



Meeting: October 15, 2019, Sherwood Center

Members Present:

Molly Grimsley – Chair
Patricia Gallagher – Vice Chair
Jeff Seffens - Treasurer
Ruth Bandler – Secretary
Clayton Austin
Carol Caputo
Sharon Chang
Deborah Dillard
Kelly Herman
Patricia Hussey

Members Absent, Excused:

Steve Latourette
Mary Lechter
Jessica Russo Revand

Members Absent, Unexcused:

None

Staff:

Megan DuBois – Cultural Arts Manager

Guests:

None

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

Review of Minutes for September 2019

The September 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 said she would cover upcoming events during other parts of this meeting.

Old Business

ArtScreen – Jeff Seffens

- Jeff discussed this year's first ArtScreen movie, *Singin' in the Rain*. We had a small audience but that was likely due in part to a Rock the Block event being held the same night. The members discussed trying to avoid such scheduling conflicts in the future, but it is difficult because the city has so much going on. Despite the small crowd, we received \$45 in donations.

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

- The Girl with the Dog – Carol reported that the sculpture has some sharp edges, especially on the leash. Children were observed climbing on the sculpture, near the sharp edges. A motion was made, seconded and passed to have Megan inform the PRAB that the CoA is concerned and raised this issue of the sharp edges.

- Mural at the Scout on the Circle – Carol said the PAC approved a design for a mural to go behind the Giant at the Scout on the Circle on Pickett Road. The PAC presented their recommendation to the CoA, along with pictures. A motion was made, seconded and passed for the CoA to approve the request.

- Victorian Square – Molly said she has no new information about the plan to erect a six foot sculpture of a Great Dane in Victorian Square.

- Painted signal boxes – Megan said there will be a call for art for the signal boxes later this week.

- Knitting scarves – Megan said there will be a call for people to join a group knitting scarves to decorate a Christmas tree which will be at the Sherwood Center. After the holidays, the scarves will be donated to a needy group.

- Painted piano – Carol said Joe Kanyan is anxious for the city to remove the piano from his house. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the expenditure of no more than \$200 to pick it up from Joe's house, deliver it to its intended location in the city, and then remove it at the end of the display period. Megan thinks we can hire city staff to move it. Carol suggested we defer the discussion of how to obtain an artist to paint it, and possible compensation, until after we have the piano on site.

Action: Megan will inform the PRAB that the CoA is concerned about the sharp edges on the Girl with the Dog sculpture.

Action: Megan will coordinate the pickup and delivery of Joe Kanyan's piano.

Development/Sponsorship updates – Pat Gallagher, Megan DuBois

- Pat G said she met with Rhea Gilbert, who recently gave us a \$5000 donation to improve the marketing and quality of the performances at Old Town Hall. Pat G said we need to give appropriate prominence to a donation of this size in the OTHPS programs. A donor at this level is considered to be a "sponsor." Pat G will talk with Jeff Seffens.

- Now that we are obtaining series sponsors, Megan asked the members for suggestions for how we can honor the Lestina family without naming the entire OTHPS after them.

Action: Pat G will talk with Jeff Seffens regarding giving appropriate prominence to sponsors in the OTHPS programs.

Action: Members should send suggestions to Megan for how we can honor the Lestina family without naming the entire OTHPS after them.

Mason Award updates – Mary Lechter, Jeff Seffens, Megan DuBois

- Jeff said the date hasn't been determined yet. He suggested that we schedule this event to immediately follow the April 24 Cathedral Brass OTHPS performance, which is already scheduled to be at the Sherwood Center. That would keep it in the Spotlight timeframe and would result in a large audience. The members agreed. Sharon suggested holding our new Literary Award presentation at the same time.

- Jeff reminded members to send suggestions for award recipients to Mary by the November meeting.

Action: Members should submit ideas about suggested 2020 Mason Award recipients to Mary by the November meeting.

OTHPS (Old Town Hall Performance Series) – Megan DuBois, Clayton Austin

- Clayton said the first performance was a big success.

- Megan said the performers told her they needed more light to see their music. Pat Hussey went home to get some of her own stand lights. Megan said she will buy some stand lights as a temporary fix.

