

Douglas County Cultural Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 13, 2011 @ 5:30 p.m.

Planning Large Conference Room

Members present: Pat Braden, Chris Eppers, Ann Speer, Jack Christensen, Mary Ann Evans, Linda Humphrey, Debbie Lewis, Diana Wiens

Members absent: Sheri Kangas

Douglas County Commissioners: Jill Repella, Jack Hilbert, Steve Board

Douglas County Staff: Holly Carrell, Wendy Holmes

Guests: Art Encounters - Highlands Ranch, Valerie Miller; Parker Arts, Culture and Events Center, Jeannene Bragg

1 – Meeting called to order by Pat Braden at 5:40 pm. Pat welcomed all attendees/ introductions took place.

2 – Wendy Holmes led a discussion regarding cultural branding within DC and recommendations on future priorities within DC. Important points from this discussion include: getting the whole county behind SCFD including Sedalia, Castle Rock, etc.; inventory of DC venues where all information is located in “one-stop” place; a link to culture in DC is necessary with organizations/venues updating accordingly; SEO optimization and links to other sites such as Fandango; focus on awareness and experiential packaging; utilize Google Earth as a mobile site app for Google Places (Cultural DC); additional utilization of social media such as Qwark (?) codes; and encourage collaboration with all existing venues in DC, including Tier 1 and Tier II organizations. Challenges include: economic development site cannot access any DC cultural information; keeping content fresh, funding and who will “do” the work. An SCFD qualified organization needs to spear-head this activity like Art Encounters. Cross pollination from Lone Tree, Parker and HRCAA should consider working together to put a proposal together enabling them to request the money to start.

3 – Chris Eppers made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2011 meeting. This motion was seconded by Jack Christensen and all voting members present were in favor.

4 – Public Comment: We were made aware that the Griffith Center was recently acquired in Douglas County. The facility will be used in collaboration with DCSD to promote education in the nature and science fields. Jeannene Bragg let us know that PACE will open October 28th, with an Open House on October 22nd, 10 – 2. Chris updated the council on the status of the HR Mansion. The Metro District has hired a new Manager for the location. She has previously been involved with DC and SCFD.

5 – Council Updates: There were various events attended by members of the Council. Some mentioned were; concert at Cherokee Ranch and Castle, outdoor concert in Highlands Ranch, Scottish Festival, Lone Tree grand opening. All were well attended and favorably reviewed.

6 – SCFD Update –

- SCFD looking for examples of “great” applications and what made them great. Pat has submitted Cherokee Ranch and Castle (growth in programs/variety). Others for consideration include: Colorado Wind Ensemble (realistic attendance projections for a small group), Kantori (new applicant), HawkQuest (consistency of quality).
- Revenue was up 5.5% in 2011 over 2010 and 2012 was projected to be up around 7%.
- Discussion took place for clarification for DC policy on Letter of Intent. We will still seek a Letter of Intent as a commitment on the venue’s letterhead. The organization will be required to confirm performances from last year.
- Grant review process will not include any available CDs. Information will be accessible through paper copies (5 for DC) or through pdf files.
- Upcoming events include the SCFD annual Board meeting which Pat will attend. October 19th the Rex Morgan Award ceremony will take place.
- Kathy Spuhler let us know that there is a Fuel and Transportation fund available. Corporations are offering funding for fuel costs.

7 – Think 360 Arts Request: Original grant request was for three artists and \$15,000. They were granted \$4,000. Given this level of funding the organization is asking to use the \$4,000 for one artist. Linda made a motion to allow Think 360 Arts to use the funds as currently requested (one artist at \$4,000). Debbie seconded the motion and all council members present voted in favor of the motion. There was a question that surfaced wondering what they actually do so next year they will complete a fulfillment letter (as will all previous grant recipients).

8 – Retreat review will continue in following meetings.

9 – 2012 Grant Guidelines: Updates will be revised and distributed to the Council members at next meeting.

10 –Grant Scoring Rubric: Jack made a motion to accept the updated scoring rubric, Debbie seconded the motion. All council members voted in favor. The document will be shared with SCFD.

11 – Meeting Locations:

October 25th, Douglas County offices – Hallway at 12:30 with Check ceremony at 1:30

November 8th, Parker Arts Center

December 13th, Douglas County offices

Throughout 2012 the Council will meet in various locations. This will allow the council to be available to the DC public, to share the SCFD message and gives us an opportunity to experience a variety of DC venues that we can share with others. More details to follow.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30.