

# ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS COUNCIL MEETING

Council Chambers  
 Thursday, December 2nd, 2021 at 2:00 PM  
 Council Chambers

## MINUTES

**I. Call to Order: Mr. Wohl called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.**

Present: David Wohl  
 Jodi Rush  
 Joan Collar  
 Judy Chitwood  
 Bill Blizard  
 Becky Hilstad  
 Kristin Thompson  
 Van McCollum  
 Dylan Keith  
 Kimberly Bland

Also Present: Stephanie Braswell, Communications Manager

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

- A. Arts & Cultural Events Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2021
- B. Arts & Cultural Events Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2021
- C. Arts & Cultural Events Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2021 – Deferred

**III. Old Business:**

**A. 2021/2022 Arts and Cultural Events Season Calendar and Financial Review**

2021/2022 Arts and Cultural Events (Rev. 11.30.21)																
Member/Method	Event	Date / Time / Location	Artist	Piano / Tuning	Sound	Lighting	Venue	Accom.	Food/Supplies	Event Services	Misc.	Notes	AC Budget	CEF Budget	Ticket Info	
Collar	Art Film (4 x \$275)												\$1,100		No Tickets	
Chitwood/Wohl	Charleston Jazz Orchestra presents (Brought to Newport)	Sunday, Aug. 15, 2021 7:30 p.m.   West Beach	\$10,000			\$148				\$293		500 to a seat \$275		\$20,800	330 Seats   Ticket Revenue with GO	
McCullum/Rush	The Charlestons	Sunday, Sep. 19, 2021 8 p.m.   Church of Our Saviour	\$4,000						\$100	\$224			\$4,324		180	
Collar	Piano Bar - Gary Picorella	Wednesday, Sept. 22 5-7 pm   The Sandcastle	\$250										\$250		No Tickets	
Blizard	Morano Entertainment Glorious Gershwin	Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021 7:30 p.m.   West Beach	\$14,000		\$850	\$1,418	\$820		\$160	\$292	\$485	pop/dance		\$17,915	177 Seats   \$10   \$1,638 Ext. Profit	
Hilstad	PURE Theatre Buyer & Cellar	Monday, Oct. 17, 2021 4 p.m.   Turtle Point	\$9,500			\$280				\$224	\$2,614	Misc seating over	\$10,618		125 Seats   \$10   \$1,232 Ext. Profit	
Collar	Piano Bar - Jay Project Quartet	Wednesday, Oct. 27 5-7 pm   The Sandcastle	\$450										\$450		No Tickets	
McCullum	Ultimate Funk and accompanist	Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021 7:30 p.m.   Church of Our Saviour	\$6,100	\$180	\$605			\$1,052	\$10	\$224		2 beer/2 rooms at \$20	\$8,415		10	
Collar	Piano Bar - Blue Heron Pond Boys	Wednesday, Nov. 10 5-7 pm   The Sandcastle	\$450										\$450		No Tickets	
Hilstad	Charleston Symphony Orchestra (Tour of Homes)	Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021 8 p.m.   West Beach	\$42,000			\$1,418	\$820			did not use				\$44,238	330   No Tickets	
Collar	Howard Blackwell - Magician, Illusionist & Comedian	Thursday, Nov. 28, 2021 7:30 p.m.   Seabrook	\$2,500		\$605					\$224	\$35		\$3,314		175 Seats   \$10   \$1,638 Ext. Profit	
Rush	Burgess River Brass	Friday, Dec. 17, 2021 7:30 p.m.   Holy Spirit	\$12,000			\$873		\$1,560	\$200	\$292			\$15,925		325	
Chitwood	Queenin Baxter Presents Nicki Parrot	Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022 5 p.m.   Turtle Point	\$21,500							\$292				\$22,292	330 Seats   \$10   Ticket Rev Share with Queenin	
Chitwood/Hilstad	Liquid Pleasure	Friday, Jan. 14, 2022 7:30 p.m.   West Beach	\$6,000			\$3,550			\$250	\$292			\$10,092		157 Seats   \$10   \$1,638 Ext. Profit	
Collar	Piano Bar - Jim Heckerberry	Wednesday, Jan. 26 5-7 pm   The Sandcastle	\$250										\$250		No Tickets	
Chitwood	Queenin Baxter Presents Louie Herikson feat. Kaitie Lynne	Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022 5 p.m.   Turtle Point													500 Tickets Rev Share with Queenin	
Collar	Piano Bar - Chris Dotson	Wednesday, Feb 16 5-7 pm   The Sandcastle	\$250										\$250		No Tickets	
Blizard	Charlton Singleton and Contemporary New	Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022 7:30 p.m.   Turtle Point	\$10,000			\$873	\$285			\$224				\$11,377	125 Seats   \$10   \$1,232 Ext. Profit	

