

BALTIMORE OFFICE OF PROMOTION & THE ARTS, INC.

BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, June 28, 2023

BOARD MINUTES

Board Members Present: Brian Lyles, Jeffrey Kent (phone), Frank McNeil, and Andrew Chaveas

Board Members Absent: B.R. Hammed-Owens

BOPA Staff Present: Todd Yuhanick, Jackie Downs, Carlos DeShaun Brown, Lanece Taylor, Barbara Hauck, Delaney Cate, Twi McCallum, Sarah Gibbons, Chris Brooks, Lou Joseph, Kirk Shannon-Butts, Daniella Greeman, Ja-Mel Johnson, Annie Applegarth (phone), Tamara Robinson, Jade McDonnell, and Devin Shacklett

Welcome

- Brian Lyles called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.
- Brian L. opened the meeting by announcing that Anana Kambon, Michael Davenport, and Tom Crawford have resigned from the board due to personal conflicts. Michael Shecter and Sandra Gibson have also resigned from the board but will still be active as BOPA supporters and will support Artscape activities. Paula Rome will also be leaving the board due to scheduling difficulties.
- Frank McNeil agreed to serve as Vice Chair and Andrew Chaveas agreed to serve as Secretary.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Brian L. confirmed there was a Quorum present.
- The board voted on and approved the minutes from December board meeting.
- The board voted on and approved the minutes from the March board meeting.

Executive Committee Report

- The executive committee has been working closely with Todd Yuhanick on setting up meetings with the Mayor's office to improve the relationship with BOPA and address concerns from the June hearing.

Governance Committee Report

- The board has reviewed Sarah Scott's (Venable) resume as a board candidate and will vote at a future board meeting.
- The board is still working to strategically fill gaps within the board, specifically as it relates to marketing, governance, and finance. Any suggestions for board members should be emailed to the board.
- The search for a permanent CEO has begun and has been posted online. An email blast will come out sometime next week from M. Oppenheim.

Finance

- Q4 statements were included in the board packet. The audit is scheduled for October, and Brian Wentz will send out the financial report in the upcoming weeks.

Strategic Planning Committee

- The strategic plan has been updated with staff suggestions and sent to the board for review.
- The committee is currently working on a plan to distribute the strategic plan to the public.
- A motion was made to approve the strategic plan and the motion was approved.

CEO Report & Department Updates

- Brian L. introduced BOPA's interim CEO, Todd Yuhanick. Todd confirmed his commitment to working in tandem with our partners and the Mayor's office to improve relationships with BOPA. He has several meetings with City officials and partners/sponsors in the next couple of weeks.
 - Arts Council — Jackie Downs
 - Four grants are open right now.
 - Free Fall will open in October.
 - Working on scheduling panel reviews and info sessions.
 - Just had a successful opening at Bromo showcasing three emerging Baltimore artists: Qrcky, Damani Washington, and Murjoni Merriweather.
 - Ariston Jackson's exhibition, "Cosmos," will run at Top of the World through July 23, 2023.
 - Events — Carlos DeShaun Brown
 - Sales at Top of the World are doing well, and we recently hired some part-time support.
 - Delaney has been working on getting our weekly newsletter out for Farmer's Market vendors. B-Sides were all successful for the season.
 - BOPA will be partnering again with BSO and Waterfront Partnership for the 4th of July fireworks.

Other Business

- There being no other new business, Frank motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.