

Strategic Partnerships Grant Committee

Minutes

4/30/2020

- **Welcome** –Motion to open meeting made by Doug Clarke, seconded by Kate Burger.
 - The meeting was livestreamed by Sunshine Request.
- **Committee members in attendance:** Doug Clarke, Kate Burger, Kevin McAbee, Paul Tax, Elizabeth Ward, Annie Carpenter, Chuck Rosenblum, Rebecca Strimer, and Davidson Jones.
- **Staff in attendance:** Burnett Walz, Kimberly Fullerton, Christina McEntee, Rachael Nygaard and Angelyn Johnson.
- **Minutes** – Correction to draft minutes change Carolina Small Business to 3 votes. Motion to approve minutes with that correction made by Doug Clarke, seconded by Rebecca Strimer.
- **Review of Last Meeting** – Burnett Walz talked through last meeting. Reduced applications for consideration by twelve. Summary distributed back out to Committee members with median, range, and mean.
- **Grant Funding Work Session** - Burnett Walz walked Committee through updated Funding model worksheet.
 - Discussion of limiting funding amounts to an amount close to what applicants received in the past. Committee agreed past year funding was a useful consideration, but did not vote to limit current year funding based on previous years.
 - The Committee discussed Transformation Village because the large funding request for capital costs was unique. The Committee had mixed feelings on the request. Some members felt this grant program isn't the right place for this request. Motion by Annie to strike TV from consideration; Davidson second; Voting Failed. Project was retained. Doug motioned to fund the project at a cap of \$50k; Kevin seconded; Voting passed (6-2). Project funded at \$50,000.
 - The committee reviewed the bylaws and agreed/understood that majority wins voting.
 - Kevin motioned that is the majority of the Committee did not fund the project, those projects should not receive funding. Paul seconded. Voting passed unanimous.
 - 5 projects were removed for funding consideration.
 - ****Post-meeting revision** – One committee member changed vote to oppose after the meeting, once they clarified the motion.
 - The Committee discussed the use of median vs. mean for a starting place for funding. Kevin motioned to vote between median or mean; Doug 2nd; 7 medians, 2 means. The Committee used median member funding amount to begin funding allocation conversation.
 - Committee went through project list and motions were presented to adjust median project funding for applicants. *Note the funding levels considered by the Committee are still draft amounts during this conversation.
 - Motion to reduce Asheville Area Arts Council project failed 6-3.

- Motion to eliminate the Asheville Community Theatre Summer Camp project because COVID-19 will likely preclude this project for taking place. Vote passed unanimously.
- Motion to reduce Eblen Charities project funding passed 6-3.
- Motion to reduce Asheville Grown Business Alliance project funding failed 6-3.
- Motion to reduce Asheville Museum of Science funding passed unanimously.
- Committee ran out of time to finish suggested funding allocations. The Committee scheduled another meeting for 5/7 from 2-4pm.
- Next steps:
 - Burnett to send out updated model with suggested funding allocations to Committee.
 - Committee to review remaining applicants responses to COVID and reduced funding.
 - Committee will finalized funding recommendations at next meeting, to present to County Budget Office by deadline of 5/12.
- **Upcoming Schedule:**
 - May
 - 5/7: Continue funding decisions discussion
 - 5/12: Grant recommendations due to Budget Office
 - June & beyond
 - Meeting schedule & topics to be determined
- **Adjourn** – Doug Clarke motioned to adjourn, Kate Burger seconded.

Next Meeting

May 7, 2020

2:00-4:00

Microsoft Teams