Collar/Rush	Columbia City Ballet Off the Wall & Onto the Stage	Tuesday, Mar. 8, 2022 7:30 p.m.   West Beach	\$25,000				\$3,260			\$292	Ballet pays bar	\$28,552	157 Seats   \$10   \$1523 Est. Profit	
Hilstad	Violinist Benjamin Beilman & Piano Accompanist Yekwon Sunwoo	Friday, Mar. 11, 2022 7:30 p.m.   Church of Our Saviour	\$10,000	\$180			\$1,180			\$224	2 days/ 2 rooms at \$631/327	\$11,584	90	
Collar	Piano Bar - Glenn Brown	Wednesday, Mar. 16 5-7 pm   The Sandcastle	\$250									\$250	No tickets	
Chitwood	Quentin Baxter Presents	Sunday, Mar. 13, 2022 5 p.m.   Turtle Point											\$30 Ticket Rev Stays with Quentin	
Hilstad	Charleston Symphony Orchestra Spring 2022 Concert	Sunday, Mar. 27, 2022 5 p.m.   Holy Spirit	\$16,000			\$873				\$292		\$17,165	325	
Rush	Young Artists: College of Charleston Theatre Dept	Monday, Mar. 28, 2022 7:30 p.m.   Turtle Point	\$750	\$998	\$873	\$280		\$125	\$224			\$3,250	125 Seats   \$10   \$1213 Est. Profit	
Chitwood/Bizard	Brubeck Brother Quartet Celebrates Dave Brubeck's Centennial	Wednesday, Apr. 6, 2022 7:30 p.m.   Seabrook	\$7,000	\$998	\$800	\$873	\$2,800	\$50	\$292	\$1,000	2 days/ 4 rooms at \$300 Misc baseline	\$13,813	175 Seats   \$10   \$1698 Est. Profit	
Rush	Conrad Tao	Monday, Apr. 18, 2022 7:30 p.m.   Seabrook	\$12,000	\$1,216	\$609		\$700	\$25	\$292		2 days/ 3 rooms at \$300	\$14,842	175 Seats   \$10   \$1698 Est. Profit	
Wohl/Rush	Karla Bonoff	Thursday, Apr. 21, 2022 7:30 p.m.   Seabrook	\$5,000	\$1,336	\$800	\$1,418	\$740	\$100	\$292	\$450	2 rooms/ 1 night at \$370 Misc: Guitar Amps/ Stand	\$10,136	175 Seats   \$10   \$1698 Est. Profit	
Bizard	Blues by the Sea	Sunday, Apr. 24, 2022 3-7 p.m.   Freshfields Village	\$15,000									\$15,000	No Tickets	
Rush	Piccolo Preview	Sunday, May 1, 2022 4 p.m.   Holy Spirit	\$6,000			\$873				\$292		\$7,165	325	
Total												\$116,038	\$184,901	
<b>Arts Council Budget Breakdown</b>						<b>Cultural Events Budget Breakdown</b>						<b>Trackable</b>		
spendable	\$106,000		spendable	\$179,000		spendable	\$179,000		contingency	\$3,000		spendable	\$179,000	
contingency	\$5,000		estimated ticket profit	\$16,738		contingency	\$3,000		total	\$182,000		estimated ticket profit	\$4,258	
admin	\$7,000		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$116,738</b>								<b>Total</b>	<b>\$183,258</b>	
total	\$118,000		<b>Events Total</b>	<b>\$114,038</b>								<b>Events Total</b>	<b>\$184,901</b>	
			<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$2,700</b>								<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$1,643</b>	

Ms. Hilstad reported on the Charleston Symphony Tour of Homes event. She highlighted the success of the post-show prosecco toast. She proposed negotiating price with the Charleston Symphony for future seasons.

