port Orange Community Trust  
Sands Theater Center  
Seaside Music Theater  
Southeast Volusia Historical Society  
Very Special Arts Volusia  
West Volusia Historical Society

It was discovered during the S.E. Volusia Historical Society's update presentation that they had not submitted a Certified Financial Compilation Report as required by the Grant Application for organizations with budgets under \$500,000. **MOTION** by Vice Chair Davidson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Ludwig, **"To remove S.E. Volusia Historical Society from further consideration for failure to comply with the terms of the grant application."**

Motion passed unanimously.

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Upon subsequent review of all of the organization's applications, it was discovered that six other organizations were not in technical compliance with the financial reporting requirement. They were; Daytona Beach Art League, Friends of the Bandshell, Halifax Historical Museum, Ormond Beach Historical Trust, Port Orange Community Trust and VSA-Volusia. This resulted in significant debate among members of the CCVC. Numerous suggestions were made as to ways to mitigate the problem without rejection. Various forms of penalties were considered.

**MOTION** made by Member Politis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Chair Davidson, *"To allow all non-conforming applicants, including S.E. Volusia Historical Society, to be considered for funding, subject to penalty"* Motion passed 8 to 1.

Prior to deciding on penalties, input from the applicant organizations and the public was solicited. During these discussions, the details of the compliance failures were discussed and it was determined that, in the case of several of the organizations, the non-compliances were minor omissions of proper cover letters, or available documents had simply not been included. At this time Chair Sanders asked Staff to obtain an opinion from the County Attorney's office as to what legal options the Council might have. The meeting was briefly recessed in order to obtain input from the County Attorney's office.

The meeting was called back to order and Ms. Jamie Seaman from the County Attorney's office advised the Council that they had the authority to amend the requirements to allow or disallow applicants with or without penalty.

During this review by Counsel, another technical non-compliance issue was discovered involving VSA-Volusia. VSA-Volusia is not a separate 501(c)3 with a board of directors having members from Volusia County. It is administered locally by Easter Seals, but is a subsidiary organization of Very Special Arts Florida. This is the same structure that has been in place for all the years that they have received funds from this grant. Ms. Seaman advised that the Council could "grandfather" this organization in for this year and give them time to restructure, in order to comply in the future. The Council decided to deal with this after deciding what to do with the other non-complying organizations.

After much discussion and input from the organizations and public a **MOTION** was made by Member Politis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Chair Davidson, *"To allow all applicants that had incomplete financial documentation 30 days to submit necessary paper work. If not able to comply in that time, their allocation would be negated and the monies returned to the pool to be re-distributed among the complying applicants."* Motion passed unanimously.

Further discussions resulted in two organizations withdrawing from consideration, Friends of the Bandshell and Port Orange Community Trust. These two organizations said that the amount of potential award did not justify the expense required to meet compliance. In addition, further contact with the S.E. Historical Society indicated that they would not be able to comply in the time specified. **MOTION** by Member Politis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Ludwig, *"To remove Friends of the Bandshell, Port Orange Community Trust and, and S.E. Volusia Historical Society from further consideration and have their scores removed from the iteration mix."* Motion passed unanimously.

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The remaining non-complying organizations indicated that they would have no problem complying immediately. For this reason a **REVISED MOTION** was made by Member Politis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Ludwig, *“To require remaining three non-complying organizations; Daytona Beach Art League, Halifax Historical Trust, and Ormond Beach Historical Trust 10 days to submit necessary paper work. If not able to comply in that time, their allocation would be negated and the monies returned to the pool to be re-distributed among the complying applicants.”* Motion passed unanimously.

The issue of VSA-Volusia was then re-considered and discussed. It was the opinion of the Council and those speaking on this issue, that the corporate identity is a technical issue that needs to be addressed by the organization’s state headquarters. It was discussed that they should have to show financial report compliance, using the state headquarters audit, but their eligibility should be “grandfathered” in for this year with a goal to have a separate Volusia County based 501(c)3 organization set up by the time they apply for next year’s grant. **MOTION** by Member Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Hardock, *“ To “grandfather” VSA-Volusia in as an eligible applicant for this year and to allow them 30 days to obtain necessary financial compliance documentation based on the state organizations audit.”* Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS**

See attached allocation spreadsheet for recommend award amounts.

**V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Several member from the various organizations and the public spoke for and against allowing exceptions to the defined application requirements. Gary Libby, speaking on behalf of the Museum of Arts and Sciences expressed concerns that because the scores seemed to be grouped to the center of the scale, that the allocations did not accurately distribute funds fairly with larger organizations being the ones most penalized as a result, and asked the Council to consider this next year when scoring. He recommended that the Council might wish to consider a ranking system as opposed to empirical scoring. He offered to work with Staff on setting up a different distribution method.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no additional business, Chair Sanders adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Fincher, Recording Secretary & Cultural Coordinator