

Raleigh Arts Commission

May 12, 2015

5:30 PM, RMB 303

Present: Chanda Branch, Jason Craighead, Linda Dallas, Gene Davis, Laurent de Comarmond, Clyde Lundy (Chair), Andy Martin, Nancy Novell (Vice-Chair), Sarah Powers, Joanne Sullivan (by conference call), Stan Williams

Absent: Joe Cebina

Staff: Jerry Bolas, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts
Scott Payne, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department

Call to Order

Chair Lundy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

Approval of April Minutes

Stan Williams made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Nancy Novell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

Raleigh Arts Plan (RAP) Update

Jerry Bolas reported the following:

- Cultural Planning Group (CPG) was here last week and made a presentation to City Council. Jerry sent out a copy of the presentation via email. The City Manager was pleased that reference to City Council's Strategic Plan was included.
- CPG also conducted a Public Art Assessment.
- There was a steering committee meeting, which was well attended. Jerry distributed handouts from that meeting and reviewed key points.
- Over 4000 members of the public have been engaged thus far in the process, and the expectation is we will eventually reach the equivalent of 1% of the population (roughly 4200 citizens).
- CPG must now compile and analyze the huge amount of data.
- Clear themes are emerging.
- An internal rough draft of the plan should be ready for review by mid-July. A draft available for public comment should be completed by the end of August. There will be a 30-day public comment period and then CPG will have a final draft for City Council by late October or early November.

Budget Update

Jerry Bolas reported the following:

- The City Manager will present his budget on May 19.
- The City Council budget hearing will be held on June 2 and budget work sessions will be held Mondays in June at 4:00 PM until the budget is passed.
- Scott Payne and Jerry have been working toward the goal of creating a new full time position with benefits, Curator of Exhibitions and Collections. They have a tentative agreement in place with the budget office containing the stipulation that the Arts Commission write a letter to the City Manager in support of the position.
 - Currently there are two main funding streams for the Arts Office, the general fund and per capita. There are two permanent positions paid from per capita, Public Art Coordinator and Arts Grant Coordinator. Each line item contains base salary, benefits, and a \$10K overhead charge which is added per position.
 - The Public Art Coordinator salary is taken off the top of per capita funds. The remainder is divided with 85% allocated to grants and 15% allocated to programs, with the Arts Grant Coordinator salary paid from the program fund.
 - We have two contractor's salaries paid from per capita, Block Gallery Coordinator (budgeted up to 36 hours per week) and Contract Registrar (budgeted up to 20 hours per week) that would be eliminated under this plan, or effectively combined. Both positions come out of the program portion of the budget.

- As part of this agreement, the budget office has agreed to revise the overhead cost to \$3K per position, for a total overhead cost in FY16 of \$9K for three positions as opposed to \$30K.
- The individual in this position would work mainly on programs funded by per capita allocations.
- The PRCR Department is committed to working toward moving the public art coordinator position over to the general fund eventually, since roughly only 25 % of the position's work is on per capita programs.
- The leverage and flexibility for increasing funding for programs and positions is virtually all in per capita.
- When the proposal was discussed in the Executive Committee meeting, there was concern whether or not funding to grants or programs would decrease as a result of money being allocated to a new permanent position. Jerry was able to assure the Commission that funding would not decrease, and in all probability it would increase.
- Scott added that this position request would be submitted as a budget note at the first City Council budget work session, not as a part of the May 19 budget.

There was general support for the addition of a full time curator of collections and exhibitions. Discussion ensued and questions/concerns were addressed. It was agreed that a letter of support would be drafted and reviewed by all Commissioners.

Action Items

Block Gallery Call for Artists

Gene Davis reported that the AEC Committee approved the 2016 Block Gallery call for artists as recommended by Stacy Bloom Rexrode and Kim Curry-Evans, and the Committee recommends the call to CORAC for approval. Artists must reside or work in Chatham, Durham, Orange, Johnston, or Wake County for at least one year. Artists cannot have shown in Block Gallery since July of 2013. Sarah Powers made a motion to approve the Block Gallery call for artists. Jason Craighead seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Jerry added that interested artists can be directed to the city website or Stacy directly. The call will also be announced in Arts Flash.

FY16 Arts Grant Contingency Plan

Linda Dallas reported that the Contingency Plan is used in instances where grant recipients are unable to use their funding. The money is then returned and distributed amongst other arts partners. Linda reviewed the plan and clarified that no organization can be funded for more than 100% of their FY16 request. Gene Davis made a motion to approve the Contingency Plan as set forth by the Grants Committee. Chanda Branch seconded and the motion carried unanimously, with Sarah Powers abstaining from the vote.

