



Meeting: November 19, 2019, Sherwood Center

Members Present:

Molly Grimsley – Chair
Patricia Gallagher – Vice Chair
Jeff Seffens - Treasurer
Ruth Bandler – Secretary
Clayton Austin
Deborah Dillard
Kelly Herman
Steve Latourette
Mary Lechter
Jessica Russo Revand

Members Absent, Excused:

Carol Caputo
Sharon Chang
Patricia Hussey

Members Absent, Unexcused:

None

Staff Absent:

Megan DuBois – Cultural Arts Manager (Megan was not in attendance, but she provided her updates to Molly in advance)

Visitors:

David Meyer, Mayor

Guests:

None

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

Review of Minutes for October 2019

The October 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.

- A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to file the report for audit.

Comments – David Meyer, Mayor

- The mayor was an unexpected but welcome visitor. He discussed potential opportunities for the city to obtain dedicated performance space, and the council's interest in obtaining more public art.

Announcements – Megan DuBois, Cultural Arts Manager

- Megan provided handouts describing upcoming events.

Old Business

Strategic Plan, vote – Molly Grimsley

- Jessica said she wanted a stronger statement regarding the need for a dedicated performance space for theater and music. Molly asked Jessica to draft a statement and send it to the members for review with the intention of voting on the plan during the December CoA meeting.

Action: Jessica will revise the strategic plan by drafting a statement regarding the need for a dedicated performance space for theater and music. Jessica will distribute it to the members for review. The members will vote on the plan during the December CoA meeting.

Grants, review Main Street, vote – Molly Grimsley, Megan DuBois

- See the grants discussion below, which was held in a closed session.

ArtScreen – Jeff Seffens

- Jeff said the Nosferatu combined ArtScreen/OTHPs event was well-attended and the audience seemed to be intrigued. Steve served as MC and discussed various aspects of the film that people might have missed. We received \$62 in donations.

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

- Molly presented the updates she received from Carol.
- Peace Bird – We have had no word from the artist regarding delivery date.
- Mural at the Scout on the Circle – Megan provided a handout describing two additional murals for the Scout on the Circle project. An initial mural was approved at the October 15 CoA meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the two additional murals.
- Painted signal boxes – A call for artists was issued. We've received 4 to date. We will judge the submissions during the December CoA meeting.
- Painted piano – We are looking for a painter.

Development/Sponsorship updates – Megan DuBois

- Molly announced that Pat G will be stepping down from the development chair role and will now be focusing on working with Pat H on governance issues. Kelly agreed to serve as development chair.

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

- Mary announced the several nominees she's received for the individual and business awards, and the members discussed them. Molly asked the members to be prepared to vote on those nominees at the December CoA meeting

Action: Members should be prepared to vote on the individual and business Mason Award nominees at the December meeting.

COA Vacancies update – Megan DuBois

- Molly said there were no updates.

Performance space – Mary Lechter

- See the strategic plan discussion above.

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

- Clayton said we were all set with the usher schedule.
- Funky Fly proposal - Megan provided a handout conveying a request for \$500 to repay the city for hospitality and lodging for the performers at the October 26th OTHPS, The Funky Fly Project. Members expressed concerns about the precedent of paying expenses for some performers, and preferred a

policy of putting any necessary expenses into the performers' negotiated fee. It was also mentioned that until this year, members were involved with the selection of performers for OTHPS in an oversight role. Jeff said that we have sufficient funds to cover the requested amount. A motion was made, seconded and passed to allocate \$500 as a one-time reimbursement for hospitality costs for The Funky Fly Project, with the understanding that we will review the process for OTHPS expenses.

Action: Members will review the process for OTHPS expenses.

Action: Members want to figure out how to avoid double-booking in the future, i.e., this OTHPS event was held at the same time as the Rock the Block event, and the 2 groups' potential audiences overlapped.

Fall Festival recap – Chalk It Up 2 Art – Deb Dillard

- Chalk It Up 2 Art – Deb said this went very well, and thanks to some donations, it was pure profit for us. Deb said next year, we should arrange to display the top winning boards. Deb also said next year, we should insist that winners must come in person to get their prize so we can take a photo of them with their board and prize.

- 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: For future Chalk It Up 2 Art events, we should arrange to display the top winning boards, and we should insist that winners come in person to get their prize so that photos can be taken.

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.

Vision Downtown update – Deb Dillard, Megan DuBois

- Deb said the final meeting was held last week. She said the arts were well-represented in the information collected.

American Shakespeare Center update – Megan DuBois

- Megan said tickets are now on sale.

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

- Megan provided handouts which described upcoming programs.

Literary Prize – Sharon Chang

- Sharon submitted a report by email. She has six authors ready to join together at a To Be Announced kickoff. This will be confirmed once the mayor provides his availability information.

Governance – Pat Hussey

- Molly reminded everyone to schedule a meeting with Pat H for a SWOT discussion. Pat H hopes to provide a summary report to the CoA at the February meeting.

Facebook page – Deb Dillard, Molly Grimsley

- Deb reported that she hopes to have a new Facebook page up soon. She and Molly will be admins.

New Business

Gala update – Megan DuBois, Molly Grimsley

- Megan provided a recommendation that the CoA secure a Civic Table for \$1500.

Action: Molly will ask the members who is planning on attending.

OTH December 13 concert reception – Mary Lechter, Pat Gallagher

- Pat G and Mary are coordinating the event celebrating OTHPS' 35th season. The mayor will attend and introduce the event. They asked what the budget is for this event; they would like \$500-\$600. Jeff said our current budget includes a total of \$1200 for OTHPS receptions. The December reception will be the first one of the season, so we will be able to use \$500-\$600 from that line item. Deb, brought up that the food and drinks for the reception should be purchased from a Fairfax City business.

Action: We will send invites to the mayor and council soon.

PRAB combined meeting recap - everyone

- Molly said she felt the joint meeting went very well and was productive in having the 2 groups meet each other and find out each group's interests.

PRAB/Additional rep – Pat Gallagher

- Molly said we used to have 2 reps for PRAB, with one serving as a backup, but we now only have one, Pat G. Pat G added that PRAB's policy requires each PRAB member/rep have an assigned backup. Molly said she will serve as the backup, but if anyone else wants to do it, let Molly know.

Action: Molly will serve as Pat G's backup as rep to PRAB unless any other member wants to do it. Members should let Molly know if they want to serve as backup PRAB rep.

Partner Updates

PRAB (Parks & Recreation Advisory Board) – Pat Gallagher

- Pat G discussed PRAB activities.

Art League – Carol Caputo

- No update

CFBA (City of Fairfax Band Association) – Ruth Bandler

- Ruth discussed upcoming performances for the youth and adult bands.

GMU – Mary Lechter

- Mary discussed upcoming events.

Grants Review and Discussion – Molly Grimsley

- 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 continued the discussion from the October meeting regarding the eligibility of the Main Street Child Development Center. A motion was made, seconded and passed to provide \$0 funds for this request. Molly will convey this to Megan who will inform the submitter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32pm.