Ms. Collar discussed the success of the Howard Blackwell event, noting a problem with the Seabrook venue's sound system. She discussed the possibility of the council purchasing a personal sound system for future events.

Ms. Rush reported that stands would be secured from Fox Music for the upcoming Burning River Brass event. She noted that Mr. Keith and Ms. Bland would be securing the meals for the performers. Mr. Wohl clarified that the Council had permission from the Church of Our Saviour to use their sound system.

Ms. Chitwood confirmed that Quentin Baxter's two upcoming concerts were having large ticket sales. She stated that the Liquid Pleasure event would not have a dance floor and tables would be distanced, allowing the audience to dance in between them. She noted this event would have limited capacity. Ms. Braswell raised a question about this setup, stating that people come to this event to dance. She proposed that there be an open space for the audience to dance and raised concern over the ability to secure a physical dance floor due to COVID supply shortage.

#### IV. New Business

##### A. 2022-23 Planning Sessions Timeline & Format

Mr. Wohl outlined that the January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will include genre facilitators reporting and proposals are due by January 18<sup>th</sup>. He noted that proposal books would be distributed January 21<sup>st</sup> and media presentations would occur on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, making ranking voted due by Monday the 9<sup>th</sup>. He then stated that the upcoming season would be finalized by February 10<sup>th</sup> and venues would be discussed on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

##### B. 2022-23 Event Selection Process & Ranking System

Mr. Wohl highlighted some aspects to consider when proposing events, including quality, balance, variety, and diversity. He listed categories of classical, jazz, theatre, americana, and other entertainment. He explained the council will be ranking within the genre categories and the genres will be reviewed one at a time. He stated each proposed event would be classified by

each arts council member as either yes, no, or meh (meaning so so) and he would later perform statistical analysis on the results to gain further insight on preferences.

**C. Arts & Cultural Events Coordinator Update (Job Responsibilities & Reporting Structure)**

Ms. Braswell announced the arrival of Ruthie Foster, who will be serving as a fulltime Arts & Cultural Events Coordinator. She elaborated on her expectations for Ms. Foster to aid in streamlining and scheduling. Mr. Wohl stated he wants Ms. Foster to take over tasks such as lighting and other coordination. He also stated he wants Ms. Foster to seek out different talent to propose to the council.

**D. Organizational Changes/Updates (Town Staff & Town Volunteers)**

Ms. Braswell said that Ms. Foster will serve as a fulltime staff member who will be a point of contact for venues, lighting, and other components. Ms. Bland and Mr. Keith shared insight on the benefit to having a single contact within the event planning process.

The goal of diversifying upcoming seasons were discussed by Ms. Braswell and Mr. Wohl. Concerns were raised by the council regarding changing certain events. Ms. Braswell stressed the importance of using the cultural events fund for tourism driving events and introduced the idea of having two staff proposals. She announced that the Town is moving to staff chaired committees and she would be chairing the Council beginning in January.

**E. Reports from 2022-23 Season Facilitators:**

- a. Jazz (incl. Blues/Gospel/Dance Bands) – Judy  
Judy said she has not heard any suggestions from other Arts Council members but had ideas of her own she plans to email out.
- b. Classical (incl. chamber music and choral) – Becky  
None
- c. Theatre (includes plays, dance, and variety) – David  
Ms. Bland discussed a production called “Beyond Babble”, a story of star-crossed lovers expressed through movement and dance.
- d. Americana (includes country, bluegrass, rock, alternative and folk) – Bill  
Mr. Blizard noted he plans on proposing Tom Rush. Mr. Wohl commented on a guitar trio based in California he plans on contacting.
- e. Other Entertainment (may include magicians, comedians, holiday, acrobatic, etc.) - TBA  
Ms. Band suggested the idea of a one-man circus show who brings his own tent where he performs. She noted that this event would be popular with families and wider audiences.

**E. Other Updates**

None

**V. Correspondence**

None

**VI. Committee Members’ Reports**

None

**VII. Chairman’s Comments**

None

**VIII. Public Comments**

None

**IX. Adjournment**

*Mr. Wohl motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Collar and carried unanimously.*

Submitted by,



Ruthie Foster, Arts & Cultural Events Coordinator

Approved by



David Wohl, Chairman

3-3-

Date