



Maryland State Arts Council Executive Committee

MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2025

12:00 - 1:30pm

Google Meet

The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council, make recommendations to the Council, and shall perform other duties as specified...

In attendance: Albita Rivera, Shelley Morhaim, Marva Jo Camp, Kathy Beachler, Joel Snyder, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Chad Buterbaugh, Leslie Gillard, Catherine Texeira, Laura Weiss, Elizabeth Morales, Emily Sollenberger, Kirk Amaral Snow, Tammy Oppel, Elli Maria Hernandez

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:00 p.m. following guiding documents.

A land acknowledgment pronunciation guide will be distributed to councilors.

Chair Remarks (Rivera)

- Albita expressed gratitude to the MSAC staff for their dedication, resilience, and continued support during the current political times and budget cuts.
- Albita also recognized their advocacy work in the arts community.

Marva Jo made a motion to approve the February 28, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting minutes. Kathy seconded. All in favor and the motion passed.

Executive Director's Report (Skerritt-Davis)

- Steven provided updates:
 - Reviewed staffing updates in the Department of Commerce.
 - Provided results of attending department leadership meetings.
 - Provided updates on vacant MSAC staff positions.
 - Provided updates on Arts Incubator Working Group.
 - The purpose has shifted to being more policy focused to support artists.



- Provided updates on grants for Creativity, Professional Development, and Touring
- Provided updates on the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) Procedural Audit.
- Provided an update on the 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center.
- Provided updates on the opening of the Public Artist Roster.

Federal Funding Update

- Steven provided updates:
 - Staffing updates for the NEA.
 - Provided updates for FY24 NEA funding for the MSAC FY25 current fiscal year.
 - Provided updates for FY25 NEA funding for the MSAC FY26 fiscal year.
 - Provided updates for FY26 NEA funding for the MSAC FY27 fiscal year.

Discussion

- Councilors discussed the possibility of making a statement from MSAC in conjunction with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA).
 - Steven provided the statement from NASAA.
- Councilors requested to invite Maryland Citizens for the Arts to the June Council meeting.
- Councilors discussed the impact of Federal budget cuts.

Looking Ahead

- Steven provided an overview of upcoming committee meetings, to include:
 - Policies
 - Budget
 - New Councilors

Agenda Review

June 5, 2025, Council Meeting Agenda Review

- Creative Assignment
- Executive Director's Report
- Staff Reports
- Executive Committee Report
- Program Policy Evaluation Committee Report
- Finance Committee/Fiscal Report



- Grants Committee Report
- Governance Committee Report
- Officer Election
- MCA Update
- Welcome by Center Stage
- Tour - Walters Art Gallery

New Business

No new business

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.