



**Minutes**  
**Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville**  
**CSGP Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

**Committee Members Present:** Kenyon Merritt, Committee Chair, Diana Donovan, Ellen Williams, Sandra Hull-Richardson, David Faliszek, Ben Rubin

**Staff Members Present:** Joy Young, Amy Palmer, Megan Reid

**Committee Members Absent:** Anne Boccuzzi, Jannet Walker Ford, Truitte Morgan, Michael Boylan

**Guests:** Numa Saisselin, Jamie Kent, John Snyder

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### **Call to Order**

Chair Kenyon Merritt called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### **Florida Theatre & Theatreworks Merger**

Two Cultural Service Grantees -- Florida Theatre and Theatreworks have had a merger. Theatreworks' educational programming will continue under Florida Theatre. Numa Saisselin spoke to the benefits of the merger, which will add a long desired educational component to the Florida Theatre programming and will relieve Theatreworks of its operational and fundraising duties.

Amy Palmer spoke about the effect of the merger on the two organizations' 2019-2020 Cultural Service Grants. Theatreworks operated normally for the first quarter of the grant period, but the merger became official in late December. Following consultation with Florida Theatre and Theatreworks as well as city staff, Cultural Council staff recommends that the remainder of Theatreworks' 2019-2020 grant award be reallocated to Florida Theatre. The Theatreworks programming objectives will continue to be the same as in its grant application and will be monitored throughout the grant period. Grant expenditures will continue to go to Theatreworks staff, who are now employed by the Florida Theatre. John Snyder with the city's grants and compliance office spoke to the approval from the city and the plan of action for administering the affected Cultural Service Grants in light of the merger. The committee asked questions and discussed the merger and grants compliance.

Diana Donovan made a motion to recommend the reallocation of the remainder of Theatreworks' grant award to Florida Theatre, providing for the same program objectives and expenditures, to the board of directors for its final approval. David Faliszek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The committee's recommendation will now go before the Cultural Council Board of Directors at its March 5 meeting.

### **2020-2021 - CSGP Timeline**

Amy reviewed the 2020-2021 CSGP timeline and noted that the Letter of Intent is currently open with a deadline of March 4. Cultural Service PROGRAM Grant applicants will be eligible to

submit applications, as their 2019-2020 applications fulfilled the LOI eligibility requirements. A discussion followed about the CSGP disqualifiers for smaller organizations.

### **CSGP Committee Appointments and Reappointments**

Kenyon spoke to the action needed for appointments and reappointments to the CSGP Committee.

### **2019-2020 Cultural Service PROGRAM Grant**

Joy Young spoke about the pilot program grant to serve more organizations. She spoke to the restrictive ordinance disqualifying smaller organizations. The executive director announced that she has spoken with City Council members to consider adapting the ordinance to create more opportunities to serve more organizations. There are other city grant programs that could serve as models. In the discussion that followed, Diana Donovan recommended having this discussion with Council Member Hazouri.

Amy described the program grant process, reviewing the guidelines and application form for the pilot program grant as well as hearing procedures. The summary of applicants were reviewed, with explanations of the eligible and ineligible applicants. In the Foundant online grants system, scoring and bonus criteria were explained.

Excess funding distribution was discussed, as there are not enough eligible applicants to encumber the \$25,000 set aside for the grants. The committee seemed to have consensus around either granting more funds for each program grant (if the applicants' budgets could support the additional funds) or regranteeing the remainder to all of the Cultural Service Grantees. Following the published guidelines for CSGP and the pilot program grant as closely as possible was the desired outcome. A motion for recommendation is needed on April 1, 2020, when the hearings will take place. The hearings are required and will provide a learning opportunity for the applicants.

### **Important Program Grant Dates to Remember**

Program scoring deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The Cultural Service PROGRAM Grant Hearing is April 1, 2020 from 9 a.m. - noon in the Davis Gallery of the Times Union Center for the Performing Arts. The approval of the grant awards recommended by the CSGP Committee by the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville Board of Directors will be from 2 - 4 p.m., Thursday, April 16 in the Don Davis Room in Jacksonville City Hall.

### **2020-2021 Cultural Service Grant Program**

Joy described the soft advocacy from the Cultural Service Grantees to City Council and the Mayor's office. She also spoke about the possibility of offering a capital grant program through CSGP for 2020-2021 specifically for proposals that would help provide access to people with disabilities.

### **Public Comment**

No comment was made.

### **Closing**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.