



MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, 18 August 2020, Online

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kjel Alkire, John Becker, Laura Helle, Kara Maloney, Elisha Marin, Drew Medin, Jon Swanson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Andrea Arnold, Diane Crane

STAFF PRESENT: Robin Pearson, Karen Miller

9:06am Mr. Medin, Board Treasurer, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Alkire moved and Mr. Becker seconded approval of this meeting's agenda, as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Becker moved and Mr. Alkire seconded approval of the minutes from the 21 July 2020 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

- August 14, 2020, officially received notice that the reduction to the Legacy funds will be 14.02%. SEMAC will receive the remaining 50% of our allotment after the MSAB October board meeting. Distribution dates of the remaining funds are unknown at this time. Distribution of the initial 50% funds: 7/20/20, 9/20/20, 11/20/20, and 1/20/21. The General fund remains unknown.
- As reported last meeting, SEMAC received a check for \$18,231 as a share of a Minnesota Disaster Relief Fund grant of \$250,000 awarded to the FRACM. \$50,000 of this grant will be used by the FRACM for a statewide training program with remaining \$200,000 allotted via the standard FRACM funding formula.

Old Business

Changes to Grant Programs for FY2021 – note that these are considered temporary and for this fiscal year only.

- Propose opening a Pandemic Relief Grant for Artists as quickly as possible using FY2020 funds until funding is exhausted. Use of FY2020 monies was approved by the legislature to assist artists with expenses due to loss of income and MSAB amended contract accordingly. Flexibility is not included in the current contract.

Mr. Alkire moved and Mr. Swanson seconded the motion to approve \$1,500 Pandemic Relief Grants for Individual Artists to be offered this fall. Motion passed unanimously.

- Temporarily lower the award ceiling to \$3,000 with February 1, 2021 application deadline for artist project grants, using both McKnight and Legacy monies as needed. Artists cannot receive both the \$1,500 relief and a \$3,000 project grant.
- School Residency program suspended for FY 2021.
- Eligibility for non-arts groups with the exception of those that are culture bearers that provide cultural services to BIPOC communities has been suspended for FY2021.
- Move the October 1 application deadline to November 1 for arts organizations only with a lowered ceiling on ACHF grants to \$6k. Presenter/Production Assistance and Small Towns/Rural Areas remain at \$3,000. Matches will not be required. The feasibility of an April deadline remains unknown.
- Arts organizations are limited to one SEMAC project grant per year. Grantees with outstanding and/or rescheduled projects cannot apply until those projects have been completed.
- Commitment for Year 2 General Operating Support in FY2021. Payments will begin in September.

New Business

- Board and Panel Candidates (résumés attached)
 - **Mr. Marin moved and Ms. Maloney seconded the appointment of Levi Livingood as the Dodge County representative to the SEMAC Board of Directors. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - **Mr. Marin moved and Mr. Becker seconded the appointment of Julie Fakler as a visual arts panelist on the SEMAC Arts Advisory Panel. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - **Mr. Swanson moved and Mr. Becker seconded the appointment of Julianna Skluzacek as a theatre panelist on the SEMAC Arts Advisory Panel. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - **Mr. Marin moved and Mr. Becker seconded the appointment of Amarama Vercnocke as a visual arts panelist on the SEMAC Arts Advisory Panel. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Next Steps for Equity
 - Training of individual incoming board members
 - Committee to develop Diversity/Equity/Inclusion (DEI) Statement, Ms. Arnold, Ms. Helle, and Ms. Maloney, to spark ideas for recruiting a diverse panel
 - SEMAC will pay for attendance workshops/training webinars, etc.

Mr. Alkire moved and Mr. Swanson seconded the motion to adjourn.

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 9:40am.