

**Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville  
Board of Directors Special Meeting**

*November 21, 2016  
300 Water Street, Terry Lobby  
Jacksonville, FL 32202*

**Board Members Present:**

Kemal Gasper,  
Peggy Thompson (left early)  
Ann Carey,  
Anne Boccuzzi (left early)  
Charlie Joseph (Chair)  
Franklin Danley,  
Scott Wooten,  
Mac Bracewell,  
JaMario Stills,  
Tayloe McDonald,  
Dave Engdahl,  
Kevin Holzendorf (left early)

**Staff Present:**

Patrick Fisher,  
Amy Palmer,  
Tony Allegretti,  
Cedric Lewis,  
Ashley Sedghi-Koi,  
Ryan Ali (late)

***Call to Order***

Charlie Joseph, the Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. He welcomed all attendees to the meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”). Mr. Joseph confirmed that attendees had received the agenda and then reviewed the meeting’s agenda.

THEN, **UPON MOTION** duly made, seconded and carried, the minutes from the October 24, 2016 Board meeting were approved.

**2016-2017 Cultural Service Grants**

Mr. Joseph recused himself from this section of the Board meeting. Mr. Joseph’s took this action since he also serves on the Board of Directors for the Jacksonville Symphony Association. The floor was handed over to Vice Chair Ann Carey.

Ms. Carey introduced Lawsikia Hodges, from the Office of General Council (OGC) with the City of Jacksonville. Ms. Hodges reviewed the Cultural Service Grant Program’s hearing guidelines and the City’s ordinance, as it relates to the CSGP. Ms. Hodges advised that in her professional capacity, she has concluded that the Cultural Council

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operated in accordance with Sunshine policies. Ms. Hodges stated that it would not be appropriate for the Board to request that the Committee develop another recommendation or that the Panel change their scores, because quorum requirements were met during the previous hearing process.

Several Board members expressed confusion. They felt that one recommendation was voted upon by the Board during the previous Special Board meeting, which was held on October 24, 2016, and now they are being presented with a different recommendation without additional discussion occurring between the last meeting and today's meeting.

It was determined that new information was provided by OGC, which suggested that the recommendation being provided by the OGC, given all of the facts and circumstances, represented the better approach. Ms. Hodges advised that the Cultural Council's previous lawyer who proposed the previous recommendation, deferred to the OGC's legal advice due to Ms. Hodges' specific experience and expertise relating to Sunshine policies and City ordinance.

**THEN, UPON MOTION** duly made, seconded and carried the Board rescinded its actions during the October 24, 2016 Board Meeting.

A question arose related to recusals. Ms. Hodges cited the State of Florida's law relating to the topic. At the State level, serving in an unpaid position does not represent a conflict of interest if there is no procurement gain. However, the Cultural Council bylaws state that Board Members shall recuse themselves if the appearance of a conflict of interest is present.

**THEN, UPON MOTION** duly made, seconded and carried, the Board approved a motion to hear any appeals from CSGP applicants. Kemal Gasper voted against the motion.

Robert Massey, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Jacksonville Symphony Association, took the floor. Mr. Massey revisited the Jacksonville Symphony Association's original appeal.

Ms. Carey indicated that the Board had three options.

- 1.) Accept the recommendations of the CSGP Committee.
- 2.) Accept the recommendations of the CSGP Committee but revise awarded amounts.
- 3.) Reject the recommendations of the CSGP Committee and develop new awarded amounts.

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Chantelle Quick, Board Chair for the Jacksonville Children's Chorus, took the floor. The Jacksonville Children's Chorus took the stance that the 2016-2017 scores and award amounts stand, but the hearing process and iteration model be reviewed and potentially revised before the 2017-2018 CSGP hearings.

Mr. Neubauer of Friday Musicale again took the floor. He asked if all levels would be affected by changing scores, or just the levels in which the Jacksonville Children's Chorus and Jacksonville Symphony Association operate within. It was confirmed that only Level 2 and Level 3 organizations would be affected.

Ben Thompson, Deputy Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, asked for some historic background behind the rounding process. Mr. Allegretti provided a brief history of why the rounding process was originally introduced and what obstacles and complaints the process sought to overcome.

Mr. Neubauer again took the floor. He stated that the rounding system was applied fairly to all organizations at all levels. He further opined that because of that it ought to not be changed this year. Instead it could be reviewed and considered for change before the 2017-2018 CSGP hearings.

Kevin Holzendorf motioned to decline the Jacksonville Symphony Association's appeal for additional funds. Franklin Danley seconded the motion. Mac Bracewell and Mr. Gasper voted against the motion. Mr. Joseph and Mr. Wooten recused themselves from the vote. All other Board Members voted in favor of the motion. **THEN, UPON MOTION** duly made, seconded and carried, The Board approved the 2016-2017 CSGP Committee recommendations.

The meeting went to break at 2:35 PM.

**2016-2017 Budget**

The group reconvened at 2:48 PM.

Mr. Wooten informed the group that the Finance Committee had reviewed the proposed budget but not approved given an absence of quorum. Mr. Wooten and Mr. Lewis reviewed the budget highlights with the Board and answered several questions. Mr. Wooten then motioned that the Board of Directors vote to approve the proposed budget. **THEN, UPON MOTION** duly made, seconded and carried, the Board voted to approve the proposed budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

**2016-2017 Action Plan**

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Mr. Allegretti took the floor to lead a discussion on the proposed action plan. The plan promotes growth of the CCGJ through multiple programs, including: Art in Public Places (APP), Cultural Service Grant (CSG) Program, Cultural Equity and Inclusion through the Cultural Service Internships, Cultural Export Grants, Jazz Discovery Series and Clinics, Arts Alive Grants, International Artist Lecture Series, 2017 Arts Awards, and Cultural Fusion.

The Board responded by asking Mr. Allegretti to develop a list of criteria that measures organizational success before the next Board meeting.

**Board Skills Assessment, Board Terms, Board Meeting Dates, and RSVP System**

All Board Members were asked to complete the Skills Assessment document if they have not done so. They were also asked to review the Board Terms sheet and confirm that all information listed is accurate.

**New Business**

Mr. Joseph briefly expressed that a Development Committee and a Strategic Plan Task Force will be formed. Board Members were asked to consider volunteering on one of the two bodies.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

There being no further business, and **UPON MOTION** duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.