

**OHIO ARTS COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 19, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by board Chair Jeff Rich at 10:14 a.m. in the offices of the Ohio Arts Council (OAC) in Columbus. Committee members in attendance: Jeff Rich, chair; Jane Foulk, secretary; Robb Hankins; Monica Kridler. Absent: Ginger Warner, vice chair; Sharon Howard. Staff attending: Julie Henahan, Missy Ricksecker, Dia Foley, Dan Katona, Jim Szekacs, Chiquita Mullins Lee, and Elizabeth Weinstein. Also in attendance: Donna Collins, executive director, Ohio Citizens for the Arts.

OAC Quarterly Budget Report and FY 2014-2015 Budget Update

Executive Director Julie Henahan summarized the quarterly budget report, which showed third-quarter expenditures of \$808,400. She then provided an update on the FY 2014-2015 budget, which now includes the final federal grant amount for the upcoming year (\$949,700).

Responding to committee member Robb Hankins, Ms. Henahan noted the final federal grant was slightly higher than expected and represented a 6% increase from last year.

Constituent Satisfaction Report

Program Coordinator Jim Szekacs summarized the constituent satisfaction survey results from FY 2013 grantees. He noted the survey is voluntary as a part of the grantees' final report and had an 86% response rate. The survey is not yet wholly anonymous, but Mr. Szekacs recognized the board's previously expressed desire to have an anonymous survey and informed the committee that it would be possible once the new online grants system is operational. Mr. Szekacs continued that the survey results for sections covering programs and services from the agency were good, similar to last year, and showed general satisfaction from grantees. Ms. Henahan added that the survey is useful for tracking trends and issues grantees may have. The committee also weighed the concept of a virtual suggestion box to collect anonymous feedback.

Poetry Out Loud Report

Arts Learning Program Coordinator Chiquita Mullins Lee gave a brief overview of *Poetry Out Loud* (POL). Centennial High School student Lake Wilburn won the Ohio finals in March - his second time placing. After receiving poetry recitation coaching, Mr. Wilburn ultimately placed second at the national competition in Washington, D.C., earning a \$10,000 prize. He also had the opportunity to meet United States Representative Joyce Beatty. Ms. Mullins Lee reminded the committee of Ohio's exceptional track record with POL and past Ohio winners.

Agency Communications Report

Public Information Office (PIO) Director Elizabeth Weinstein provided an update on agency communications. She said more than 800 people attended the sold out Governor's Awards for the Arts event on May 21, 2014, and the *ArtsinOhio.com Travel Planner* and *2015 Festival Directory* will be the next projects for the PIO. Ms. Weinstein will be leaving the OAC for a position at The Ohio State University's Law School, and Chair Jeff Rich wished her well.

Agency Priority Work

Ms. Henahan presented highlights of the agency's priority work from July through September 2014, including the following items: transitioning to the next director, Donna Collins; preparing the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) budget proposal for FY 2016-17; preparing and finalizing the NEA Partnership Application; preparing the latest version of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) workforce development plan; developing panelist lists for the board's consideration at its next meeting; meeting to discuss refining the grants-making process after grants season; implementing the new online grants system as contractual negotiations near an end; and preparing for the fall board meeting.

Mr. Rich asked when grantees will begin making applications through the new system.

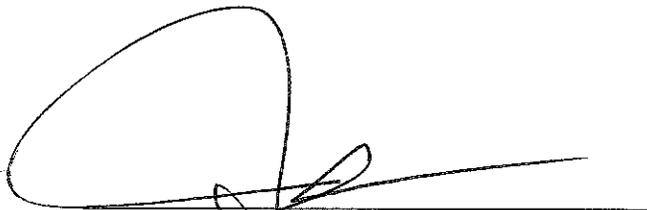
Ms. Henahan expressed a desire to perform beta-testing of the new grants system with the field to ensure the applications are working as well as possible and make adjustments before a broader launch. OAC staff Dan Katona and Dia Foley are working with Smart Simple to develop these systems. There will be one year of overlap operating under both systems. Ms. Henahan and Mr. Katona have discussed placing a "test" application for one grant category to ensure the new system is efficient and ready for the field. She stated the development and release date of the new system will best be left to the staff and Smart Simple.

Ms. Henahan announced several staff changes in addition to her retirement and Deputy Director Mary Campbell-Zopf's retirement. Brianna Dance will become Program Coordinator on July 1, and a hiring process will begin to fill Ms. Dance's previous position. The process to fill Ms. Weinstein's position is underway, and an internal application has been posted. Ms. Henahan intended for her last day with the OAC to occur during the week of July 7.

Mr. Rich appointed Neal Zimmers to the finance committee.

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

An audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.



Jeffrey A. Rich
OAC Board and Executive Committee Chair



Jane Foulk
OAC Board Secretary