LSAC Minutes for Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Council Members Present: Mary Lee, Patrick Widhalm, Patti Nelson, Gene Meneray, Virginia Berthelot, Dirk Guidry, Conni Castille, Joy Pace, Adam Holland, Margie Camardelle, Sheela Plater, Darden Gladney, Henry Price


LDOA and OCD Staff Present: Cheryl Castille, Danny Belanger, Scott Finch, April Baham, Erica Anderson, Carrie Broussard.

Guests: Pam Atchison-SRAC, Robin Jones-LPA

I. Call to Order and Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Chair Mary Lee. Mary Lee introduced:
   • Henry Price, New LSAC Board Member representing Region 7.
   • Darden Gladney, New LSAC Board Member representing Region 7.
   • Pam Atchison, Executive Director – Shreveport Regional Arts Council
   • Robin Jones, Chair – Louisiana Partnership for the Arts and Executive Director, Bossier Arts Council
   • Carrie Broussard – new Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Cultural Development.
   • Erica Anderson – new Director of LDOA Grants Programs

II. Approval of Minutes: Mayor Holland motioned to approve. Joy 2nd. Motion passed. *Henry Price asked that we make sure we are following the Roberts Rules of Order when asking for approval of the minutes or any other item that needs the Council’s approval.

III. LSAC Chair Report: Mary Lee welcomed everyone.
   - Addressing the needs of the underserved – Gene Meneray provided an update on potential programming focused on arts and the Incarcerated as well as individuals participating in re-entry programs. The California Lawyers for the Arts association applied for a grant through the Art for Justice Fund along with a consortium of other states including Louisiana.
   Additional Comments regarding this initiative:
   - Mary and Gene indicated we will need to identify which parish/es and sheriff/s would be interested.
   - If the funding is obtained, we could look at a potential 3 pilot projects – we need to identify who the providers are and what will they provide.
   - Additional funds will need to be secured to sustain the programs developed.
   - Gene indicated that the State has funds that they have saved from situations such as early release. Can this initiative tap into these funds?
- This initiative needs to have a statewide focus.
- Margie mentioned that the Newcomb Museum of Arts has a current exhibit focused on incarcerated women. This could be a potential partner.
- Joy asked if the art involved would be 2-dimensional. Gene indicated the art element is multidisciplinary.
- Adam suggested that we should get in touch with the Louisiana Sheriff’s Association.
- Conni requested talking points to start fact finding.
- Gene indicated that the state of California is working at a grassroots level to rebuild a program that was zeroed out through their legislature.
- Pat suggested that formerly incarcerated artists become involved in the initiative as way back into the arts and potentially to be able to benefit financially from these programs as well as potentially being trained as teaching artists.
- Gene recommended that individuals check out Norris Henderson and the Voice of the Experienced organization.

IV. Assistant Secretary Report:
- Carrie Broussard, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Cultural Development, that HB 83 was being heard on the House Floor today. It asks for an extension of our State Historic Tax Credit through 2026. This House Bill affects both Historic Preservation’s Tax Credit Program as well as LDOA’s Cultural District Program.

V. LDOA Director’s Report:
- Cheryl updated the council on our NEA FY20 funding. LDOA’s Arts in Education, Poetry Out Loud and Folklife program funding remained the same as FY19. We did however see an increase of $7,100 in the overall total for general use.

**NEA FY 20 Grant Award: $752,600** which consists of the following components:
- $592,700 for Plan, which includes $17,500 for Poetry Out Loud
- $29,400 for Art in Education
- $107,500 for Underserved Communities (distributed through our grants programs)
- $23,000 for Folk Arts Partnership
- Updated LSAC Meeting Schedule
  - July 23, 2019 – Baton Rouge
  - September 23, 2019 – St. Tammany Region 9 – St. Tammany Parish Hospital

VI. Public Comment
   No comment.

VII. Meeting Adjournment
    Adam motioned to adjourn the meeting. Joy 2nd the motion. Motion passed.
    Pam Atchison and Henry Price provided a tour of Art Break – student art expo.

    **Next LSAC Meeting:** Tuesday, July 23 @ 11am, Location TBD in Baton Rouge.