

**Raleigh Arts Commission**  
**October 13, 2015**  
**5:30 PM, RMB 305**

Present: Chanda Branch, Joe Cebina, Jason Craighead, Linda Dallas, Gene Davis (Vice-Chair), Andy Martin, Nancy Novell (Chair), Gail Perry, Sarah Powers, Joanne Sullivan (by conference call), Stan Williams

Absent: Laurent de Comarmond

Staff: Jerry Bolas, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Cassie Schumacher-Georgopoulos, Senior Planner, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources  
Candace Almond, Plan Coordinator, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

**Call to Order**

Chair, Nancy Novell, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

**Approval of August 11 Minutes**

Joanne Sullivan made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Jason Craighead seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion Items**

**Raleigh Arts Plan (RAP)**

Jerry Bolas introduced Candace Almond, RAP Coordinator, and announced that the RAP has now been published for public comment. Copies of the document were distributed. Nancy thanked the staff and Steering Committee for all their efforts. Sarah Powers added that all should encourage their friends and colleagues to provide input on the plan.

Cassie Schumacher-Georgopoulos reported the following:

- The RAP is posted on line at [RaleighArtsPlan.com](http://RaleighArtsPlan.com). Perusal copies are also available at Pullen and Sertoma Arts Centers and all of the PRCR community centers.
- It will be posted for public comment until November 2.
- City Council work session will be held Tuesday, October 20 at 11:30 in RMB 305.
- Town Hall Meeting will be held Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00 at the John Chavis Community Center.
- RAP Steering Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, October 22 at 5:30 at Five Points Center for Active Adults.
- Commissioners are encouraged to attend at least one of these meetings.
- The RAP can be downloaded from the website or we will provide copies upon request.
- Input may be provided online, by phone, by email, or in writing.
- The final Steering Committee Meeting will be held either November 16 or 17 and they will be voting to recommend the RAP to CORAC and PADB.
- Then the RAP will be brought to a CORAC/PADB joint meeting on December 8. The proposal is to bring it to City Council on February 2, which will allow time to bring the three new Councilors up to speed.

Jerry reported that the arts plan discussion began last year with these questions: “What it would mean to be the Southern Capital of Arts and Culture?” “What would a community look like that would support that?” The vision concept is that each of us is a node on a network of creativity, and the community that would look like a connected network of creative nodes.

Jerry then reviewed the *Creative Life* vision, findings based on public input, participation maps, and key points of the plan. This plan is informed by and connected to three other plans: The 2030 Comprehensive Plan; the PRCR System Plan; and the City Council Strategic Plan.

Cassie reviewed the RAP goals and strategies. There will be a final chapter added that will discuss implementation priorities and will reflect community input.

## **FY16 Per Capita Program Budget**

Jerry reported that the budget is on track and going as planned.

### **Action Items**

#### **FY 16 Plan of Work**

Nancy asked if everyone had an opportunity to look at the revised draft of the Work Plan and invited questions/comments. Gene Davis asked if a clause should be added indicating the work plan could be subject to change dependent upon the final version of the RAP. Jerry indicated that implementation of the arts plan was planned for the next fiscal year and would most likely not change the plan of work for this fiscal year.

Sarah Powers made a motion to accept the Work Plan as drafted for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Stan Williams seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **FY 17 Grants Program Changes**

Linda Dallas reviewed the grants program change recommendations. There were four textual\terminology changes:

Operating Support – Financial Accountability/Grant Compliance

- Change criteria to “Realistic budgets” from “Realizable budgets”

All Grant Categories –ADA Accessibility

- Update terminology to “universal accessibility” from “ADA accessibility”
- Innovation & Operating Support revised criteria: “Organization successfully engages with people who have disabilities. Programs, services, website, and facilities are universally accessible.”
- Program Support revised criteria: “Program is inclusive of and appropriate plans have been made to engage people with disabilities. Organization, programming, services, website and facilities are universally accessible.”

There was also a change made to fundable expenses for Innovation and Program Support Grants

- Provide grant funding only for direct program expenses, though overhead expenses should be included in the project/program budget.

Gene Davis proposed an amendment changing the language under All Grant Categories-ADA Accessibility:

Second bullet- “Programs, services, websites, and facilities must aspire to be universally accessible.”

Third bullet- “Organization, programming, services, websites, and facilities must aspire to be universally accessible.”

Sarah Powers proposed an additional amendment changing “must aspire to be universally accessible” to “are or are working toward universal accessibility”

Gene Davis made a motion to accept the changes to the grants program as fully amended. Nancy Novell seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Sarah Powers abstained from the vote.

### **Committee/Board Reports**

#### **Executive Committee**

None

#### **Art, Education & Collections**

Gene Davis reported the following:

- Newly enhanced Banjo Stand was a huge success.
- The Glenwood South crosswalk project, *Cool Walkings*, is opening this Sunday. The press event will be held at 2:00 PM. Parking will be available behind the Ale House.

#### **Grants Committee**

Linda Dallas reported the following:

- October 15 is the deadline for the first cycle of Technical Assistance Grants. Three applications have been received thus far.
- Grant Workshop season is approaching. The three workshops for applicants will be held on October 29, November 6, and November 13.
- The Web Accessibility 101 webinar will be held on October 19 and 20 from 1:00-3:00 in RMB 303. Twenty-five arts organizations have signed up to participate.
- One task for the ADA Learning Community has been to work on professional development for the entire arts community. They are working on the following recommendations:
  - They would like to bring the Accessibility Director from the JFK Center to speak and conduct a workshop.
  - They would like Sina Bahram, a PhD student in Computer Science at NC State who is blind and works as a museum consultant, to come speak as well.

**Public Art & Design Board**

Jerry reported the following for Laurent de Comarmond:

- PADB reviewed and finalized their Work Plan for 2016.
- Douwe Blumberg’s final design for public art at Fire Station 12 was approved.
- Consolidation of \$66,000 in HPA transportation funds was approved for consideration for use in Hillsborough Phase II. The project being considered is a public transit shelter.
- Andy Dufford was in town last month to work on laying the foundation for public art at Critical Public Safety.

**Executive Director Report**

Jerry Bolas reported that Belva Parker is recruiting volunteers for the Pullen Open House that will be held on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. They will be soliciting input on the Pullen renovations and on the RAP.

**Public Comments**

Randy Fornier, President of Art and Creative Productions, introduced himself.

**New/Other Business**

Commissioners shared information and feedback on arts and cultural events they had attended in the community. The Block Gallery opening for *Sacred Spaces* will be held on Friday, October 16.

**Adjournment**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM

Submitted by Sandi Sullivan