



# **Meeting Minutes**

# **Commission on Cultural Affairs**

Monday, December 4, 2023 4:15 PM	Arts Funding Subcommittee	Conference Room 1C City Hall 701 E Broadway

## I. CALL TO ORDER

David called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

## **II. INTRODUCTIONS**

David Wilson joined as a guest

#### Introductions were made

- Present: 5 James Melton, Kristin Gadsden, Lee Ann Garrison, David Spear and Diana Moxon
- Absent: 7 Cameron Dorth, Keondre Harrison, Jim Little, Molly Froidl, Linda Helmick, Stacey Thompson and Kathleen Murphy

## **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Are there different funding sources available? as an eg. from the Convention and **Visitors Bureau?** There was discussion on the current budget Arts income is recognized in the city budget David Wilson: 1. need to adjust for inflation 2. adjust for population increase 3. increase in arts organizations applying for funding During 2015 to now flat increases in funding. Has anyone asked for an increase in the budget? It has been over 10 years since there has been a budget increase. The committee reviewed the OCAfunding since 1992. The sub-committee constructed a letter requesting an increase in funding to be approved by whole commission on Dec. 11. After approved it will be sent to City Council and CMO. Main concern: Total arts funding is less than 1/10 of 1% of general fund. The letter needs tweaking but will be ready to be presented at the Dec. 11 commission meeting. Another talking point to emphasize: the stats from the AEP6 study and the organizations included are non-profit so the total economic impact to the city of Columbia does not include the for-profit businesses so the economic impact is actually higher than stated in the surveys. History of City Arts Funding History of funding since 1992 was reviewed and discussed. Correspondence to City Council The sub-committee drafted a letter to request additional funding. This letter will be presented to the full commission on Monday, Dec. 11. The need to emphasize that the AEP6 economic impact does not include the for-profit arts orgs so technically, the impact is higher than the AEP6 study.

## **VII. REPORTS**

### VIII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

David Wilson provided many statistics to use in the letter.

## IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

## X. ADJOURNMENT

Called to adjourn at 5:45 p.m.

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