



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, September 23, 2021
Zoom/Virtual Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Kristin Gisleson Palmer

Board Chairman Lloyd Dennis

Angie Simon

Susan Brennan

Demond Melancon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Hon. Jay H. Banks

NOTCF STAFF PRESENT: Lisa Alexis (President), Tiffany Jackson (Deputy Director), Linda Jacques (Program Director), Klervae Stinson (Office Coordinator)

Chairman Dennis called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Dennis called for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. **Demond Melancon** made a motion to accept the August 9, 2021, meeting minutes, and **Susan Brennan** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Tiffany Jackson presented the finance report covering January 2021 to August 31, 2021. Next, **Tiffany Jackson** presented the 2021 budget amendment, noting the recommendation was to increase revenues by \$502,000 and increase Cultural Economy Programming by \$500,000. **Chairman Dennis** called for a motion to accept the 2021 budget amendment. **Susan** made a motion to accept the 2021 budget amendment report, and **Angie Simon** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Lisa Alexis presented the 2022 Annual Program and **Tiffany Jackson** proceeded to present the 2022 budget. **Chairman Dennis** called for a motion to accept the 2022 Annual Program and Budget. **Demond Melancon** made the motion to accept the 2022 Annual Program and Budget. **Susan Brennan** seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Lisa Alexis introduced the trepwise team as the consulting firm selected to lead the Cultural Working Group (CWG) efforts for NOTCF. Blake Stanfill walked the board

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members through the trepwise proposal. **Chairman Dennis** called for a motion to approve trepwise to lead the Cultural Working Group. **Susan Brennan** motioned to approved trepwise to lead the CWG. **Demond Melancon** motioned second. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Susan Brennan shared details of the grant review committee meeting noting the following grants were approved for funding.

- African American Museum of Art and Culture- \$20,000**
- George and Leah McKenna Museum-\$20,000**
- New Orleans Design, Development, and Manufacture-\$20,000**
- Baldwin & Co. Coffee +Bookstore-\$60,000**

Susan Brennan also noted French Quarter Festival organizers requested to retain the \$250,000 awarded to them in August 2021. The 2021 Festival was canceled due to the COVID-19 surge in the New Orleans area. The grant committee recommended allowing the organizers to retain the funds for the 2022 festival.

Hon. Kristin Gisleson Palmer motioned first to approve the grant review recommendations. **Angie Simon** motioned second. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Lisa Alexis shared the President’s report and highlighted the partnership with JOB 1 and NOTCF’s use of their space to meet with culture bearers. It was also noted the NOTCF website includes a button to schedule appointments, at the JOB 1 site with NOTCF staff, to receive assistance to complete grant applications. Finally, **Lisa Alexis** mentioned the organizers of the Beignet Festival would pivot to an indoor event and would use grant funds to hire musicians to entertain guests. **Chairman Dennis** requested a motion to accept the President’s report. **Hon. Kristin Gisleson Palmer** motioned first to accept the President’s report and **Susan Brennan** motioned second. The board unanimously approved the motion.

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

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