

Durham Cultural Advisory Board

SUMMARY MINUTES

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 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

Katy A. Clune	Joseph Jordan	<i>* Public Art Committee member</i>
E'Vonne Coleman	Cynthia Penn-Halal	<i>** Ex-officio, Cultural Advisory Board member</i>
Valerie Gillispie	Mitchell E. Sava	
Zena Howard	Katie Seiz**	
Tom Jaynes		

City of Durham Staff and Representatives Present

Rebecca Brown, GSD	Linda Salguero, DCE	Annette Smith, DPR
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Guests Present

Daisy Calixtro	Margaret DeMott
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- I. **Call to Order & Guest Introductions**
 - i. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Tom Jaynes.
- II. **Approval of Minutes – August 2020**

The approval of the August DCAB summary minutes will be moved to the October meeting.
- III. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
 - i. None.
- IV. **New Business**
 - i. Debrief on FY20/21 Festival & Special Event RFP
 1. The Durham Cultural Advisory Board had several reflections on the FY20/21 Festival & Special Event RFP review process. Below are key points mentioned during these reflections:
 - a. Since there were more applications during this cycle, the Board required more time to review and discuss each applicant. Depending on the number of applicants next year, the Board may need to break up the evaluation process into two longer meetings.
 - b. The Board recommends an opportunity to request information from previous funding cycles in advance of the discussion.
 - c. For the next cycle, the Board would like to explore how to avoid using prior experiences and knowledge of organizations and

festivals as part of the review process. The Board would also like to explore different ways to ensure there are less barriers to the review panel in terms of time required to review all applicants.

- d. The Board would like to explore the option of creating different categories of grants with specific rubrics and thresholds for organizations to apply to.
- ii. 2020 Goals
 1. The following statements are the “Post-COVID” Proposed Goals for the Durham Cultural Advisory Board. The Board will be modifying their goals to respond strategically to the current health pandemic and its impact on Durham’s arts and cultural ecosystem.
 - a. Goal 1: “Working with relevant partners, the Durham Cultural Advisory Board will convene conversations and inclusive town hall meetings between arts and cultural leaders to discover short- and long-term resource and opportunity needs in the Durham arts and cultural ecosystem and bolster a proposal to begin a new cultural master planning process.”
 - b. Goal 2: “The Durham Cultural Advisory Board will advocate and seek funding for a new Comprehensive Cultural Master Plan to be initiated by fiscal year 2022.”
 - c. Goal 3: “All Durham Cultural Advisory Board members will participate in training designed to promote equity in art and culture, with a particular focus on anti-racism and social justice.”
 - d. Goal 4: “The Durham Cultural Advisory Board will advocate for full funding of the Durham Artist’s Proposal for the fiscal year 2022.”
 2. **MOTION:** The Durham Cultural Advisory Board will move forward with integrating Goals 1 and 4 together. (Jordan, Clune 2nd)
ACTION: Motion approved. (9-0).
 3. **MOTION:** The Durham Cultural Advisory Board will move forward with adopting Goal 2. (Coleman, Jordan 2nd)
ACTION: Motion approved. (9-0).
 4. The Durham Cultural Advisory Board will work to modify the language for Goal 3 before moving forward with approval.
 - iii. Assessment of Equity Training
 1. The Durham Cultural Advisory Board has previously participated in anti-bias training facilitated by Sharon Williams, the City of Durham’s Equity Officer, in 2019. However, there is not a requirement by the City for appointed resident advisory board members to complete racial equity training at the moment. The goal of completing this training is to ensure DCAB is actively looking at funding allocations for the Festivals & Special Events Grant Program through an equity lens.
 2. DCAB will poll its members to understand which members have completed racial equity training in the past and what type of equity training they were involved in. DCAB will also explore what the decision points are within arts

and cultural infrastructure that could benefit from a view through an equity lens.

1. A DCAB member recommends splitting the equity training into two parts: the first block focusing on systematic racism on a broader scale as an introduction to racial equity discussions, and the second block focusing on equity within arts and culture in Durham.
2. Potential Goal 3 language could include: “The DCAB will develop the skills needed to assess and identify racial bias specific to arts/culture and develop anti-racist strategies to counteract these biases.” What are the specific actions and accountability measures that DCAB wants to take to make this a short and long-term initiative?
3. *Member Suggestion:* Should the Durham Cultural Advisory Board combine racial equity training efforts with the Public Art Committee?

Updates/Old Business/Announcements

- i. The Nasher Museum Museum, Duke Arts, and Duke Health are co-presenting a public art outdoor exhibition called [RESIST COVID / TAKE 6!](#) by artist Carrie Mae Weems that will travel from locations across the Duke Campus to various locations in downtown Durham.
- i. The Durham Public Art Committee is currently finalizing revised goals for the upcoming year that will be shared with DCAB as a means of information sharing and to find opportunity for collaboration.

Public Questions

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

Adjournment

4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Benson