



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 2022**  
**Zoom/Virtual Meeting**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Board Chairman Dennis Lloyd  
Angie Simon  
Demond Melancon  
Dow Edwards

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Hon. Lesli Harris  
Hon. Freddie King III  
Susan Brennan

**NOTCF STAFF PRESENT:** Lisa Alexis (President/CEO), Tiffany Jackson (Deputy Director), and Linda Jacques (Program Director). Klervae Stinson (Grants Manager).

**Board Chairman Lloyd Dennis** called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

**Board Chairman, Lloyd Dennis** called for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. **Vice-Chairwoman, Angie Simon** motioned to accept the June 15, 2022, minutes. **Board Member, Demond Melancon** seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Chairman's Report** was given by **Chairman Lloyd Dennis**. **Chairman Dennis** has been around town and listening to live music. He is excited to have more music clubs opening and for those that are open, they are being well supported. **Chairman Lloyd Dennis** is happy with the work being done by NOTCF.

**Deputy Director, Tiffany Jackson** presented the finance report covering activities from January to June 2022. Following the finance report, **Tiffany Jackson**, presented the amended 2022 budget.

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**Chairman Dennis** asked for a motion to accept the financial report. **Board Member Dow Edwards** motioned first. **Vice-Chairwoman, Angie Simon** seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Board Member, Dow Edwards** asked for clarity on the amended budget regarding interest income sweep account. Explanation was given by **Deputy Director, Tiffany Jackson**.

**Chairman, Lloyd Dennis** asked for a motion to accept the report given by **Deputy Director, Tiffany Jackson** regarding the amended budget. **Board member, Dow Edwards** motioned first. **Vice-Chairwoman, Angie Simon** seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Program Director, Linda Jacques** gave an overview of the performance report received from Idea Village for the New Orleans Entrepreneur Week 2022 activities. Details were given on how effective the grant was to the demographics of New Orleans and the participation of everyone who attended the event.

**Vice-Chairwoman, Angie Simon** introduced the grants reviewed by the Grants Review Committee. The committee reviewed 21 grants. We recommend all 18 grants for approval by the board. Of the 21 grants reviewed, 3 were approved by the committee as they were less than \$20,000 dollars. The three grants approved in committee totaled \$56,785. The remaining \$973,065 dollars is what the committee asked the board to approve. **Chairman Lloyd Dennis** asked for a motion, **Board Member Dow Edwards** motioned first. **Board Member Demond Melancon** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

**Grants Manager, Klervae Stinson**, gave an overview of the grants awarded year-to-date. NOTCF has awarded a total of 212 grants totaling \$1.9 million dollars.

- Design and Web: 3 Grants Awarded
- Festivals and Sponsorships: 12 Grants Awarded
- Food Related and Cultural Activities: 4 Grants Awarded
- Performance and Traditional Practices: 184 Grants Awarded
- Visual Arts and Crafts: 8 Grants Awarded
- Writing and Publishing: 1 Grant Awarded

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It was noted by **Chairman, Lloyd Dennis** how gratifying it is to have Back Street Cultural Museum to be supported by NOTCF.

**President/CEO** report was given by **Lisa Alexis**. She announced the upcoming SBA Training Session. Explanation was given on the opportunities that are available through the SBA and why the partnership was important for the Elevation Series with NOTCF. It was also mentioned that **President/CEO, Lisa Alexis** had a great interview with WDSU, a local news channel, to speak to NOTCF's mission and how we are supporting the culture and the culture bearers through economic impact within the City of New Orleans. One of the supported awardees, Jamar Pierre's interview with WDSU will also air.

Essence Fest of Culture was successful. For the first time, we have local artists and business owners who were able to participate in vending locations in the Convention Center and in the parking lot of the River Walk. We had over 250 vendors. We will continue to work with Essence through out the year to have vendors from the previous years to move to possibly One Canal Place and add new vendors to the Convention Center.

Lisa Alexis also shared NOTCF worked with Beverly Mckenna and her publishing group to publish the Essence Festival of Culture welcome booklet. Essence Magazine, in partnership with Ashe', Hellis Foundation, and the Arts Council to list all our sculptures, murals, visual arts, and cultural venues to visit while in New Orleans. **President/CEO, Lisa Alexis** also gave an update on the Film Industry noting the Film Industry has spent \$750 million dollars on productions locally in the city. Currently, 8 productions are taking place.

**Trepwise**, represented by **Isaac MacDonald and Derek Brody** gave detailed information on the findings from their studies, conversations, and surveys that were sent out.

The presentation included 4 categories of the needs identified from those findings.

- Direct Financial Assistance and Funding
- Access and Awareness
- Physical and Digital Infrastructure
- Equitable Policies



The floor was opened to questions for everyone by **Chairman Lloyd Dennis**. No questions were asked. **Board member, Dow Edwards**, offered to be a part of the process with the Cultural Working Group. **President/CEO, Lisa Alexis** informed everyone (51) applications for the cultural working group were received and scored. She explained the process of how the working group will be voted upon at the next board meeting.

**Chairman Lloyd Dennis** asked for motion for adjournment. **Demond Melancon** motioned first. **Angie Simon** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.