

MINNESOTA DANCE ADVOCACY TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, April 21, 2025 – 5-6PM Zoom

In attendance:

Kim Konikow(facilitator), Michael Pettee, Elsie Martin, Louise Robinson, and Gary Peterson

Quick Recap:

Update on Engagement Group and Consultant Selection

Louise Robinson, a member of the hiring committee, shared insights from a recent meeting of the engagement group regarding the hiring committee's consultant recommendations. The engagement group was initially confused by utilizing three consultants, but became more comfortable after a joint meeting, where they discussed the rationale behind the selections. They are moving forward with two of the consultants but are seeking to replace one due to concerns about their past association with ArtSpace.

*** Consultant selection and concerns**

Planning for Fall Focus Groups and Community Engagement

Working Community Engagement Group plans to distribute a survey in July to determine fall meeting dates and gather input on five focus areas. The task force aims to hold three to six focus group meetings in October and November, with locations including Fergus Falls, Duluth, and/or Mankato, alongside three meetings in the Twin Cities. The importance of expanding the contact list was emphasized; we are asking EVERYONE to add to this list. It has a current count of over 300 names. [Combined List to update](#)

* Planning for upcoming meetings and focus groups

Outreach and Engagement Strategies

Elsie Martin asked about what would be covered at the meetings. Louise Robinson pointed out that the engagement group is tasked with defining the upcoming meetings more clearly and stressed the importance of having a complete contact list for outreach. Kim Konikow noted that building relationships with those not previously involved is crucial and that outreach should begin *before* the survey is distributed. Michael Pettee expressed a desire to establish deadlines for outreach efforts. Kim Konikow stated that all contacts need to be on the list by the end of June; this means personal connections need to be utilized.

This also means sending in more photos that express the diversity of dance in MN. The group recognizes that there is still a lack of understanding regarding the goals of the Task Force.

- * Outreach efforts to include more participants

Planning Meeting Logistics for Dance Events

Louise emphasized the need for multiple meetings at different times/dates to ensure broader participation. Kim Konikow highlighted the importance of adjusting meeting locations to attract attendees from various regions, particularly in rural areas, which may mean there is an online component available for outreach meetings.

Budget and Planning Discussion

Louise Robinson highlighted that the budget includes \$3,000 to \$4,000 for stipends to help cover costs like mileage and childcare for participants. Kim Konikow stressed the need to ensure this information is shared in future meetings. Michael Pettee mentioned plans to discuss how to allocate the stipend amounts among facilitators, while the group confirmed the next meeting date as May 19.

- * Budget allocation for facilitators and stipends

Next Steps:

- * Mathew will double-check which list participants are adding to before sending out the minutes.
- * Participants will send photos to the Minnesota Dance Task Force email to ensure diversity in imagery.
- * Participants will reach out to individuals not on the contact list to encourage their attendance at upcoming meetings.
- * Mathew will ensure that the contact list is as complete as possible by the end of June.
- * Michael, Mathew, and Louise will discuss how to split the budget amount between multiple facilitators.
- * Kim will reach out to MSAB and Regionals to ask for assistance in capturing dance-funded activity contacts, and to continue publicizing efforts.

NEXT MNDTF MEETING -

Monday, May 19, 2025

Facilitator TBD

Hybrid

Center for Performing Arts
3754 Pleasant Ave
Minneapolis MN 55409

Zoom

5:00PM -6:30PM (4:45 pm -5:00 pm; new visitors welcoming)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85031353212?pwd=b9BbWXVr4ZOnzASitq0PDk9ydd3HF9.1>

Meeting ID: 850 3135 3212

Passcode: 226744