



Thursday, May 04, 2023 • 5 pm
Sandler Center for the Performing Arts/Classroom 1

The Business Meeting of the Arts and Humanities Commission was held on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 5:00 pm in Cultural Affairs Department Classroom 1 at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts.

Commissioners Present:

- **OFFICER:** Susan C. Grube, Chair
- **OFFICER:** Emma "Em" Davis, Secretary
- **OFFICER:** Hon. Winship C. Tower (Ret.), Treasurer
- Michael Cloud-Butler
- Mia K. Guile
- Cynthia Romero, MD
- Olga Torres-Baker

Cultural Affairs Department (CAD) Staff Present:

- Emily S. Labows, Director
- Beth Hundley, Deputy Director
- Hillary L. Plate, Programs and Cultural Partnership Coordinator
- Mari R. Coronado, Executive Assistant II

Absent:

- **OFFICER:** Brenda J. Roberts, Vice Chair
- C. Cheyney Cole, Jr.
- Alicia "Sunny" Phillips Peoples

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair called the meeting to order at **5:05 pm.**

II. Approval of Treasurer's Report

a. *The Hon. Winship C. Tower (Ret.), Treasurer* read the Treasurer's Report to the Commission.

Motion I.

A motion was made by *The Hon. Winship C. Tower (Ret.), Treasurer*, seconded by *Dr. Cynthia Romero* to approve the April Treasurer's Report. There was no discussion. **The motion *unanimously* passed to approve the April Treasurer's Report.**

Members voting **AYE:** Grube, Davis, Tower, Cloud-Butler, Guile, Islam, Torres-Baker

Members voting **NAY:** Zero

Members **ABSTAINING:** Zero

Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair reported that at the December meeting, there had been discussion to appropriate the \$2,425 discrepancy from the FY24 Project Grant Spreadsheets.

Motion II.

A motion was made by *Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair*, seconded by *Ms. Emma "Em" Davis, Secretary* to appropriate the adjusted budget fund amount of \$2,425 to Marketing for use before the end of FY23. There was no discussion. **The motion *unanimously* passed to approve the April Treasurer's Report.**

Members voting **AYE:** Grube, Davis, Tower, Cloud-Butler, Guile, Islam, Torres-Baker
Members voting **NAY:** Zero
Members **ABSTAINING:** Zero

III. New Business

a. Leadership and Organizational Development (LOD) Grant Presentation

Mr. Matthew Lawhead from Virginia Symphony Orchestra presented Virginia Symphony Orchestra's LOD Grant request for \$750 to fund the registration cost of a staff person to attend the League of American Orchestra's conference in Pittsburgh from June 14-16.

Motion III.

A motion was made by *The Hon. Winship C. Tower (Ret.), Treasurer*, seconded by *Mr. Michael Cloud-Butler* to approve funding of \$750 to Virginia Symphony Orchestra. There was no discussion. **The motion *unanimously* passed to approve FY23 Leadership and Organizational Development (LOD) Grant funding of \$750 to Virginia Symphony Orchestra.**

Members voting **AYE:** Grube, Davis, Tower, Cloud-Butler, Guile, Islam, Torres-Baker
Members voting **NAY:** Zero
Members **ABSTAINING:** Zero

b. Formation of Nomination Committee

- The AHC Chair appoints a Chair of the Nominating Committee who then selects two members. Candidates are presented at the June meeting. Voting takes place at the July Meeting.
- *Ms. Emma "Em" Davis, Secretary* was selected to Chair the FY24 Nominating Committee and will recruit two members.

c. July AHC Meetings

- Due to the 4th of July holiday, the Executive Committee has recommended that the July Meetings be moved to Thursday, July 13.
- A draft of the FY24 AHC Meeting Schedule will be presented for review at the June meeting.

d. Leadership and Organizational Development (LOD) Grant Research

Initiated in response to *Ms. Emma "Em" Davis, Secretary* suggestion, staff will help research ways to reevaluate this grant and determine if we need to revamp how funds are to be used in hopes of gaining more applicants.

