



Meeting: January 18, 2022

Members Present: (all virtual)

Dan Smith – Chair
Patricia Gallagher – Vice Chair
Clayton Austin – Treasurer
Ruth Bandler – Secretary
Lisa Casazza
Sharon Chang
Brian Howell
Steve Latourette
Susan Morris
Yolanda Ortiz
Jessica Russo Revand
Debra Wright

Members Absent, Excused:

Melissa Grow

Members Absent, Unexcused:

Staff:

Megan DuBois – Cultural Arts Manager

Guests:

None

Visitors:

None

Dan Smith called the Commission on the Arts (CoA) Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes for December 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 – Clayton Austin, Treasurer (*included in the read-ahead packet*)

- Clayton summarized the budget status for FY22.
- Clayton said he transitioned the preparation of the commission's annual tax forms from Roy Burgess to himself. Roy had been doing it pro bono since he left the commission.

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

- Megan said she highlighted events of our grant recipients in the CoA calendar.

Old Business -

- **Public Art Committee Chair** – Dan announced that Debra Wright is the new committee chair.

- **Overview of Commission on the Arts** – *(included in the read-ahead packet for last month’s meeting)*
 - o Dan reminded the commissioners to review the Commission on the Arts Presentation slides (in last month’s read-ahead packet) and provide feedback to himself, Pat, or Megan.
 - o **Action: Commissioners should review the presentation and submit comments to Dan, Pat, or Megan.**
- **Assessments/Future programs** –
 - o Dan reminded the commissioners that he wants the commission to improve promotion of our existing projects and events before we begin any new projects. Pat is taking the lead re: feedback on the Fall Festival.
 - o **Action: Commissioners should send feedback about last fall’s Fall Festival to Pat.**

New Business – Dan Smith, Chair

- **American Rescue Plan Act update** –
 - o Dan said the new center is being referred to as the “Willard-Sherwood Health and Community Center.” He reminded the commissioners to try to attend the upcoming Open Houses to provide input for a dedicated performing and visual arts center. He also reminded the commissioners to complete the survey that we recently received via email and use that vehicle to advocate for a dedicated arts center. Megan said she will be speaking about dedicated space for the performing and visual arts. Details about the open houses were sent to the commissioners by Clayton. Megan said she would send reminders to the commissioners.
 - o **Action: Dan encouraged the commissioners to attend the upcoming Open Houses to provide their input for a dedicated Center for the Performing and Visual Arts and complete the survey that we recently received via email. Megan will send reminders.**

Committee Reports – Dan Smith, Chair

- **Arts Awards – Jessica Russo Revand** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
 - o The commissioners discussed the nominees and votes were taken.
 - o **Vote: The commissioners voted to award the 2022 John Mason Award to Robert Golden and the 2022 Business for the Arts Award to Mara Hair and Mode Studio.**
 - o Pat said some eligibility guidelines should be developed for future awards. Steve said he preferred to keep some flexibility in the process. Follow-up discussions will occur later this year.
 - o **Action: Megan needs to have letters drafted to send to the two winners by those who are familiar with the winners’ credentials, e.g., Debra.**
- **ArtScreen – Steve Latourette** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
 - o Steve said we may need to postpone or cancel the February 11 event.
- **City of Fairfax Band Association (CFBA)** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
 - o Ruth summarized the report.
- **Diversity – Clayton Austin**
 - o Clayton said activities have been on hold due to COVID issues. He would like to hold a virtual open house for commissioners to discuss their ideas and goals for promoting diversity. Clayton will follow-up with Megan re: selecting suitable times and then he’ll send invites.
- **Grants – Pat Gallagher** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
 - o Pat said she will narrow down and prioritize the list of grants process issues and then set up a meeting to discuss them.
- **Language Arts 123 Committee – Sharon Chang**
 - o Language Arts 123 Literary Composition Competition – Sharon was pleased to announce that this competition has launched. She sent announcements to many local private schools and urged the other commissioners to also spread the word, and to tell the rest of the commissioners who they contacted so groups wouldn’t be bombarded and so commissioners wouldn’t trip over each other’s efforts.

- **Action: Sharon asked the other commissioners to spread the word about the Language Arts 123 Literary Composition Competition and to let Sharon and the other commissioners know by the end of next week (the week ending Jan 29) who they contacted.**
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) – Pat Gallagher** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
 - Pat summarized the report and pointed out that more arts funding is proposed this year.
- **Performing Arts – Melissa Grow**
 - Megan said upcoming events are postponed or cancelled.
- **Public Art – Debra Wright** *(included in the read-ahead packet)*
- *A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the additional murals for the Scout on the Circle site.*
- *A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the release of the Plastic Caps Mural Call to Artists.*
- *A motion was made, seconded, and passed to add \$250 to the original bottle cap mural project budget (\$500) to cover installation. Clayton confirmed that there are sufficient funds in the Public Art budget line item to cover this.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.