

## Arts Council of Alachua County

Date: October 7, 2024  
Time: 5:30 pm  
Location: County Administration Building - Grace Knight Conference Room  
12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

### 1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Members Present: Christine Johnson, Amy Koester (Vice Chair), Queenchiku Ngozi (in at 5:45 p.m.), David Ruiz, Stephanie Silberman (Chair), and Carol Velasques Richardson

Members Absent: Carl Davis (alternate) and Felicia Walton

This will be Ms. Johnson's last meeting. She will be missed.

### 2. **Welcome & Introduction of New Members - Felicia Walton and Carl Davis**

This item will be tabled until our November meeting as neither was present.

### 3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Carol Velasques Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; David Ruiz second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 4. **Approval of Minutes**

Davis Ruiz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Amy Koester second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 5. **Art Loan Agreement - Laura Predny**

Carol Velasques Richardson made a motion to recommend Laura Predny's art to the County Commission for public display; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 6. **Grant Workshop for Artists Discussion**

In an effort to help local Alachua County artists be more competitive, Chair Silberman recommended conducting Grant Workshops for artists and arts

organizations on "How to Tell Their Story," "What is Public Art," and "How to Develop a Budget." This item will be discussed at our November meeting.

**7. 4th Annual Artists Conference Discussion**

The Extension Auditorium has been reserved for Friday, April 25. The facility can accommodate three concurrent sessions. We will discuss the Call for Submittals at our November 4 meeting as it takes several months to confirm speakers.

**8. Annual Work Plan and Accomplishments**

This will be discussed at our November 4 meeting.

**9. Call-to-Artist Update**

**9.1 Animal Shelter**

The lease agreement with the University of Florida is still being negotiated, so this project is on hold until further notice.

**9.2 Armory**

The Call to Artists should be added to a near future meeting agenda when the department determines what type of art it would prefer.

**9.3 Court Complex**

The final Call to Artists is with Procurement so submittals should be ready for ranking sometime soon.

**9.4 EPD Conservation Lands Building**

The final Call to Artists is with Procurement so submittals should be ready for ranking sometime soon.

**9.5 Fire Station 21 Bronze Sculptures**

There continue to be issues with the refinery, so this installation is expected in early 2025.

**9.6 Fire Training**

Carol Velasques Richardson made a motion to remove Queenchiku Ngozi from the evaluation team as she was absent at the beginning of this discussion; Amy Koester seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

Leira Cruz Caliz reviewed the evaluation team's scores, Alachua County based artist scores, and conflict of interest.

Carol Velasques Richardson made a motion to rank Deeproots Arts & Culture Creative Services, The Creative Artnest, and Christine Beraud Weeks as the top ranked firms and invite them to provide a sketch to the County Commission for final selection; Karem Scott-Kotb made an amendment to the motion to add DOYA LLC to the list of top ranked firms; Christine Johnson seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

**9.7 Parking Garage**

Staff is still waiting to determine what type of art installation the department would like.

**9.8 Warehouse**

Staff is still waiting to determine what type of art installation the department would like.

**10. Public Comment**

200th Anniversary - staff will ask our Communications team if there is an arts component (other than the original poem requested from our Poet Laureate, E. Stanley Richardson) related to our 200th anniversary next year.

Our Local Arts Agency Grant Application Review is on Nov. 1.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.