- e. Reconciliation of City Budget Update
 - City Council has proposed an increase in the operating budget of Cultural Affairs by \$70,000 in a one-time funding to provide additional contributions to the Arts and Humanities Commission for the FY2023-24 Fiscal year. This is to be voted on at the May 9th City Council Meeting to make it official.
 - The Advocacy Committee will work on drafting a thank you letter on behalf of the Commission, staff and the arts groups to Councilmember Michael Berlucchi and City Council for advocating for the arts.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Champion for the Arts

Dr. Cynthia Romero and Ms. Emma "Em" Davis, Secretary announced that seven (7) applications were submitted. The Committee consisting of four members (*Romero, Davis, Grube, Towers*) unanimously recommend Ms. Rose Daria as the 2023 Champion for the Arts recipient. Ms. Daria has been involved in the arts for 45 years, advocating for the Filipino Arts in the Filipino community. She helped build the Philippine Cultural Center of Virginia in 2000 and formalized a youth program which continues to thrive under her leadership. She has also served several terms in this Arts and Humanities Commission.

Motion IV.

Recommended by the Executive Committee through the Champion for the Arts Committee, *Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair* asked that all those in favor to accept Ms. Rose Daria as the 2023 Champion For the Arts Recipient, say "Aye."

Members voting **AYE**: Grube, Davis, Tower, Cloud-Butler, Guile, Islam, Torres-Baker

Members voting **NAY**: Zero

Members **ABSTAINING**: Zero

The motion *unanimously* passed to approve Ms. Rose Daria as the 2023 Champion For the Arts recipient.

The Sandler Center has been reserved for the 5 pm ceremony reception on Thursday, August 3rd.

b. Advertising and Marketing

Ms. Alicia "Sunny" Phillips Peoples was absent. *Ms. Beth Hundley, Deputy Director* shared the continued efforts for presence in the multi-cultural publications and radio and having continued advertisement to the diverse communities to showcase awareness of the AHC programs.

Attention was also given to the AHC grantee Teens With a Purpose's "ImmortALL" poetry finale.

c. Advocacy

Ms. Brenda J. Roberts, Vice Chair was absent but *Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair* will touch base with her regarding the thank you letter to CM Michael Berlucchi and City Council for the \$70,000 allocation to the Commission.

d. Public Art

Mr. C. Cheyney Cole, Jr. was absent. *Ms. Emily S. Labows, Director* provided the following updates:

- There were two action items asking for consent from the ViBe Creative District on the Community Fence Murals and Redwing Park Mural. These items will be included in the June packet for AHC approval.
- 21st Street Surfboard Installation: The seven (7) surfboards are being installed next week (weather permitting) followed by the vinyl wraps in celebration of the City's 60th anniversary.
- Historic Kempsville: Staff is working with the Kempsville Historic Advisory Commission on installing a public art piece. It's a multi-year project with a budget of \$125,000. The RFQ will pay artists a stipend to create their submission.
- The next Sandler Center Gallery Exhibition opening is scheduled for 6 pm Monday, May 8 featuring the Chesapeake Watercolor Society.
- *Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair* thanked *Ms. Mia Guile* for chairing the Public Art Committee Meeting in *Mr. C. Cheyney Cole, Jr.*'s absence. She will be taking over as the new Committee Chair in FY24.

e. Cultural Equity

- *Ms. Olga Torres-Baker* reported that the committee hosted a community conversation in March and received excellent feedback.
- The committee is working on the "Commitment Statement" which will be presented to the Commission at the June meeting for review.

V. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioners Davis, Tower, Torres-Baker and Romero shared comments and news pertaining to various arts events.

VI. Public Comments:

The following presented event updates and announcements:

- ViBe Creative District (Kate Pittman)
- Zeiders American Dream Theatre (Linda Dyer)
- Virginia Symphony Orchestra (Matthew Lawhead)

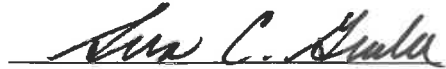
VII. Next Meetings: Thursday, June 1, 2023/ Sandler Center for the Performing Arts

Ms. Susan C. Grube, Chair will be out of town but will be calling in for both meetings and will ask *Ms. Brenda J. Roberts, Vice Chair* to chair the meetings on her behalf.

- a. 4 pm: Executive Committee Meeting/ Conference Room
- b. 5pm: Business Meeting / Classroom 1

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at **5:39 pm.**



Called to order by
Ms. Susan C. Grube
AHC Chair



Minutes prepared by
Mari R. Coronado
CAD Executive Assistant II

VIX. Attachments

- May 4, 2023 Agenda packet