



**ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
2/22/21 7:30 PM
Conducted by Remote Participation - Zoom Meeting**

ATTENDEES:

Gibian	I	Padaria	p	Pokress		Kellar		McKenna	p
Blundell	p	Wallach	p	Harmer	p	Tosti	p		
Ellis	p	Foskett	p	Deyst	p	Kocur	p		
White		Beck	p	Jones	p	Deshler	p		
Franclemont	p	Howard	p	LaCourt	p	Carman	p	Diggins	p

p Indicates present, I indicates late

Visitors: ACAC Board Members Steve Polorzycki, Cristine Canterbuy Bagnall, Stewart Ikada

1. INTRODUCTION: Foskett read the rules for the meeting as formulated by Town Counsel based on the Governor's authorization. An important rule is that all votes be by role call. Attendance was taken by roll call.

Note: A vote of "unanimous" means "unanimous vote by all present".

2. MINUTES of 2/17/21 accepted unanimously.

HEARINGS

3. ACAC: Polorzyck, supported by the other board members presented material (Ref 1) describing their mandate, their fund raising record, the several previously independent organizations now operating under the ACAC umbrella, and their continued operation under the pandemic. They discussed their FY21 budget vs actuals, and described their FY22 budget along with plans for FY23 & Fy24. They requested \$30,000, the same as last year. In response to questions from members they said they are still using their website but are not planning to build it out. They now use more direct fund raising. They noted that Town funds enable grants that require matching funds. They share promotion with Lexington & Concord. They act as a connection to State & Municipal organizations for Arlington artists. They are willing to help the FinCom recruit new members.

VOTED (later in the evening) \$30,000 Unanimous

4. WATER BODIES: This article was presented at the last meeting. No vote was taken. (Considered later in meeting but included here in the minutes for clarity)

VOTED \$50,000 as requested. Unanimous.

5. WARRANT REVIEW: The Chair read through the articles in the draft warrant and marked the articles that require hearings and FinCom recommendation. The Exec Secretary will schedule hearings.

BUDGETS:

6. TOWN CLERK: GenGov SubCom McKenna described the challenges that this department has faced in FY21. He noted that the recount cost \$8k. He recommended the budget as printed.

VOTED 270,976 Unanimous

7. REGISTRAR OF VOTERS: GenGov SubCom McKenna recommended the budget as printed.

VOTED \$73,012 Unanimous

8. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: GenGov SubCom McKenna recommended the budget as printed. He noted that the \$200 is to pay for an electronic signature device to expedite meeting decisions. He noted that a part time employee from another budget is helping when needed.

VOTED \$33,134 Unanimous.

9. MANAGER: Removed from table. GenGov SubCom Howard again recommended the budget as printed. The issue concerning M Schedule increases was resolved at the last meeting. VOTED \$748,219 16-0-1 See Ref 2

10. LEGAL: GenGov SubCom Howard recommended the budget as printed.

VOTED \$471,191 Unanimous

11. ARB: GenGov SubCom Howard recommended the budget as printed.

VOTED \$10,800 Unanimous

NOTE: Members questioned the substantial increase in Office Supplies budgeted, compared to the prior 2 years of actual expenses, in the General Government budgets. Howard & McKenna to investigate.

12. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: HumSer SubCom Franclemont began to describe this department's budget. Costs have increased because of rent payment for space in the Central School. The department has been deeply involved in the pandemic. Members asked many questions. This budget will be considered on Thursday.

13. VETERANS: HumSer SubCom Franclemont noted the signs budget is used to maintain memorial signs around town. Some changes are caused by moving items in "other" to more descriptive categories.

Voted \$326,996 Unanimous.

14. COMMITTEE: The Chair has received an email from George Kocur describing his analysis of Town economic issues over the next few years and the override. Kocur will present it to the FinCom on Wednesday with a preview email on Tuesday.

15. RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$1,556,724

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 PM.

