

Alachua County Arts Council

March 1, 2021

Members Present

Sara Ann Bracero* (alternate)
Iryna Kanishcheva
Christine Larsen*
Queenchiku Ngozi
David Ruiz – Vice-Chair
Carol Velasques Richardson – Chair
*Virtual Attendee

Members Absent

Meghan Beitiks
Chelsea Carnes

Staff Present

Leira Cruz Caliz - Procurement
Gina Peebles
Mark Sexton – Communications
Cindy Sanders – UF/IFAS Extension

Call to Order

The hybrid meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

MOTION: Christine Larson made a motion to approve the agenda and November 2, 2020; December 7, 2020; January 4, 2021 and February 1, 2021 minutes as presented; Queenchiku Ngozi seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

Call to Artist Ranking

Extension Services Office and Ag & Equestrian Center – Leira Cruz Caliz explained that CodaWorx caused confusion and recommended that scoring be done manually (and in pencil) for ranking at the April 5 meeting. **MOTION:** Iryna Kanishcheva made a motion to postpone the scoring until the April 5 meeting; Queenchiku Ngozi seconded; motion carried.

Call to Artist Submittal Distribution / Review

West Lawn – Leira Cruz Caliz explained the scoring process. Ranking will be discussed at our Apr. 5 meeting.

“Alachua County Talks” with Focus on the Arts and Arts Council Facebook Page Discussion

Mark Sexton was receptive to filming Arts related episode(s) of “Alachua County Talks” (a 28 minute interview show) as the County invests in the Arts through our Destination Enhancement grants.

Currently, no advisory boards have Facebook pages as information can be shared with the public through our County social media sites, which have approximately 100,000 followers. These sites are archived for public records purposes. If there is Arts related content / events to be publicized, please email Gina Peebles a photo and brief write up (or information from the originating source that can easily be shared on social media) and it will be forwarded to Communications and/or *Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL* to help spread the word. It is important that members remember not to engage in any comments/posts with each other to avoid potential Sunshine Law violations.

County-Wide Cultural Affairs Update

City of Alachua – Elliot Harris – This item will be postponed until our Apr. 5 meeting.

“Our Town” Grant for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Artists Discussion – Paul Gabbard

Mr. Gabbard presented his idea for a joint Y-Not Theatre and Alachua County National Endowment for the Arts grant application. Mark Sexton suggested that this program be submitted for a *Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL* Destination Enhancement grant. **MOTION:** Queenchiku Ngozi made a motion to provide a non-monetary letter of support for the concept and recommend Mr. Gabbard apply for a Destination Enhancement Grant when available; Iryna Kanishcheva seconded; motion carried.

Strategic Plan Approval

MOTION: David Ruiz made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan as presented; Queenchiku Ngozi seconded; motion carried.

\$250 Million Arts Funding Ideas Discussion

MOTION: Iryna Kanishcheva made a motion to develop a Call for Stories to create a monument for people in the community; Queenchiku Ngozi seconded; motion carried.

Public Comment

Poet Laureate, E. Stanley Richardson, announced that the 7th Annual Art Speaks - Courageous Young Voices will be held on Mar. 7 at 4 p.m. at the Historic Thomas Center. It will be recorded by the City and aired at a later date.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The Alachua County Arts Council will meet next on April 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the Grace Knight Conference Room and via Zoom.