



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Zoom/Virtual Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Chairman Lloyd Dennis

Angie Simon

Susan Brennan

Demond Melancon

Dow Edwards

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Hon. Leslie Harris

Hon. Freddie King, III

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

Chairman Dennis called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. **Chairman Dennis** welcomed all members to NOTCF including the new members to our board. **Chairman Dennis** recognized the growth of the hotel/motel occupancy compared to last year. The benefits from the taxes collected continue to support the culture in our city.

Chairman Dennis called for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. **Demond Melancon** made a motion to accept the January 20, 2022, meeting minutes, and **Angie Simon** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Tiffany Jackson presented the finance report recapping 2021. **Tiffany Jackson** presented the February finance report including all expenditures to the end of February. **Dow Edwards** requested clarity on the Open Nola Grants, Essence, and Super Bowl 2025. **Tiffany Jackson** gave explanation regarding Open Nola Grants along with explanation regarding inherited commitments from NOTMC for Essence and Super Bowl 2025. **Chairman Dennis** called for a motion to accept the finance report. **Demond Melancon** made a motion to accept the finance report, and **Susan Brennan** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Culture is our open door



Linda Jacques gave an overview and update on the NOTCF Grants Program Performance Reports. **Klervae Stinson** gave Grants Program Report for February 28, 2022, for each level and named all grants to be recommended to the Board of Directors for approval. **Susan Brennan** recommended Danny Barker Banjo and Guitar Festival to receive support from NOTCF in the amount of \$25,000 instead of the \$50,000 requested. The committee would also provide recommendations for other resources to assist the festival organizers, if needed. It was also suggested to have the organizers come back should they need more funding. **Chairman Dennis** called for a motion to accept the grant review committee recommendation. **Dow Edwards** motioned to accept Grants review committee recommendations, **Angie Simon** second the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Lisa Alexis shared the President's report noting great success in our grant programing. **Lisa Alexis** stated our purpose is to support our cultural economy and cultural industries, artists, culture bearers through workshops, events, and programing throughout the year. Recently, NOTCF partnered with James Beard Foundation at a culinary event. NOTCF has also sponsored 2022 French Quarter Festival and the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. **Lisa Alexis** noted 142 grants to date were awarded. She went on to share an update on the cultural working group. NOTCF was in Phase 2 of the stakeholders' discovery and engagement with Trepwise. NOTCF has activated our social media presence along with the Grant Matrix update adopted by council. Lastly, **Lisa Alexis** gave information on the collaboration between NOTCF, K. Allen Consulting and Grow with Google to expand the knowledge of the culture bearers to sustain their business through technology. **Chairman Dennis** requested a motion to accept the President's report. **Susan Brennan** motioned first to accept the President's report and **Demond Melancon** motioned second. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Chairman Dennis requested a motion to adjourn. Motioned first by **Demond Melancon** and motioned second by **Angie Simon**. The board unanimously approved the motion.