



## **The Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board Minutes July 10, 2025**

**Board Members Present:** Arreasha “Z” Lawrence, Fernando Verdee, Arsburn “Oz” Roberts, Mimi Woodson, Dr. Shikha Shah

**Board Members Absent:** Gloria Strode, Carolyn Star-Ross, Terrance Flowers

**Board Members Excused:** Cletus Richardson, Ku’ Wonna Ingram, Delois “Dee” Marsh

**Present: Civic Center Staff:** Troy Vanerson, Caryn Hammond, Josaland Hardwick, and Janine Abano.

**Mimi Woodson** - Called for order at 4:10 pm

Minutes for May 21, 2025, on hold for approval.

### **1. Concert Series Grant (Z)**

- A grant supporting a 7-concert series is currently underutilized.
- Targeting a September launch, with the grant period covering 2026–2028.
- Social marketing efforts to be developed in collaboration with Jenny B.
- Eligibility requirement: Applicants must be members of the Columbus Jazz Society.
- Concerts to be held throughout the calendar year.

### **2. Liberty Building Update (Troy)**

- Update provided during a call with Allen Minton.
- Mold remediation efforts have slowed due to electrical system vandalism, resulting in no power.
- Expected progress by August.
- Historical artifacts have been preserved, but distribution is delayed due to mold concerns.

### **3. Artifact Preparation & Community Engagement (Mimi)**

- Requested all saved artifacts be cleaned and ready by end of July for public presentation.
- Goal: To demonstrate Liberty board's commitment to restoring the building during community discussions.
- Community input is being collected regarding the future of the Liberty Building.
  - Plan to visit four local libraries to distribute paper surveys and QR codes.
  - Survey will ask community members what they want to see and how they envision the space.
  - Proposed libraries visit dates (pending confirmation with libraries):

- North Columbus (large Conference Room) – Thursday, August 14 @ 6 pm
- Mildred L Terry Public Library (AKA Room) – Saturday, August 30 @ 10 am
- Columbus Public Library (Auditorium) – Wednesday, September 03 @ 6 pm
- South Columbus Library (Pete Robinson Meeting Room) – Wednesday, September 10 @ 6 pm

#### **4. Attendance Records (Mimi)**

- Attendance policy and record-keeping are currently on hold while correcting date discrepancies.
- Request for a vacancy letter to be sent to Council regarding Attendance Policy Resolution 525-02

#### **5. Liberty Building Wishlist (Jai)**

Identified crucial items needed to enhance the Liberty Building:

- Curtains/backdrops
- Seating
- Logo design
- Indoor and outdoor lighting
- Ceiling décor
- Small café setup

Meeting adjourned 5:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janine Abano*

Janine Abano, Board Secretary