



Meeting: March 19, 2019, Sherwood Center

Members Present:

Molly Grimsley – Chair
Patricia Gallagher – Vice Chair
Jeff Seffens - Treasurer
Ruth Bandler – Secretary
Carol Caputo
Sharon Chang
Deborah Dillard
Kelly Herman
Patricia Hussey
Steve Latourette
Mary Lechter
Jessica Russo Revand

Members Absent, Excused:

Clayton Austin

Members Absent, Unexcused:

Staff:

Megan DuBois – Cultural Arts Manager

Guest:

None

Molly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

We welcomed Jessica Russo Revand, a new commissioner.

Review of Minutes for February 2019

The February minutes were reviewed. Minor edits were made.

- A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the minutes as amended.

Treasurer's Report – Jeff Seffens, Treasurer

- Jeff reviewed the balance sheet and profit and loss statement.

Announcements – Megan DuBois, Cultural Arts Manager

- Megan distributed a list of 2019 Spotlight events that were funded in part by Commission on the Arts grants.

- Megan passed around a draft schedule for next season's Old Town Hall Performance Series (OTHPS). She hopes to have it ready for release in a few weeks.

- Megan said the Shoestring Theater Company is inviting Commission and Council members to be their guests at the May 4 performance of *Haint So*.

Old Business

ArtScreen – Jeff Seffens

- Jeff discussed the upcoming ArtScreen event, *The Buddy Holly Story* movie.

Public Art Committee (PAC) – Carol Caputo, Megan DuBois

Carol said the committee met last night and discussed the following –

- The Peace Bird, for Van Dyck Park – The piece is not yet constructed. The foundation will be done soon. We will have a dedication ceremony when it's installed.
- The Girl with the Dog, for Old Town Square – This piece is in the works.
- New dog park at the site of the former Westmore Elementary School – This is way behind schedule. The committee is interested in creating a mosaic around the fountain.
- Paint Your Pet fundraiser at Paint Your Own Pottery (Deb's studio) – See below.
- GMU Mural Brigade – They are starting work for a 2020 event.
- Community membership - The committee is discussing the idea of adding members of the community to the group.
- Traffic Signal Box Painting – Megan said Cathy Salgado would like us to pursue this project. She's seen it done in other towns and said it's very effective.
- Field trip – Sharon proposed a field trip to Dumbarton Oaks. It's close by and has wonderful sculpture and gardens.
- Collaborations - The committee hopes to increase our collaboration with GMU and add additional groups, e.g., NoVA.

Development/Sponsorship updates – Pat Gallagher, Megan DuBois

- Pat G. said the committee received the updated donor database and is reviewing it.
- Pat G. said the committee is looking for a sponsor for Funday Monday.
- The OTHPS is approaching its 30th anniversary; the committee is working on ideas to celebrate the occasion.
- Megan said she has not heard from TD Bank; she will follow up with them.

Action: Megan will follow up with TD Bank regarding sponsorship.

Paint Nite fundraiser – Deb Dillard, Megan DuBois

- This fundraiser will run for a week during Spotlight, at Deb's studio, Paint Your Own Pottery. Deb will donate 10% of the profits and 20% of the May 1 profits to the Commission. Deb is publicizing this event to a wide variety of groups.

Mason and Business Award Nominations, April 12, Sherwood Center – Mary Lechter, Jeff Seffens, Megan DuBois

- Megan said she has not received guest lists from the awards recipients. Sharon will send Megan the twins' email address and Megan will contact them.
- Megan said Earth Fare has not responded. If they don't respond this week, Megan will contact Wegmans for the catering.
- Jeff said he will take care of obtaining the plaques.
- Sharon will provide talking points about the twins.
- Megan will draft a press release.
- Megan will obtain a liquor license.

Action: Megan will email the awards recipients to obtain their bios and their guest lists.

Action: Megan will arrange for the catering.

Action: Jeff will order the awards from Campers.

Action: Sharon will provide talking points about the twins, no later than one week before the event.

Action: Megan will draft a press release.

Action: Megan will obtain the license.

Commission on the Arts (CoA) Vacancies update – Megan DuBois

- Megan said we have two new commissioners; there are still two vacancies. She will check with City Council to find out who they designated to be the business representative to the CoA.

Action: Megan will check with City Council to find out who they designated to be the business representative to the CoA.

Strategic plan update – Molly Grimsley

- Molly said she met with the officers and Megan last night to review her first draft. Molly will combine the comments into a second draft, solicit additional feedback by email from the officers and Megan, and then send a “tighter” draft to all of the members for input and review.

Action: Molly will prepare a second draft and send it to the officers and Megan for review. Molly will then send a “tighter” version to all of the members for input and review.

Joint CoA / PRAB meeting – Molly Grimsley

- Molly said we have a tentative joint meeting scheduled with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) the second Thursday of November 2019.

New Business

GMU and other collaborations – Molly Grimsley

- Molly said she reminded GMU staff to notify us of their arts-related activities; we would like to provide some help. Molly said we are already collaborating with the Women’s Club and she’d like to find additional groups interested in collaborating with us.

Virginia LOVEworks program – Megan DuBois

- Megan said Virginia Tourism is providing reimbursement for groups to create their own Virginia “LOVE” sign. Megan will look into this.

Performance venue – Jessica Russo Revand, Mary Lechter

- Jessica said this is of special interest to her. She said some of the City Council members expressed strong support for this idea when she talked with them. Mary explained the white paper that she drafted. The members thought it would be helpful to now form a committee to provide a visible presence of support from CoA.

Action: The members agreed to form a new Performance Venue committee. Starting members will include Jessica and Mary. Details, e.g., goals and membership, need to be developed further.

Partner Updates

PRAB – Pat Gallagher

- Pat G said PRAB is interested in knowing about our projects.

Art League – Carol Caputo

- Carol informed us of upcoming events.

CFBA (City of Fairfax Band Association) – Ruth Bandler

- Ruth informed us of upcoming concerts. She said that the City of Fairfax Band had to schedule its May concert at the Ernst Center, NoVA Annandale, because they couldn’t get a date at any of their usual school venues. The Ernst Center is a nice venue, but it’s a little small for the band, it costs much more for the band to rent, and the audience doesn’t seem to want to travel. She said this is a good example of why we should push for a large, city-based performance venue.

GMU – Mary Lechter

- Mary informed us of upcoming events.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.