ADA Arts Learning Community Participant Organization Recommendations

Linda Dallas reported that nine applications were received, eight from Raleigh arts partners and one outside Raleigh for consideration by the United Arts Council (UAC). The Grants Committee is recommending the following organizations for acceptance into the ADA Arts Learning Community: Arts Access, Pinecone, Visual Art Exchange, Arts Together, Artspace, Raleigh Little Theatre, and Contemporary Art Foundation. UAC plans to approve their applicant, Cary Visual Art. The chosen representatives from these organizations will attend the LEAD Conference in Washington, DC, along with Sarah Corrin, the City ADA Coordinator, and the House Manager for Duke Energy Center. Arts Together requests that two staff members participate in the learning community and they will be fund the second participant. Linda clarified that funding is coming out of this year's (FY15) Capacity Building fund. All organizations will receive 100% of their funding requests. Andy Martin made a motion to approve the participants in the ADA Learning Community as proposed. Laurent de Comarmond seconded and the motion carried unanimously, with Sarah Powers abstaining from the vote.

Committee/Board Reports

Nominations Committee

The committee consisted of Jason Craighead (Chair), Chanda Branch and Joanne Sullivan. They put forth nominations for Nancy Novell as Chair and Gene Davis as Vice Chair. Chair Lundy accepted this slate of candidates and indicated a vote would be held at the June meeting.

Executive Committee

No report. Clyde Lundy announced that the Sir Walter Raleigh awards are approaching and the Commission will need to provide a volunteer to serve on the Committee. The meeting will be held June 17 from 12:00-4:00 PM. Joanne Sullivan volunteered to serve and Andy Martin volunteered to serve as her alternate.

Advocacy & Communications

Andy Martin reported the following:

- Artsposure is this weekend! It is not too late to volunteer. Three slots remain unfilled.
- The Committee will reconvene after Artsposure.

Art, Education & Collections

Gene Davis reported the following:

- Art-On-The-Move buses are already out around town. The ribbon cutting will be held at Artsposure at 11:30 AM, May 16, on Martin Street on the south side of Moore Square. For the first time we will have a teen bus, designed by Megan Bostic and students from the after school program at Pullen Arts Center.
- During Artsposure the *Before I Die... wall* will be at the intersection of Fayetteville and Hargett Streets along with the Raleigh Arts Office booth.
- The new Block Gallery Coordinator, Stacy Bloom Rexrode was introduced at the last meeting. She has extensive experience as both a curator and exhibiting artist. Stacy presented a preview of upcoming exhibits. Only one artist who had committed previously will be unavailable because they have moved out of state and are no longer eligible.
- The Committee continues to work with the Glenwood South Neighborhood Association (GSNA) on the Citizen Initiated Art Project at crosswalks in Glenwood South. The artist call is live and the deadline for submissions is May 29. An informational meeting was held last week and was very well attended. We are anticipating a strong showing of artist submissions. Once the artists are selected, the GSNA will obtain approval from AEC and CORAC on the final designs.

Grants Committee

Linda Dallas reported the following:

- Capacity Building continues with analysis of arts participation. Surale Phillips will be in town next week to present her analysis of the data received from participating arts partners. Twenty-one arts organizations submitted their databases for analysis. The presentation will be held May 18 at 10:00 AM in City Council chambers and everyone is invited to attend. At workshops in the afternoon participating organizations will receive and discuss individual reports.
- Clyde, Jerry, and Linda will be meeting with the NC Master Chorale in June to discuss their concerns about the grants process.

Public Art & Design Board

Laurent de Comarmond reported the following:

- PADB met the design team for Moore Square, Sasaki Associates and public artist Brad Goldberg. The team was in town for a week of public engagement and gave a brief presentation to the Board.
- The final design for Hillsborough Street, Phase II public art was approved. It consists of a series of piers that will be placed at each of the three new roundabouts. The artists were in town collecting stories and imagery from the public to incorporate into the piers.
- Thomas Sayre was approved as project artist for design of the canopy in the plaza on the Union Station project. He had previously resigned from PADB in order to be considered for the project.
- In addition to Thomas Sayre, two other Board members' terms are up in May, Clymer Cease and Brian Starkey. PADB submitted candidate recommendations to Clyde for review.

Executive Director Report

Jerry Bolas reported the following:

- Congratulations to Bob Rankin, who has been nominated to the Raleigh Hall of Fame and will be inducted on October 5.
- We have been contacted by Raleigh Sister Cities Organization regarding opportunities for exchanges; let Jerry know if anyone is interested in learning more or working with the sister cities group.
- Chair Lundy's term ends in mid-July, so City Council will be making a new appointment to the Commission. Please discuss any ideas with your Councilors.

Public Comments

None.

New/Other Business

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM

Submitted by Sandi Sullivan