



Meeting: June 15, 2021

**Members Present:**

Patricia Hussey – Chair  
Patricia Gallagher – Vice Chair  
Clayton Austin – Treasurer  
Ruth Bandler – Secretary - Video  
Carol Caputo  
Sharon Chang  
Molly Grimsley  
Melissa Grow  
Steve Latourette  
Mary Lechter  
Jessica Russo Revand  
Dan Smith

**Members Absent, Excused:**

Lisa Casazza  
Debra Wright

**Members Absent, Unexcused:**

None

**Staff:**

Megan DuBois – Cultural Arts Manager

**Guests:**

David Meyer, Mayor

**Visitors:**

None

Pat Hussey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Tributes were presented to Pat Hussey and Mary Lechter; this is their last commission meeting.

**Approval of Minutes for May 2021 – Ruth Bandler, Secretary** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*

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

**Treasurer's Report and FY22 Budget Discussion – Clayton Austin, Treasurer** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*

- Clayton summarized the budget status and discussed the proposed budget for FY22.

- Melissa asked how the Performance Committee can add another Performance Series next year.

Clayton suggested she submit a full-blown proposal for the effort, which would include a speculative budget, and consider pursuing dedicated funds, e.g., a sponsor.

- Molly suggested we add a line item in the proposed budget, possibly within the public art line item, for "conservation and maintenance." Megan said it was the City's responsibility. Pat H asked about maintenance and eventual replacement of Old Town Hall's Steinway piano. Megan said that is the City's responsibility.

- *A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Proposed FY22 Budget for the Commission on the Arts.*

**Cultural Arts Manager's Report – Megan DuBois, Cultural Arts Manager** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*

- Megan asked members to let her know after today's meeting if they want to help judge the July 3 parade.

- Megan asked members to let her know committee meeting dates for FY22 so she can add them to the FY22 Calendar and book meeting rooms. She prefers holding virtual committee meetings to save on travel time and eliminate the need to book meeting rooms; she is waiting for guidance on City policy.

- Jessica asked if the City's TV Channel 12 can continue to video our events next year. Sharon said the virtual links to our various efforts (i.e., videoed events, etc.) have been very valuable as a way to share the City's arts efforts with the world at large. Megan said the City has not been able to gather viewer metrics so they're not talking about additional coverage at this time.

- Jessica asked about "wish list" funding to improve existing spaces, e.g., Veterans Amphitheater needs better lighting and electrical facilities. Megan said she is maintaining a list of needs for Veterans Amphitheater, e.g., provide smooth entry paths from curb to stage so instruments and equipment can be rolled to the stage, rather than carried over grass. The Mayor said he was glad this topic was raised. He said the City Council has been discussing upgrades and funding needed for all facilities, including parks and schools. He asked the members to send any facilities renovations needs and ideas to the Mayor.

- **Action: Members should let Megan know if they want to judge the July 3 parade.**

- **Action: Members should let Megan know committee meeting dates for FY22 so she can add them to the FY22 Calendar and book meeting rooms.**

- **Action: Members should send facilities renovations needs and ideas to the Mayor.**

**Business Update – Pat Hussey, Chair**

- **ArtScreen Committee - Steve Latourette**

- o Steve said the committee met by email and finalized the ArtScreen schedule for next year. Dates are listed in the Proposed FY22 Calendar in Megan's Cultural Arts Manager's Report.

- **Arts Awards and Recognition Working Group – Mary Lechter** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*

- o Mary summarized her report.

- **Diversity Committee – Clayton Austin**

- o Clayton said the committee feels the best way forward is to be a dynamic commission that people want to join. He and Deb are working on a community outreach project to increase awareness of the Commission and its activities. Pat H reminded the members that we now have 3 CoA vacancies. Sharon has been a successful recruiter and Pat H encouraged her to continue. There was a question about adding a high school member. The Mayor said the City Council would encourage that and other committees have started doing it. The student would be in addition to the 3 CoA vacancies.

- **Language Arts 123 Committee – Sharon Chang** *(included in the read-ahead packet, updated Quote-a-Palooza summary emailed to the members June 14)*

- o Sharon discussed the "Quote-a-Palooza" proposal. She said no significant funding will be needed. Local businesses are very enthusiastic and supportive.

- *A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Language Arts 123 Committee's implementation of the "the Quote-a-Palooza" event as described in the June 4, 2021, Language Arts Report as revised by email on June 14.*

- **Performance Committee – Melissa Grow**

- o Melissa said the committee will meet this Monday. She asked Megan to tell the group which OTHPS performers have been contacted for FY22.

- **Action: Megan should tell the Performance Committee which OTHPS performers have been contacted for FY22.**
- **Public Art Committee (PAC) – Carol Caputo**
  - Carol said the signal box wraps are now installed.
  - Carol submitted a question about public art to the Kamp Washington Small Area Meeting. The vendor assured everyone that public art will be part of the project from the beginning. Carol referred members to the meeting video at <https://engage.fairfaxva.gov/kamp-washing-small-area-plan>; Q&A's are at 1:15.
  - Megan was asked to bring a list of the pending public art plaques to the July Public Art Committee Meeting. Megan said four are needed; she'll bring proofs to that meeting.
  - **Action: Megan should bring proofs of the pending public art plaques to the July Public Art Committee Meeting.**
- **Governance Working Group – Pat Hussey**
  - Pat H said she hopes to deliver the updated governance document by the end of June.
- **Grants Committee – Pat Gallagher**
  - Pat G said the group worked on minor edits to the grants process and will continue to smooth out the process this summer.
- **Arts Group/GMU Representative – Mary Lechter** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
  - Mary referred the group to her report for upcoming GMU events. She said she gave Megan a name for a potential GMU Representative to the CoA.
- **City of Fairfax Band Association (CFBA) – Ruth Bandler** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
  - Ruth referred the group to her report and added that CFBA will be participating in the City's July 3 parade.
- **PRAB Representative – Pat Gallagher** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
  - Pat G referred the group to her report. She mentioned that CoA is scheduled to host PRAB in this year's joint meeting in November. We need to provide some food.

#### **New/Old Business – Pat Hussey, Chair**

- **Year in Review and Future Outlook**
  - Pat H gave some remarks and encouraged the members to do so as well. Pat H identified some issues to focus on: fundraising, marketing, communication and outreach, and more governance work, and then thanked everyone for their service.
  - Sharon asked that we develop a standard response when previous commission members die, so that responses in the future would be equitable, regardless of length of tenure.
- **Election for FY '22**
  - Pat H announced that Pat G, Clayton and Ruth have agreed to run again for their offices.
  - Pat H asked for nominees for the Chair position. Hearing none, she nominated Dan Smith. Dan agreed to run.
- ***A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the slate:***  
*Pat Gallagher: Vice Chair*  
*Clayton Austin: Treasurer*  
*Ruth Bandler: Secretary*
- ***A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to elect Dan Smith as Chair.***

Closing remarks – Mayor Meyer

- The Mayor thanked everyone on behalf of the City Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.