Peter Howard
Revised 2/24/21

Ref 1 ACAC Presentation To FinCom
Ref 2 Vote on Manager Budget

ACAC

Presentation to FinCom

February 22, 2021

Arlington Commission for Arts & Culture



ACAC Mandate

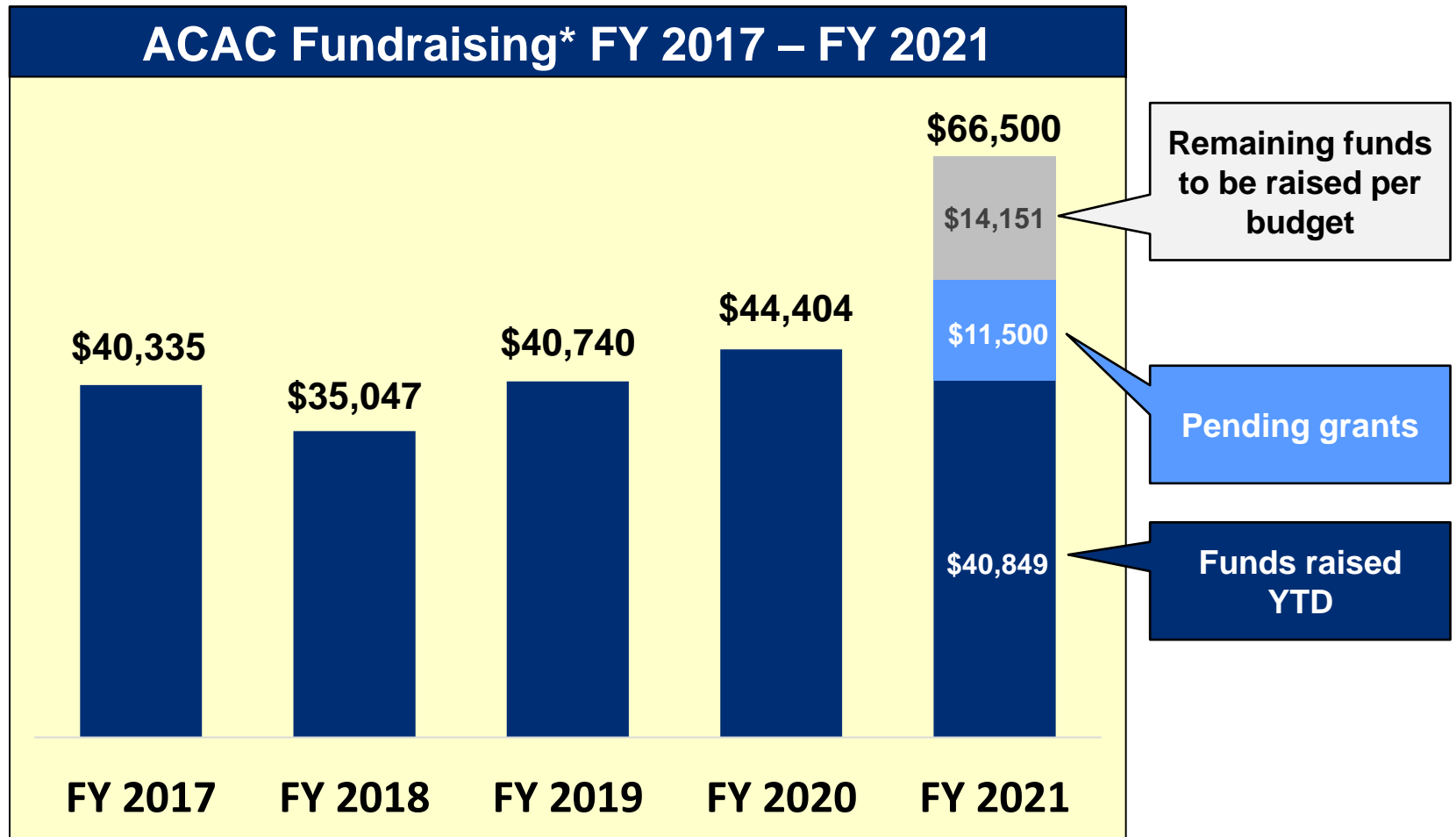
ACAC has been given a mandate to grow arts and culture in Arlington.



A vibrant arts & culture scene gives Arlington a strategic advantage in competing with other towns for residents and visitors

ACAC Accomplishments FY 2021

ACAC raises a considerable amount of funds to accomplish our mandate.



*Fundraising shown does NOT include Town funding

What is ACAC?

ACAC is the umbrella organization housing several formerly independent Town organizations . . .

ACAC Constituent Organizations

- **Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture**
- **Arlington Cultural Council**
- **Arlington Public Art**
- **Arlington Poet Laureate**
- **Cultural District Managing Partnership**

. . . a number of which had previously been separately funded.

ACAC Also Includes Representatives From Other Town Constituencies

- **Non-profit arts community (Arlington Center for the Arts)**
- **Business community (Arlington Chamber of Commerce)**
- **Schools (School Committee appointed representative)**
- **Dept. of Planning & Community Development (liaison representative)**
- **Working artist community (ArtLinks)**

ACAC Accomplishments FY 2021

In 2020, ACAC pivoted our approach to deal with the onset of Covid-19.

Modified Programming to Meet Changing Community Needs

- Art installation to promote mask-wearing
- Art in public spaces designed to encourage safe enjoyment of the outdoors
- Programs to address cultural equity, inclusiveness, and accessibility



Retooled Programming to Deliver It in a Covid-Safe Manner

- Artist-in-Residence in-person workshops became virtual (yet created a 37-piece sculpture now installed on the Bikeway)
- The Fox Festival in-person parade became virtual at-home art challenge
- 19 local artists and organizations were funded to deliver programs with online content and platforms



Re-Emphasized Elements of Core Mission

- Promoted Arlington as a cultural destination
- Facilitated connections between state and municipal entities, and local businesses, organizations, and artists



ACAC Accomplishments FY 2021

ACAC works collaboratively with Town Departments, Committees, non-profits, and businesses*.