- Pat G said she started providing a pitcher of water and cups along with a dish of small candy. Pat G asked to drop it off on Thursdays, but Megan said we can't bring anything into OTH if there are events scheduled. The members will discuss this further.
 - Pat G said she wants funds to purchase the candy; she estimated that she paid \$25 for the first performance. Megan said we have a budget of \$1500 for OTHPS receptions, etc., so funds are already available.
 - Pat G asked about placing balloons out front on the night of OTHPS events, to attract the attention of passersby.
- Action: Megan will buy some stand lights as a temporary fix for the OTHPS lighting issue.**

Fall Festival – Molly Grimsley

- Chalk It Up 2 Art – Deb said this went very well. She thinks we could have sold twice as many boards, if we had them. She would like to see this become a special stand-alone annual event (not part of the Fall Festival) for the CoA. Deb said there were no costs to the CoA; she provided the funds for the chalk, boards, etc. She is drafting a full report of the event. Molly asked for the names of the artists/purchasers so she can send them thank you notes. Megan said she is working on finding a place to display the boards for a while, before the purchasers take them home. She's also working on an online gallery. A question was asked about creating a new Facebook page for us (since we can no longer access the existing page). Molly and Deb volunteered to take it on. Megan said it has to go through the city for review and standardization.
- Marketing giveaways – The members reported that the balls and kazoos were huge hits.
- Arts organizations brochures – Molly said very few of the city's arts organizations provided brochures for us to include on the CoA table. She suggested for the future that we contact these groups in advance and suggest that they give us some material.

Action: Deb will finish her report of the Chalk It Up 2 Art event and provide names of the artists/purchasers to Molly. Molly will send them thank you notes.

Action: For future Fall Festivals, we should contact the arts organizations in advance and suggest that they give us some material, e.g., their brochures, to display on our CoA table.

Downtown Visioning Committee – Deb Dillard, Megan DuBois

- Deb said there is one final meeting; it is scheduled for November 15. Then the committee's views will be compiled into a final report and shared with Hugo Blankingship and the city's Economic Development Authority.

Literary Prize – Sharon Chang

- Sharon reminded the members that she sent her proposal to the members by email earlier this week. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept her plan for the formation and creation of a literary contest as it stands in her email.

American Shakespeare Center – Megan DuBois

- Megan said she added a second date. Performances will be held on March 21 and 22.

GMU Programs at OTH/Mason Arts at OTH – Megan DuBois

- Megan said the first event is scheduled for November 20. The theme is brass. This program is funded from Megan's budget, not the CoA's.

New Business

Holiday Market – Molly Grimsley

- Molly said we were selected to participate and assigned the date of December 21. She said this event will need to have most of the members in attendance so she asked how many already knew they could not volunteer on that day. Based on the numbers, Molly said she will tell the organizers that we will need to decline this opportunity.

New Committee – Molly Grimsley, Pat Hussey

- Molly said there are 3 areas related to documenting our activities that we could do better.
 - a) policies and procedures, governance
 - b) a policy for periodically reviewing and updating the grants guidelines
 - c) documenting the history/origins of our events, e.g., Old Town Hall Performance Series
- Jeff said he has a box of historical material from Jeanne Agee; he'll review it.
- Pat H said she wants to help with this effort.
- Molly pointed out that this project was identified as a long-term goal on our recently-updated strategic plan.

Election sticker contest, Wearable art – Megan DuBois

- Megan said the city is planning on conducting a sticker contest to go along with the 2020 presidential election. Students will compete to design stickers with the "I voted" theme. Megan asked if the members want the CoA to participate by sitting on the board which will vote on the winning designs. A motion was made, seconded and passed for the CoA to participate in the election sticker contest by sitting on the board.

PRAB/CoA Joint Meeting – Pat Gallagher

- Pat G said our joint meeting with PRAB will be November 14 at 6pm. Dinner will be served. We will still hold our regular CoA meeting on Tuesday, November 19, as originally scheduled.

Partner Updates

PRAB (Parks & Recreation Advisory Board) – Pat Gallagher

- Pat G discussed PRAB activities.

Art League – Carol Caputo

- Carol discussed the new show that's ongoing.

CFBA (City of Fairfax Band Association) – Ruth Bandler

- Ruth discussed upcoming performances for the adult bands.

Grants Review and Discussion

- Those with a conflict of interest, e.g., they participate in a group that submitted a grants request, left the meeting. The rest of the members reviewed the grants and recommended funding levels for each one. Megan will communicate the results to the submitters.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47pm.