

**PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.
COUNCIL ON THE ARTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FINANCE BUILDING, HARRISBURG**

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT VIA PHONE: Jeff Parks, Jeffrey Gabel, Natalee Colón, Jim West

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Jen Zaborney

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Karl Blischke, Executive Director; Heather Doughty, Deputy Executive Director; Amy Gabriele, Deputy Director for Administration; Seth Poppy, Program Director; Norah Johnson, Director of New Projects & Capabilities; Sarah Merritt, Special Assistant to the Executive Director and the Council. Matt Serio, Program Director, Dana Payne, Program Director, Jamie Dunlap, Program Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Rodney Akers, Deputy General Counsel, Governor's Office of General Counsel

Call to Order - Chairman Parks called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call – Mr. Blischke called the roll.

Item 1: Public Comment – Chair Parks asked if there were any member of the public present to comment. There were no requests for public comment.

Item 2: Recommendation for Action: Transfer of Jump Street's Partnership Responsibilities to Other Entities – Mr. Blischke reminded the group of the discussion and action at its December 6, 2018 meeting. Jump Street is not meeting its grant award obligations related to FY 17-18. At that meeting Council authorized the Executive Committee to review and act on options for transferring Jump Street's partnership responsibilities to other entities to ensure continuity of services and accountability.

Mr. Serio informed the group that Community Partnerships Resource, Conservation, and Development Council (RC&D), was asked to administer Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA) programming for Cumberland, Dauphin, and Lebanon Counties.

He told the Committee Jump Street has already received Project Stream regranting and administrative funds for the 18-19 grant period but had not paid out the grant awards. The PCA will take funds from its 18-19 fund balance to pay the grantees. Mr. Blischke explained the fund balance money is unused grant funds paid back to the PCA or funds from unpaid grants.

Mr. Gabel asked for a description of RC&D. Mr. Serio explained it is a non-profit community organization in Lewistown that funds cultural and educational programs. Ms. Gabriele said the organization has been a Pennsylvania Partner in the Arts (PPA) for almost two decades.

Mr. Blischke explained that only the funds that had been paid to Jump Street were 18-19 Project Stream (\$36,961) and a portion of administration funds (\$6,732). He said when PCA staff became aware funds were not used properly, no other grant funds were distributed to the organization.

For clarification purposes, Mr. West stated that the Committee is acting on transferring partnership responsibilities and authorizing the use of funds from the PCA's fund balance to be used to make up for any grants not paid.

Ms. Payne informed the group that Community Partnerships Resource, Conservation, and Development Council (RC&D) has agreed to take over Folk and Traditional Arts programming for Cumberland, Dauphin, and Lebanon Counties. The organization will administer seventeen apprenticeship grant awards totaling \$55,035. In addition, they will serve as a resource for folk and traditional artists in the three counties wishing to apply for the 19-20 Apprenticeship Grant. Ms. Payne added that RC&D would be paid a \$5,000 administrative fee for the folk and traditional arts work.

Chair Parks clarified that RC&D would be taking over administering both PPA grants and Folk and Traditional Arts apprenticeships.

Ms. Dunlap informed the group of the recommendation for transferring partnership responsibilities from Jump Street to Perry County Council on the Arts (PCCA). PCCA will administer payments for completed artist residencies.

Chair Parks asked why the PCA was not just administering these funds. Ms. Dunlap stated that because these funds go to individual artists, they must go through another organization.

Chair Parks asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

Chair Parks stated for the record that he has asked Rodney Akers, General Counsel, and Karl Blischke, Executive Director, to deliberate on this issue and find ways to ensure organizations are accountable for the requirements of the Partnership Agreement.

Chair Parks asked for a motion to approve the recommendations for transferring partnership responsibilities to Community Partners RC&D and Perry County Council on the Arts and use funds from the PCA's general balance to pay unpaid awards.

Motion made by Ms. Colón and seconded by Mr. West. There was no discussion. All voted yes (Mr. Gabel, Ms. Colón, Mr. West, and Mr. Parks). Motion carried.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.