

SCFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 25, 2014

1:00 pm

Denver Urban Gardens

Meeting Minutes

SCFD Board members present: Chair Dan Hopkins, Vice-Chair Kathy Kucsan, Treasurer Hal Logan, Elaine D. Torres, Rob Johnson, Kathryn Spuhler, Lynn Jeffers, Damon O. Barry and Shepard Nevel

SCFD Board members not present: Bob Grant and Secretary Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann

SCFD staff present: Executive Director Peg Long, Senior Program Manager Nancy McCamey, Program Manager Jessica Kato, Program Associate Erica Barclay Antioco and Office Systems Administrator Sheila Mieger

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Dan Hopkins called the meeting to order at 1:05pm followed by introductions. A quorum was present and the agenda was approved.

Rebecca Andruska, Director of Development and Communication, welcomed the Board and Tier III colleagues to Denver Urban Gardens. Denver Urban Gardens supports more than 125 community gardens throughout Metro Denver, including more than 35 school-based community gardens. The community gardens are open to the public. Michael Buchenau, Executive Director reported Denver Urban Gardens moved into their current space last year. The building used to be the horse barn for Denver Public Transportation. Michael also shared information highlighting the benefits of gardens to communities.

2. Approval of August 28, 2014 Board Minutes

Damon O. Barry motioned to approve the minutes. Kathryn Spuhler seconded. Motion passed.

3. Proposed 2015 SCFD Budget

Dan Hopkins presented a Power Point presentation highlighting the basics of the 2015 budget along with forecast scenarios for the next couple of years. 2015 and 2016 will be lean years for SCFD administration, said Dan. Following the presentation SCFD Treasurer, Hal Logan explained there are three ways SCFD could achieve some financial relief: 1) tax receipts 2) interest income 3) managing expenses. Hal said although tax receipts have gone up and interest income is projected to go up in 2015 neither of these will provide much relief until 2016 or later. Peg Long presents a tight budget, said Hal. Every year she is able to come in under budget. Therefore SCFD expenses are managed well. Peg reported the 2015 proposed budget can be reviewed by the public at the SCFD office over the next 30 days. She has sent the required legal notice to the Denver Post. The Board will vote on the 2015 budget at the October meeting. Peg reported the only notable increases to specific line items are for lobbying and legal fees.

Board members asked Dan, Hal and Peg a number of clarifying questions including if the six months' reserve is a statutory requirement. Peg and Hal stated that the six months' reserve is a Board-imposed policy. The Board can change its policy to allow for the release of funds that reduce the reserves below six months. It was also asked if there were any cost saving suggestions that surfaced from the 2014 efficiency study that could be incorporated in 2015. The Rex Morgan Award costs are built into the 2015 budget. This is the one item the Board can forgo to help manage funds. Peg also reported the County Cultural Councils have been willing to work with SCFD to minimize costs related to Tier III administration. A Board member asked how the process of going to the legislators to increase the administrative percent would work. The SCFD statute with the increase, and any other changes, would be presented to the legislature in a bill during the 2016 session. If and when the bill makes it through the process and the legislators approve the bill, the administrative increase section of the statute could be drafted to take effect right away. That portion of the statute doesn't require voter approval. The earliest the increase could be effective is probably May of 2016.

4. Reports

4.1 Treasurer

Hal Logan reported July 2014 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$4,438,141.65. The 2014 year-to-date (YTD) sales and use tax revenue is \$29,069,106.21. This compares to YTD 2013 revenue of \$26,644,091.60. The variance is \$2,425,014.61, which is a 9.1 % increase in YTD 2014 over YTD 2013. SCFD is receiving 10 basis points above Colotrust Plus on our deposits at Colorado Business Bank.

4.2 Chairman

Dan Hopkins reported he and Peg Long meet with Mendez Consulting representatives. He was impressed with their knowledge of the District. Dan, Peg and Mendez Consulting representatives then met with James Harrington and Floyd Ciruli of CATZ, along with their lobbyist Melanie Layton. The two lobbying firms are already coordinating efforts on the legislative aspects of SCFD reauthorization.

4.3 Executive Director

Peg Long reported the following:

- September 12, 2014 was the deadline for eligibility applications for the 2015 funding cycle. 37 eligibility applications were received. It is the most ever received in a single year.
- On September 24, 2014 Kathy Kucsan and Peg participated in a luncheon hosted by Colorado Chautauqua Association to welcome new arts leaders in Boulder County, including Andrew Bradford at Colorado Music Festival/Center for Musical Arts and Sandra Firmin at the CU Art Museum. They were also joined by Debbie Malden, Chair of the Boulder County Cultural Council. They discussed the arts community, arts passports and other ideas for generating greater public awareness and engagement.
- Last week she met with leadership at Cuyahoga Arts Council in Cleveland (CAC). CAC used SCFD as a model when it began distributing funds in 2009. The CAC tax is up for a reauthorization vote next year. They have many of the same challenges as SCFD.

5. Reauthorization Update

Peg Long reported staff is completing the compilation of work group options charts and other materials into a summary report. The plan is to share it with the Board and post it on the SCFD website in October.

6. Tier III 2014 Distributions

Jessica Kato read a Tier III statement.

