



Maryland State Arts Council Governance Committee

MEETING MINUTES
March 4, 2025
Google Meet

The Governance Committee shall enhance the engagement and participation of Council members, and to ensure the effective operation of the lay leadership structure.

In attendance: Marva Jo Camp, Joel Snyder, Monique Walker, Ruby Lopez-Harper, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Chad Buterbaugh, Leslie Gillard

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. following guiding documents.

Monique made a motion to approve the January 14, 2025 Governance Committee minutes. Ruby seconded. All in favor and the motion passed.

By-Laws Updates Continued

- Steven reminded the Council that the by-Laws review needs to be done concurrently with the Strategic Plan.
- Steven reviewed the proposed edits and said he would send to Councilors for review and final edits.
- Councilors asked for rationale for Article VI. Steven provided the background.
- Steven suggested adding Grants for Organizations (GFO) and County Arts Development (CAD) staff recommendations to the agenda for the Grants Committee to give more oversight of general operating grants, and for consistency.
- Steven suggested the Grants Committee could review panelists sent to the Council, instead of having full Council approval.



Discussion

- Councilors discussed if the Grants Committee should be the only committee to review Grants panelists.
 - Councilors agreed to allow the Grants Committee to review Grants panelists for efficiency, but that the Full Council will vote.
 - Councilors suggested changing the by-laws language.

Equity and Justice Statement Review continued

- Steven reviewed the proposed revisions by staff and Councilors, as well as proposed revisions by the current Assistant Attorney General.

Discussion

- The Councilors discussed the clarification of what “ability” means and how it’s defined in relation to “disability”.
- The Committee agreed to send the proposed revisions for consideration at the March 13 Council meeting.

Ongoing Board Member Engagement

- Steven reminded the Councilors of the following:
 - Existing Councilor engagement materials.
 - Defined roles that can be updated with the new Strategic Plan.
 - Talking points document that’s updated bi-annually.
 - Survey tool to track Councilor engagement.
 - Informal mentorship program.
- Steven suggested looking at the survey for review at the next Governance Committee meeting.

Discussion

- Councilors discussed how to use the survey tool regarding engagement and mentorship.

New Business

- Steven confirmed next steps.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:57 a.m.