



Durham Cultural Advisory Board

SUMMARY MINUTES

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Public Meeting Zoom Link located: <https://durhamnc.gov/452/Durham-Cultural-Advisory-Board>

Durham Cultural Advisory Board Members Present

Shana Adams	Zena Howard	Katie Seiz**
Daisy Calixtro, Student	Tom Jaynes	* <i>Public Art Committee member</i>
Katy A. Clune, Vice-Chair	Joseph Jordan	** <i>Ex-officio, Cultural Advisory Board member</i>
E'Vonne Coleman	Angela Lee, Chair	
Valerie Gillespie	Mason Pickett, Student	
Marcus Hawley	Mitchell E. Sava	

City of Durham Staff and Representatives Present

Summer Alston, GSD	Rebecca Brown, GSD	Annette Smith, DPR
Alexandra Benson, GSD	Linda Salguero, DCE	Brenda Hayes-Bright, DCE

Guests Present

Sherry DeVries, DAC	Margaret DeMott, DAC
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I. Call to Order & Guest Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM by Angela Lee.
- Shana Adams is joining the April meeting as a new Durham Cultural Advisory Board member.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 2021

- MOTION:** The Durham Cultural Advisory Board approves the March summary minutes (Jordan, Coleman 2nd)
- ACTION:** Approved. (12-0).

III. Adjustments to the Agenda

- N/A

IV. Announcements

- New DCAB Member Application
 - Member applications will be reviewed during DCAB's May monthly meeting. DCAB will provide one new member recommendation for City Council to appoint to the board. DCAB members will provide experience and/or occupation

to inform gaps in the board's composition prior to the May meeting. The deadline for the City appointment is April 22 by 11:59 p.m. An online initial poll will be provided by City Staff to assist the discussion. Term for new City-Council appointment: July 1, 2021- June 30, 2024.

1. There are currently four positions open due to end of terms. The County Board applications will be open until end of May or until an adequate number of applicants have been received.

V. Updates/Old Business

- a. Updates from the Durham Arts Council on the Big Night for the Arts and Arts Advocacy Day.
 - i. The North Carolina state-wide Arts Advocacy Day took place on March 22 and 24 virtually, with opportunities for arts professionals to meet with legislative representatives and advocate for the arts. Margaret DeMott took the lead as the team leader for the group. \$9.4 million was approved by the state to be dispersed to the arts councils across the state to be granted out through artist support grant opportunities and COVID-19 relief funds for individuals and organizations. The Durham Arts Council has raised about \$168,000 through private donations, the Arts Recovery Fund, and the Big Night in for the Arts. The Durham Artist Relief Fund through North Star Church of the Arts has raised about \$120,000. So far, Durham has raised about \$1.1 million in federal, state, local, and private arts relief funding. However, the recent survey conducted by Durham Arts Council to understand the impact of the pandemic on the arts shows that there has been about a \$10 million loss in revenue since December, which continues to grow. There is still a \$9 million funding gap and a tremendous need for support for the arts.
 1. What can DCAB members do?
 - a. DCAB members can email their local representatives through the ArtsNC.org to show support for the "Restart the Arts" House Bill H562 was filed last week.
 - ii. United Arts Council, Durham Arts Council, Chatham County Arts Council, and Orange County Arts Council collaborated together to host the Big Night for the Arts with performances from national and local artists. Donations were received through text, phone call, and the bignightin.org website. More than 30,000 viewers tuned into the event.
- b. Updates from Task Forces on actions and upcoming meetings.
 - i. The Goal 3 subgroup around equity met on April 6 to identify equity issues that can be addressed by the Board through training or other exercises. Two of the issues identified include: special events funding and the broader scale of arts funding structures and systems in Durham.
 - ii. The Goal 1 subgroup around the Cultural Master Plan has met to discuss best methods of communication (paper survey, electronic survey, group meeting, etc.) with Discover Durham festival roundtables, and other arts professionals in the community.

VI. New Business

- a. Chair & Vice Chair Nominations
 - i. DCAB members will provide nominations during this meeting and via email for Chair & Vice-Chair for the term beginning on July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. DCAB will vote during the May meeting.
 1. The 2021 Festival Application focused on arts and cultural matters, promoting vibrancy in Durham’s communities, promoting equity and accessibility, and the economic impact of their event. Due to the pandemic, the City had to reevaluate how the contract deliverables for the funded applicants would look – either virtually or restructured to fit social distancing guidelines. Sixteen applications were received and eleven organizations received funding. Currently, staff is waiting for approval from City Council on the next fiscal year’s budget approval for the Festivals & Special Events funding of \$195,000 before releasing the RFP for the next cycle.
- b. Festivals & Special Event
 - i. Staff will provide background on the Festival & Special Event RFP process & criteria review. City Staff shared past RFP materials for review on g-drive.
 - ii. Request for feedback on RFP application and review process.
 1. Website FY20/21:
<https://durhamnc.gov/4270/FY2021-Festival-Funding>
 2. RFP Document:
https://durhamnc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32408/FY21-RFP-Document_Festivals-Special-Events_for-website
 3. Application:
https://durhamnc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32884/FY21-Application-Fillable-PDF_AYB_Update_July29?bidId=
 4. Review Criteria:
https://durhamnc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32407/FY21-Review-Criteria_RFP-Festivals-Special-Events
 - iii. DCAB members are encouraged to share examples of other funding programs and/or applications during the meeting.
 - iv. Some key points and questions from the Board’s discussion include:
 1. If there’s no cap to funding, does that support sustaining organizations that already have an infrastructure?
 2. Should there be preference to give funding to organizations that have not received funding in the past?
 3. Is it possible to restructure the point system where more points are given to new applicants?

4. Could the review process have a holistic review of the portfolio of applicants to ensure a diverse set of arts organizations are funded?
5. How can we address the lack of transparency around applicants requesting 100% funding and DCAB/City only awarding a portion of that? Can DCAB add in a question addressing the minimum amount of funding an organization would need?

VII. Public Questions

- a. No questions were submitted by the public prior to this meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexandra Benson