

Harford County Cultural Arts Board

Edgewood Public Library

Monday, June 26, 2023

Present: Chuck Bowden (Chairperson), Jessica Cleaver (Coordinator), Gigi Devaney (virtual), Karen Heppen (virtual), Sierra Keys, Peter McCallum (virtual), Christina McLoughlin, Heidi Neff Chuffo, and Angie Sokolov.

Absent: Chris Depkin, Bill Rothenbach, and Erin Whipple. Jessica Boyle-Tsottles, who represents the Harford County Council, also was absent.

- The meeting was brought to order by Chuck Bowden at 6:27 p.m..
- The consent agenda was addressed and it consisted of the following three items—the May 1, 2023 meeting minutes, updates/reports, and the most current financial summary. Peter McCallum moved to approve these items and Angie Sokolov provided the second. The consent agenda items were approved unanimously.
- Jessica Cleaver reported that the state allocation to the Harford County Cultural Arts Board for F24 exceeds what was received in FY23 by \$10,516.00 for a total of \$208,902.00
- Jessica Cleaver stated that there is \$9,844.00 remaining in the Community Arts Development grants budget. The Board expressed a desire to use these funds for grant recipients to participate in workshops, marketing services, and other appropriate grant-related activities/initiatives. Heidi Neff Chuffo made a motion to this effect and Angie Sokolov provided the second. This motion passed unanimously.
- Jessica Cleaver collaborated with the grant review teams to present their respective funding recommendations for both the Community Arts Development and General Operating FY 24 grant requests. It was recommended by the Blue Team not to fund the Soul Minds USA grant proposal after repeated requests to ensure that a mental health professional be involved in some capacity with this project did not result in a satisfactory response. Christina McLoughlin made a motion to not fund Soul Minds USA for FY 24 and Sierra Keys provided the second. This motion was approved unanimously. After every other grant request was presented by each review team and discussed by the Board, a motion was made to approve all of them. Peter McCallum made a motion to this effect and Christina McLoughlin provided the second. This motion was passed unanimously.
- The Board conducted an exploratory discussion to determine whether to participate in either the GBCA or MANO organizations. After considerable discussion, the Board agreed by consensus to defer participating in either of the aforementioned organizations in order to spend more time researching whether the benefits of membership are worth the cost.

- The Board deliberated how to label the cash reserves of \$156,116.00. The Board agreed by consensus to use the following designation for the cash reserves: “Harford County Cultural Arts Board Arts Programming Grants Reserve Funds.”
- Due to time limitations, all items under the Programming portion of this meeting agenda were deferred to the August 7, 2023 Board meeting.
- The next meeting of the Harford County Cultural Arts Board will be held on August 7, 2023 T 6:00 p.m.. The meeting site is to be determined.
- The meeting was formally concluded at 7:38 p.m. by Chuck Bowden.