Town Departments / Committees



- Schools (Hardy, Thompson)
- APS Green Teams
- APS Visual Arts & Music Depts.
- Robbins & Fox Libraries
- DPW
- H&HS (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)
- Human Rights Commission
- Economic Development Recovery Task Force
- A-TED
- Heights Neighborhood Action Plan Implementation Committee
- Zero Waste Arlington
- Amazing Arlington

Non-Profits



- Arlington Center for the Arts
- Dallin Museum
- ACMI
- Arlington Friends of the Drama
- Arlington Historical Society
- Friends of Spy Pond Park
- Friends of the Fox Library
- Arlington Children's Theater
- Odaiko New England
- Old Schwamb Mill
- True Story Theater
- Arlington International Film Festival
- Non-Profit Volunteer Summit

Businesses



- Arlington Service Station
- Chamber of Commerce
- Morningside Music
- Roasted Granola
- Za
- Column Health
- Custom Contracting
- Ellenhorn
- Object of Stories
- Kickstand Café
- Zhen Ren Chuan Martial Arts

*ACAC also works closely with state and regional organizations (Mass. Cultural Council, MassCreative, ArtsBoston, ArtWeek, and regional tourism offices).

ACAC Accomplishments FY 2021

ACAC boosts the local economy and enriches the cultural lives of community members, as recognized by a broad cross-section of local organizations and individuals.

Testimonials sent to FinCom by:

- Select Board (Lenard Diggins, Select Board member)
- Arlington Public Schools (Arts Department; Sustainability Coordinator)
- Fox Library
- Department of Public Works
- Arlington Tourism & Economic Development
- Arlington Human Rights Commission
- Mass. Cultural Council, MassCreative, Medford Arts Council
- YourArlington.com
- Odaiko New England, Regent Theatre, Old Schwamb Mill
- Arlington Heights Neighborhood Action Plan Implementation Committee
- Numerous individual community members

Quality of life, including arts and culture, was one of the reasons Arlington was recognized as the #18 best small city in America (WalletHub).

ACAC FY2021 Budget

FY2021 budget relies on a significant amount of fundraising to deliver important arts and culture programs to the community.

FY 2021 ACAC Budget		FY2021 Budget	FY2021 YTD* Actual
REVENUE	Individual donations	\$9,000	\$6,749
	Business donations	\$7,500	\$0
	Grants	\$40,000	\$24,100
	Town	\$30,000	\$30,000
	Previously raised donations	\$10,000	\$10,000
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$96,500	\$70,849
EXPENSES	Programs	\$76,300	\$18,976
	Website	\$2,600	\$0
	Marketing	\$13,600	\$6,328
	Fundraising	\$3,000	\$488
	Contingency	\$1,000	\$0
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$96,500	\$25,792

73% of Annual Budget already raised

Town funding comprises only 31% of ACAC's annual operating budget, but that 31% enables ACAC to successfully raise the remaining 69% needed to deliver its programs, serve the community's arts and culture needs, and promote local economic development.

ACAC FY2022 Budget Request

ACAC requests level funding for FY2022 so that we can carry out our Mission of enriching our community with arts and culture and boosting the local economy.

FY 2022 ACAC Budget Request		FY 2022
REVENUE	Individual donations	\$16,000
	Business donations	\$13,180
	Grants	\$49,500
	Town	\$30,000
	Previously raised donations	\$10,000
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$118,680
EXPENSES	Programs	\$90,000
	Website	\$5,600
	Marketing	\$16,080
	Fundraising	\$4,000
	Contingency	\$3,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$118,680

ACAC FY2022 - FY2024 Budget Forecast

ACAC anticipates requesting funding for FY2023 - FY2024 at a level equal to that originally provided for FY2021 in order to carry out our Mission.

FY 2022-2024 ACAC Budget		FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
REVENUE	Individual donations	\$16,000	\$18,000	\$20,000
	Business donations	\$13,180	\$15,000	\$17,000
	Grants	\$49,500	\$73,000	\$62,000
	Town	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
	Previously raised donations	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$118,680	\$141,000	\$134,000
EXPENSES	Programs	\$90,000	\$86,420	\$106,000
	Website	\$5,600	\$3,000	\$3,000
	Marketing	\$16,080	\$16,080	\$17,000
	Public Art Master Plan		\$25,000	
	Fundraising	\$4,000	\$7,500	\$5,000
	Contingency	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$118,680	\$141,000	\$134,000

