

Virginia Commission for the Arts
Minutes
March 30, 2011
Garth Newel Music Center, Warm Springs

Members Present: Nick Covatta, Chair; Lisa Alderman, Willie Dell, Gwen Everett, Tina Lea, Sharron Kitchen Miller, Evelia Gonzalez Porto, Ann Edwards Rust, Marcia Neuhaus Speck, Marcia Thalhimer, Ann Bondurant Trinkle, Vaughan Webb, and Deborah Wyld

Staff Present: Peggy Baggett, Foster Billingsley, and Cathy Welborn

Guests: Dr. Lucius F. Ellsworth and Suny Monk, Virginians for the Arts

Introduction

Nick Covatta, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Richard Riley, Director of the Garth Newel Music Center, welcomed the Commission and gave a short history of the Center.

Deborah Wyld made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 9, 2010. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Peggy Baggett gave an update on the status of the Virginia Commission for the Arts state and Federal funding. Although the state appropriation is not officially confirmed until the Governor signs the budget bill in May, there is no indication that changes will be proposed in the amount approved by the General Assembly. Although at the spring meeting the Commission normally approves a draft grants budget for the upcoming year, because the Federal government is still operating on a continuing resolution, there will be no action on the grants budget at this meeting.

Strategic Planning

Lu Ellsworth facilitated a discussion of issues to be considered over the next few months as the Commission develops its new strategic plan.

Virginians for the Arts

Suny Monk, President of Virginians for the Arts, talked about the successes of the advocacy effort in the 2011 legislative session and plans for future activities.

Technical Assistance Funds

Peggy Baggett reported that the Commission has \$49,836 in unallocated grant funds. These funds are unspent touring assistance funds and grant funds returned to the Commission during the year. The Commission staff recommended putting these funds into Technical Assistance and allowing the General Operating Support grantees to apply for these funds for Technical Assistance activities taking place in the last quarter of the year. Ann Edwards Rust made a motion to accept the recommendation. The motion was seconded and approved

unanimously.

Election of Nominating Committee

Nick Covatta asked for nominations for the Nominating Committee, which will propose a slate of officers for 2011-12. Lisa Alderman made a motion to elect Nick Covatta, Vaughan Webb, and Sharron Kitchen Miller to the Nominating Committee. There were no further nominations from the floor, and the motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.