



**BILLY NUNGESSER**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**State of Louisiana**  
**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM**  
**OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**DIVISION OF THE ARTS**

**KRISTIN P. SANDERS**  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

**LSAC Minutes for Tuesday, January 18, 2022**

Members Present: Chair Mary Lee, Margie Camardelle, Jonathan Foret, Nydia Freedman, Dirk Guidry, Gene Meneray, Henry Price, Ed "Tiger" Verdin, Patrick Widhalm, Richard Williams, Kristin Sanders (ex-officio)

Absent: Conni Castille, Patti Nelson, Olivia Regard, Christian Vigé, Darden Gladney, (joined the zoom meeting after approval of the minutes)

OCD Staff Present: Erica Anderson, April Baham, Danny Belanger, Carrie Broussard, Scott Finch, Ja'el Gordon, Susannah Johannsen, Maida Owens, Francesca Vega

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

Meeting was called to order at 11:06 am by Chair Mary Lee.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

*Minutes were modified to reflect that Erica Anderson was in fact present at the October meeting. Motion by Verdin to approve the October 19, 2021 minutes, seconded by Camardelle. Motion carried, 9-0 with Castille, Nelson, Pace, Regard, Vige and Gladney absent.*

**V. Reports**

Chair Report by Mary Lee. Chair Lee reported that the Executive Committee members will be reaching out to board members to go over a questionnaire to gauge level of involvement for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. All current board members to be interviewed by the end of January. Send completed questionnaires to Susannah Johannsen for compilation.

Assistant Secretary Report by Kristin Sanders. Assistant Secretary Sanders reported that in collaboration with Tourism, OCD has hired a new staff member Lacy Chataignier to develop a Music Trail. Sanders also noted that even though the Grammy Awards have been postponed Louisiana has the most music artists up for awards than any other state. The Lt. Governor's office hopes to have an event later this year to celebrate.

Executive Director Report by Susannah Johannsen. Mrs. Johannsen reported that the Division of the Arts had hired Francesca Vega as the new Cultural Districts Director. Ja'el Gordon has been hired in the Grants Department to help oversee the deployment of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. The ARP funds will go out to 86 General Operating Support grantees and the nine (9) Regional Arts Councils. The Division of the Arts has been working closely with South Arts to identify rural and BIPOC arts organizations to receive additional ARP funds. 22 organizations were identified. FY21 & FY22 currently have remaining funds to be spent. THE Division of the Arts has identified several areas in which to spend the funds – capacity building, workshops, outreach and training. Next Board meeting are to be April 19<sup>th</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

NASAA Report by Gene Meneray. Mr. Meneray reported that NASAA will be hosting a meeting for new board members and that in the near future all NASAA board meetings will be virtual. He reported that this is a great loss for networking opportunities.

**VI. Business**

Program Updates by Arts staff.

**VII. New Business/Public Comment**

Introduction of Nydia Freedman as the newest LSAC board member

**VIII. Meeting Adjournment**

Camardelle motioned to adjourn the meeting, Price seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:38 pm.

**Next LSAC Meeting:** April 19, 2022

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