

PROPOSED MICHIGAN FILM OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 15, 2023

The Birmingham 8 Theater

211 South Old Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, MI 48009

&

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 1:06 p.m. by Chairman Bill Ludwig. The following Council members were in attendance: Dan Lemieux, Tim Pietryga, Michael Mittelstaedt, Niki Adams, Andriy Pereklita, and Selam Ghirmai.

Mr. Lemieux welcomed everyone and thanked the council members for their attendance. He noted that this is the first time a Council meeting has been co-hosted with a film festival since the pandemic.

2. Adopt Agenda

There was a motion approve the Agenda, which was seconded; motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from August 9, 2023 meeting

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2023 MFOAC meeting; which was seconded; motion passed unanimously.

4. Director's Report – Selam Ghirmai

❖ Legislative

- Legislative bills [SB 438](#) and [SB 439](#), also known as the Michigan Multimedia Jobs Act
 - Referred to committee on Economic and Community Development
- [Summary](#) of legislation provided by Michigan Film Industry Association

❖ Industry News

- Writers Guild of America (WGA) and Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA) strikes continue
 - WGA - 4 months (May 2)
 - SAG - 2 months (July 13)

❖ Film Office logistics

- Phone Issue
 - Customers are able to call and leave a voicemail on both numbers on our website (800) 477-3456 and (517) 241-6757, but messages cannot be retrieved.
 - Working with Department of Technology, Management & Budget to resolve.

- ❖ **Reel-Scout Film Office Software** – brief overview of Locations Gallery and Production Directory
- ❖ **Future Advisory Council meeting dates**
 - November 2023 (date/location to be determined)
- ❖ **Presenter**
 - Luke Castle, Founder & President of Royal Starr Film Festival & Royal Starr Arts Institute

5. Public Comments

- ❖ Luke Castle asked about opportunities to promote Production Directory & Locations Gallery
- ❖ Alex Page from Michigan Film Industry Association shared updates on legislative bills
- ❖ Josh Mackey asked about Film Office resources available to local filmmakers

6. Old Business

There were no items discussed under Old Business.

7. New Business

There were no items discussed under New Business.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn the meeting, that was seconded; motion passed unanimously.