**Board Members Present:**

Claudia Baker

Mac Bracewell

Ann Carey, Vice Chair

Jackie Cornelius

Dave Engdahl

Bill Ferry

Kemal Gasper

Tayloe McDonald

JaMario Stills

**Board Members Absent:**

Claudia Baker

Anne Boccuzzi

Bill Ferry

Charlie Joseph, Chair

Rebecca Ryan Gonzalez

JaMario Stills

Penny Thompson

Scott Wooten

**Staff Present:**

Tony Allegretti

Patrick Fisher

Christie Holechek

Mason Martin

Ashley Sedghi-Koi

Amy Palmer

**Guests Present:**

Cheyenne Williams

Kate Rowe

Pamela Smith

**Introductions**

Ann Carey introduced the Board to Kate Rowe and Pamela Smith, two of the three candidates that will serve as Directors starting in the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Ms. Smith and Ms. Rowe then spoke to the group about their involvement in and passion for the arts and other community engagement initiatives. Mses. Smith and Rowe also spoke about their respective professional careers.

**Guest Speaker**

Cheyenne Williams of Knopf & Sons Bindery/Onlinebinding.com participated in the meeting as a guest speaker. She spoke about her family owned business that has operated in Springfield for nearly 50 years. Ms. Williams identified several arts and community organizations which she supports, including the Florida Writers Association and the Kiwanis Club. Ms. Williams also informed the Board of the “I Heart Books” festival which is scheduled to take place in Jacksonville in May.

**Action Plan**

Tony Allegretti presented the 2017/2018 Action Plan to the Board. Mr. Allegretti stated that the organization’s priorities will be initiatives that are listed in the 2017-2018 Action Plan. Other initiatives not listed in the Action Plan must be both revenue positive and fit into one of the following categories: artist professional development, arts in education, advocacy, or community activation.

Several Board members asked about the methodology used to ascertain the net positive outcome of an initiative as well as staff capacity to support initiatives. Mr. Allegretti informed the Board of the measures used to access the impact and sustainability of initiatives.

Mr. Allegretti then led a discussion on projects and initiatives, both private and public, slated for fiscal year 2017/2018.

Mr. Allegretti advised that the Arts in Public Places (“APP”) program is underfunded. Specifically, the CCGJ receives approximately $53,000 from the City yet the APP program costs approximately $140,000. Mr. Allegretti stated that 10% of a project’s budget is reserved to cover administrative expenses. Ms. Rowe recommended reviewing state and federal statutes that impact the APP program.

Mr. Allegretti addressed process improvements, implemented during last year’s grant cycle, impacting the Cultural Service Grant Program (“CSGP”). Mr. Allegretti also spoke about the Cultural Equity Commitment and the CCGJ’s leadership role to promote diversity within organizations that receive funding through the CSGP. Mr. Allegretti stated that the Cultural Equity Commitment includes advancing access to the arts for all residents in Jacksonville. Mr. Allegretti advised that the north and northwest areas of Jacksonville require improved access. To better understand these access needs, the CCGJ will have to initiate outreach efforts in these communities, including distributing surveys and participating in neighborhood meetings.

The Board and management spoke about the current City Council discussions concerning confederate memorials and the role, if any, of the CCGJ. Mr. Allegretti advised that subject to further direction by the Board, the CCGJ will support the decision of City Council. Ms. Holechek requested advance notice to the Art in Public Places Committee of any official position by the CCGJ.

Next, the Board agreed unanimously to move all public meetings from the Times Union Center for the Performing Arts to the Don Davis Room at City Hall.

Mr. Allegretti outlined all the private initiatives that are currently on the organization’s docket and the related community partners.

Mr. Allegretti also addressed the importance of advocacy and transparency. He spoke about the importance of connecting CCGJ programs to City priorities and of the need to celebrate successes.

Mr. Allegretti reviewed future development efforts and spoke about the related need for a development plan. Further, he described changes to the annual Arts Awards format and some anticipated staff reorganization.

Mr. Allegretti concluded his report with a summary of the CCGJ’s 2016-2017 accomplishments and acknowledgements.

**Strategic Task Force**

David Engdahl led a discussion on the Strategic (five year) Plan, which was developed over several months by the Strategic Task Force. The related implementation efforts are set forth in the Executive Director’s Implementation (Action) Plan.

Mr. Engdahl called attention to a few shifts between the proposed Strategic Plan and previous plans. One shift is that the CCGJ will not implement any initiatives without community partners. Additionally, the Cultural Council will shift from being a reactive organization to being a proactive organization.

Mr. Engdahl then reviewed the Strategic Plan, with a focus on key strategies and the related goals. He recommended developing an Action Plan before year-end and asked that each initiative include assigned responsibilities, a schedule, a budget, and all collaborative partners. Mr. Engdahl further suggested that agendas for Board meetings include reports on initiatives and their alignment to the Strategic Plan. Ms. Holechek informed the Board that both APP and CSGP have annual plans and provide the City with quarterly reports.

Mr. Engdahl acknowledged good attendance by the Board at the Strategic Task Force meetings.

Ms. Carey thanked Mr. Engdahl for his leadership and expertise in the Strategic Planning process.

**Closing**

Ms. Carey adjourned the meeting at 12:50 PM.