

MICHIGAN FILM OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 15th, 2020

Microsoft Teams Open Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order/Welcome from the Chairman

The meeting of the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council (MFOAC) was called to order at 1:11 p.m. by Chairman Bill Ludwig. A quorum was present with the following Council members in attendance: Terry Terry, Dori DePree,, , Brian Winn, Andriy Pereklita, Eric Kuiper, Timothy Peitryga and Selam Ghirmai. Members excused: Niki Adams, Michael Mittelstaedt, Skot Welch, Rick Hert, Dan Lemieux, and Joe Voss.

Mr. Ludwig welcomed everyone and thanked the council members for their attendance.

2. Adopt Agenda

There was a motion by Mr. Peitryga to approve the Agenda; seconded by Ms. DePree; motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2020 meeting

There was a motion by Mr. Winn to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 MFOAC meeting; seconded by Mr. Pereklita; motion passed unanimously.

4. Director's Report – Selam Ghirmai

Ms. Ghirmai thanked the council members for their attendance at today's virtual meeting.

INTRODUCTION

1. Thank you for joining the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council virtual meeting on this December 15, 2020.

PARTNERSHIPS - Google Computer Science First partnership (free coding education for youth) pivot to Guinness World Records

2. At the top of the year, Film Office, Accelerate4KIDS (nonprofit) and Google were co-organizing the 5th annual "Coding for Kids" live event.
3. Due to COVID, we had to pivot to a virtual event this **Friday, December 11**. This event is launched by our original partners as well as additional stakeholders who have come together to form a collaborative group (Michigan Accelerates Computer Science – MACS).
4. The goal of MACS is to increase access computer science education. In addition, the virtual event was simultaneously an opportunity to set the Guinness World Record (GWR) in the following category as it relates to computer science education: *most users to take an online lesson in 24 hours (500+ participants)*.
5. Event was called "Coding for Michigan" as we opened this event to anyone of any age
6. Received news a couple of weeks before our event that the title was achieved by a competitor in another country that secured 2,809 participants last week. Ultimately, we pivoted to an alternate title for 'the most users to take an online computer programming lesson within **12 hours**', which reset our target to 1,922.

7. On Friday, December 11, 2020, we attempted to set a new Guinness World Records for 'the most users to take an online computer programming lesson within 12 hours'. We leapt from 573 registrants at the last Council meeting to 4,233 registrants.
8. Unfortunately, we did not achieve this goal. We had 1,633 users and needed 1,922 to set the record. Although we did not set the title, we did accomplish our objectives to unite communities around the world for a common purpose and to introduce computer science education to so many more people.
 - a. Attached is a dictation from the Guinness World Records Adjudicator, Christina Conlon, that talks of our journey and the official result.

LEGISLATION

Representative Robert Wittenberg, introduced House Bills 6504 and 6505 yesterday in the state House to introduce a film tax credit program in Michigan on December 3, 2020.

5. Public Comments

There was no public audience present for this meeting, so no public comments were taken.

6. Old Business

There were no items discussed under Old Business.

7. New Business

Given the staffing constraints at the MFDMO, we tasked the MFOAC with advising the office on the most pressing areas of coverage in the coming fiscal year. The MFOAC was assigned to offer suggestions to the MFDMO at the next MFOAC meeting.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, there was a motion by Mr. Terry to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Winn; motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.