



Arlington Commission for Arts & Culture

Date: May 5, 2022
Time: 7:00-8:30pm
Location: Zoom

Minutes

Attending: Stewart Ikeda, Lidia Kenig-Scher, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Christine Noah, Steve Poltorzycki, Nick Castellano, Andrea Nicolay, Beth Locke, Tom Formicola

Absent: Sarah Morgan-Wu, Tom Davison

Guests: Cecily Miller, Jenny Raitt, James Fleming

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

1) ROLL CALL AND RULES OF REMOTE MEETINGS CONDUCTED DURING COVID-19

2) APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES

- Minutes unanimously approved.

3) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

- Mural on Anderson Florist is going up
- Film about plastic waste is Tuesday at the Regent, close to 100 registered
- Submitted a new proposal for marker locations to Adam and Jenny Raitt
- Window painting is also happening this Saturday, 52 windows
- Themes of biodiversity
- Kari Percival is making posters for six organizations in town. To print them on metal and put them on the bikeway or put them in a storefront. "Leaves the leaves in place" Others
- Festival on May 21st, (deinstallation of Michelle Lougee) Amy Reese is coordinating volunteers
- Cecily mentioned that when the parklet barriers were replaced, they were all scrambled. She will work it out with Ali

Beth Locke mentioned we go the travel and tourism grant for social media posting and boosting. Please share the posts. Lots will be on arts and business related A reminder to please feature the building owner, not just the business owner, Anderson Florist in any publicity.

4) CHAIRS UPDATE:

- Welcome Ali back
- Jenny Raitt will be moving on to a new role
- There will be interim directors in both the PLanning and Town Manager roles

5) CULTURAL DISTRICT UPDATE

- Carolyn Cole (new Luis Cotto) at MCC sent a letter announcing renewal criteria for the designation
- Cultural District started as a separate organization but when ACAC reorganized, Commissioners began to take on a greater role in programming the Cultural District.

- In the new partnership agreement, ACAC will be the primary manager and governing authority of the District.
- Mission and purpose are the same and are very parallel with ACAC's goals.
- The MP no longer meets monthly. All core members of that partnership are members of the Commission. ACD business would be taken up at ACAC meetings. If a vote is needed, each partner would get a vote. There may be annual events for the managing partners much like the ACC grantee receptions and there would be announcements of plans for the next year. These annual events may be part of one of the Chamber Events. Beth said yes, let's start in June.
- Business members could be from either section of town, not necessarily from East Arlington.
- Instead of the role of coordinator but the liaison to the MCC.
- The CD finances are also embedded into ACAC
- A concern is that if we merge it might be difficult to continue to keep managing partners engaged. MCC was concerned with maintaining clear and open communication with the managing partners.
- It was proposed that we convene the managing partners once a year.
- Beth points out that who is an MP and who isn't is not really important.

6) NEW BUSINESS

- Porchfest is coming, Whittemore park sale and Garage Band is upong
- Garage Band bands and budget
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wZcqVjFo3xsReM7nVw45PDDBSQEejLKkgI78pErmuOM/edit>
- Porchfest is June 18 and 19 (rain da.
- Porchfest needs volunteers.
- Police should be informed about Garage Band
- We hope to have a video or brief presentation for the next Chamber event and for Town Meeting
- ACAC presentation at Chamber event is June 8 at 5pm, Chamber event at the Regent
- We might ask people to write on post its or place dots on a map to express their favorite cultural experience in town
- Nick Castellano will be leaving the Committee and the Grants Commission. He is going off to law school! Yay Nick!
- There is an exhibit by Suzanne McLeod at the Roasted Granola and there will be a new artist every three months.
- Greater Good eliminated their art gallery wall.
- Cecily has been participating in a placemaking project at Drake Village. Most of the grant funds are going toward major improvements in the landscape. So creative placemaking through landscaping. The art element will be a mural and mosaics on the back of the tower building. Cecily has talked with Tom F. to bring a clay sampler for the residents to create pieces to add to the mural. A call for artists will go out in August/September.
- We want to do another Commissioner profile for the next newsletter. Lydia and Christine will interview each other next week.

Meeting adjourned 8:48pm

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Marlin-Curiel

Next meeting: May 2, 7pm