In 2013, Tier III organizations reported reaching 3.5 million residents of the district through a plethora of productions, lectures, tours, exhibits, concerts, classes, workshops and educational/entertaining experiences. Collectively, these organizations employed 1,327 full & part-time employees and 3,310 independent contractors, a majority of whom were artists, performers, teaching artists and naturalists. Over 29,000 volunteers donated just over 990,000 hours to Tier III organizations in 2013. Programming highlights included:

- Golden History Museums celebrated its 75th anniversary and had several major exhibits and programs, including "made in Golden" an exhibit exploring the history of major industries in Golden and how they shaped Golden's Past and Present.
- VSA Colorado, an organization that promotes the creative power of people with disabilities by focusing specifically on the power of visual art, conducted a photography residency for blind children which culminated with an open house reception to showcase the photos.
- Plains Conservation Center's programming on prairie ecology, Cheyenne culture, and homesteading pioneers reached residents of all ages by exploring the short grass prairie, visiting Cheyenne tepees, and a replica sod community from 1887
- The Spirituals Project, a choir whose purpose is to perform and preserve the sacred songs created by enslaved Africans in 18th & 19th century America, participated and performed in the first National Spirituals Research, Education, Activism and Performance Conference

- Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company's world premiere production of award-winning writer Dava Sobel's drama "And the Sun Stood Still" dealing with the theories, science, emotions and faith of Copernicus.
- Chicano Humanities and Arts Council participated in Lakewood Heritage Days with a program that explored the historical significance and traditions and meaning of dance in the Aztec culture.
- Broomfield's Cultural Affairs division oversees an art gallery, the public art program, and programming at the Broomfield Auditorium such as Culture Feast, Summer Concert Series, a CU Jazz Series, Walks in the Art, Sphere Ensemble and an Annual Holiday Benefit Concert for Broomfield's foodshare program.
- From Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation's public art bus tours for seniors, to HawkQuest's live Birds of Prey demonstrations and lectures in the schools, there is truly something for everyone! The Tier III organizations provide a beautiful array of programming and, together with their Tier I and Tier II colleagues, help make the Denver Metro area such a fulfilling and enriching place to call home. Now for some numbers!

Following the statement, Jessica presented a Power Point presentation highlighting Tier III 2014 funding statics.

- 245 organizations submitted accepted applications, compared to 254 accepted in 2013 (down 4%)
- 6 applications were not accepted (two less than 2013)
- 531 total grant requests (both GOS & Project) - 4 less than 2013
- A total of 238 unique organizations were funded in 2014
- 66% of applicants applied in a single county- 34% applied in multiple counties
- Average Tier III Revenue was \$245,849 and Expenses were \$239,906
- Average SCFD award was 16% of Budget

She concluded her presentation with a mention of the county cultural councils. For the seven counties combined, 66 council members donated time through regular meetings, reading and scoring grant applications, interviews with all Tier III applicants and funding allocation meetings. The cultural councils are integral to the Tier III grant process and it couldn't be done without their dedication and service.

County Cultural Council members presented highlights from their county and guidelines.

Kathy Imel, Adams County Secretary
 Barbara Duff, Arapahoe County Chair
 Deborah Malden, Boulder County Chair
 Clint Huber, Broomfield County Chair
 Michael Uhlenkamp, Denver County Chair
 Ann Speer, Douglas County Chair
 Jeanette Thrower, Jefferson County Chair

Board members asked each Council member specific questions regarding his/her county. All councils reported how they arrived at their funding decisions and if they were anticipating any changes to their guidelines in the next year. If a Council did not fund a particular organization, the Board asked the reasoning. Council members who served on a work group were asked about their experience. They all reported they thought the process was thorough and hoped the options presented to the Board would be helpful. The Board thanked Council members for their time and dedication.

Resolution 14-07 Pertaining to Distribution of Tier III Formula and Discretionary Funds

The Board read the resolution. Shepard Nevel motioned to approve Resolution 14-07: Pertaining to Distribution of 2014 Tier III Formula & Discretionary Funds. Lynn Jeffers seconded. The motion passed.

7. Other Matters

Kathryn Spuhler gave an update on the SCFD Taskforce for Education Programs and Services (STEPS) committee. The taskforce is meeting with the SCC education committee. STEPS will have a presence at the

Denver Museum of Nature and Science's education night on October 14, 2014. They will be distributing a questionnaire to teachers asking for feedback regarding a possible arts education database.

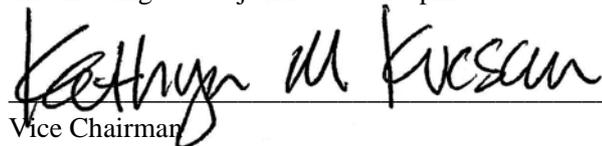
Kathryn Spuhler reported she has been working with Kate Lubotsky and Karen Gerrity on a SCFD Teen Council. They are planning to have the first meeting of the Teen Council mid January 2015. They are working on an invite email to send out to SCFD funded organizations asking them to encourage teens they work with to get involved.

8. Public Comment

Jessy Clark reported the Butterfly Pavilion received their AZA accreditation.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.



Vice Chairman