The Maryland State Arts Council held a meeting at Make Studio in Baltimore, MD, on January 27, 2017. Chair Shelley Morhaim called the meeting to order.

Present: Carole Alexander, Barbara Bershon, Aileen Carlucci, Anthony Cornwell, Carla Du Pree, Julie Madden, Shelley Morhaim, Carol Trawick, Gary Vikan, Anne West, MSAC staff

Absent: Joan Lyon, Senator Richard Madaleno, Doug Mann, Jack Rasmussen, Robinson Rowe, Delegate Alonzo Washington

Guests: Phyllis Alexander (President, National Coalition Building Institute)
Cherie Brown (CEO, National Coalition Building Institute)
Cathy Goucher (Co-Founder, Make Studio)
John Schratwieser (Executive Director, Maryland Citizens for the Arts)

Approval of Consent Agenda
The following items were approved as presented:

- November 2016 Meeting Minutes
- Financial Report

Chair’s Report
Shelley Morhaim reported the following:

- Shelley welcomed everyone to the meeting
- Special thanks to Cathy Goucher and Make Studio for hosting us today
- Historically, the January meeting is used for strategic planning
  - Today we will be participating in a diversity training workshop, which addresses a key goal of MSAC’s Strategic Plan
  - Our training will be led by Cherie Brown and Phyllis Alexander, from the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI)
  - Thanks to NCBI for being here today
- Shelley and Theresa have been meeting regularly to discuss the upcoming budget and other administrative matters
- We are working on gathering names to submit for the upcoming Green Bag nominations
- Please forward any potential candidates to Theresa for consideration
- Shelley met with the Arts Council at the University of Baltimore
  - They are very interested in working with us on future projects
- Thanks to everyone who attended MCA ArtsLab
- Shelley also attended the Governor’s holiday open house in Annapolis
- “Council Kisses” were given to Councilors for their outreach activities
  - Barbara, Carla, Tony and Julie, received “kisses” for attending various events throughout the State
- MD Arts Day is February 14th in Annapolis
  - Please do your best to attend this important event
We also ask that you consider attending National Arts Advocacy Day in Washington D.C.

- The event will be held March 20-21
- This is a great way to connect on a national level

Board members are also encouraged to join The National Assembly of State Art Agencies (NASAA)

50th Anniversary Committee Update
Carol Trawick reported the following:

- The Steering Committee is moving along nicely
- We are preparing to begin soliciting our large sponsors
- Our event planner, Elizabeth has informed us of provisions that should be in place in the event of inclement weather
- Each committee member has been tasked to try and secure one sponsor by February 14th
- At this time, the committee does not have any direct contacts for the large banks
  - Please let us know if you know of anyone associated with the banks
- There are various sponsorship levels to choose from, ranging from $2500 to $25,000
- The committee will make the initial calls to potential sponsors
- We are waiting for all the printed materials to be completed before we officially begin
- The ethics office has advised us that we cannot solicit grantees
- Special thanks to Carole Alexander and Julie Madden for serving on the Programming Committee for the 50th kickoff event
- Aileen Carlucci accepted Carole and Julie’s invitation to join the Programming Committee

Executive Director’s Report
Theresa Colvin reported the following:

- We are thrilled with the increase reported in the Governor’s budget
  - With the increase, we will be at $21 million
  - We are also waiting on the official word regarding the Special Fund and transfer of the funds
- We have made an offer for the CAD/A&E Program Director position
  - There may be a new staff member on board within the next few weeks
  - Special thanks to Pamela Dunne for continuing to serve in a dual role for the past year
- Pam Breaux, CEO of NASAA has been holding conference calls with all Executive Directors to provide real-time updates on the status of the NEA
  - We need to provide a positive and affirming path for our legislators
  - There is support for the arts within the new administration
  - Our Vice President’s wife, Mrs. Pence is a strong advocate for the arts and arts therapy
  - Jane Chu is still in place at the NEA, and has expressed interest in remaining in her current position
  - It is important to know that 40% of NEA grant funds go to state and regional arts agencies
  - We need to continue to reach out and build strong relationships with our new legislators
- Theresa stressed the importance of NASAA and their advocacy efforts
- Special thanks to John and MCA for their hard work
- Be sure to review your panel liaison schedule
  - Please let us know if you have any conflicts
  - These panels will give you great insight on our grant awarding process
- The First Lady’s student art exhibit will be held in Annapolis on March 20
  - We hope that you can attend this special event
- The Poetry Out Loud state finals will be held in Baltimore on March 18
- Thanks to the staff and the Council for all of your work
Public Art Project Grants
The Public Art Project grants were approved as presented.

Maryland Citizens for the Arts
John Schratwieser reported the following:
- The Governor has submitted a bill that would take the balance in the Special Fund and use it for
  the purpose of adding to the base arts grant for the fiscal year
  - For FY 2017, the full $2 million would be transferred to the MSAC base arts grant
  - For FY 2018 and beyond, due to amendments, $1 million would be left in the fund annually for
    legislative priorities and the balance would be swept to the MSAC base arts grant
  - In each fiscal year, any money swept from the Special Fund to the base arts grant would be
    included for the purposes of calculating the funding formula
  - We are keeping a close eye on this and will keep you posted
- MD Arts Day is February 14th, which is also MCA’s 40th anniversary
  - Thanks to all who have registered
  - John will also be serving as the keynote speaker this year
- The Senate hearing is on February 24th
- The House hearing is on March 2nd
- Arts Advocacy day will be on March 20-21
- Please be sure to check our website for important news and updates
- If you are not on our mailing list, please be sure to get signed up
- Thanks to everyone for all that you do, on behalf of the arts

New Business
- Next Meeting is March 17, 2017

Adjournment

Attachments:
- Public Art Project Grants