

Raleigh Arts Commission (CORAC)
March 28, 2017
5:30 PM, RMB 305

Present: Chanda Branch, Arrington Clark, Jason Craighead, Linda Dallas, Gene Davis (Vice-Chair), Laurent de Comarmond, Moses T. Alexander Greene, Andy Martin, Nancy Novell (Chair), Joanne Sullivan, Stan Williams

Absent: Gail Perry

Staff: Sarah Corrin, Arts Grant Coordinator
Kim Curry-Evans, Public Art Director
Brad Johnson, Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board Liaison
Scott Payne, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department
Sarah Powers, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts

Call to Order

Chair, Nancy Novell, called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM.

Approval of October Minutes

Stan Williams made a motion to adopt the minutes as submitted. Linda Dallas seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Action Items

Nominating Committee Slate of Officers: Laurent de Comarmond presented the slate of new officers: Gene Davis for Chair and Chanda Branch for Vice Chair. Laurent made a motion to approve the slate of officers. Chanda seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

AEC Acquisitions: Gene Davis made a motion to acquire Ely Urbanski's piece, blouse.blue.R, Monoprint on fabric for the Municipal Art Collection. Jason Craighead seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

AEC Block 2 Artist Approval: Kim Curry-Evans reported that the next Block 2 show will run May-September. Two artists have been selected for the exhibition: Shen Wei and Jaclyn Bowie. Gene and Kim presented brief bios for both artists and their video selections: *Dusk of the Harmonious Garden* by Shen Wei and *Geij* by Jaclyn Bowie. Andy Martin made a motion to approve the two artists. Joanne seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Arts Grants Recommendations FY18: Chanda Branch reported the following:

- There was an increase in per capita due to population increase. Total funding available for grants for FY18 is approximately \$1.8 million.
- Grant requests increased by \$6K
- Grant award recommendations for all arts organizations were presented, with \$37, 424 allotted for capacity building. Recommended allocations were based on cumulative scoring by the Grants Panel.
- One organization was not recommended for funding, Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade. They scored below 50% overall which was below the threshold for funding. They will be encouraged to reapply.

Linda Dallas made a motion to accept the grant funding recommendations as presented. Moses T. Alexander Greene seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CAM Raleigh/CAF Emergency Funding Request: Chanda reported the following:

- CAM approached the city and the Mayor with a special funding request in the amount of \$175K for the current fiscal year.
- The Mayor and City Manager asked the Grants Committee to review the request and make a recommendation to City Council.
- CAM was asked to submit a special grant application which was reviewed by the committee.

- The final decision will be made by City Council. The Grants Committee was tasked with a recommendation only.
- Two key questions were considered
 - Does the organization merit emergency assistance?
 - If so, should the assistance be offered in the form of a grant?
- The committee undertook a comprehensive review and discussion of the request.
- The Grant Committee made two recommendations.
 - The City should not fund the emergency request as presented by the Contemporary Art Foundation – a \$175,000 grant
 - The following package of assistance was proposed:
 - In order to help address cash flow issues, the City advance 50% of the organization's FY18 grant award as early as possible in the new fiscal year.
 - To help stabilize the organization the City should provide an independent consultant with expertise in non-profits to perform an organizational assessment. Based on the results of the organizational assessment, the City should provide additional consultant support to assist CAF in addressing identified issues.

Following a lengthy and thoughtful discussion, the following amended motion was made by Chanda:

Grant Committee Recommendations – amended by Gene Davis

Recommendation #1

The committee recommends that the City not fund the emergency request as presented by the Contemporary Art Foundation – a \$175,000 grant.

Recommendation # 2

The committee feels that the Contemporary Art Foundation and the Contemporary Art Museum Raleigh plays an important role in our city and believes, after thorough consideration, that there is a need to support the organization to ensure its success. Therefore, the committee recommends the City provide the following package of assistance:

1. To help address cash flow issues, the committee recommends that the City advance 50% (roughly \$77,000) of the organization's FY18 grant award as early as possible in the new fiscal year.
2. In the future interest of the organization, the committee recommends that:
 - a. The City provide an independent consultant with expertise in nonprofits to perform an organizational assessment.
 - i. Selection of the consultant be made by a team comprised of City staff and four CAF representatives (executive director, board president, board vice chair, and treasurer)
 - ii. The resulting report be provided to both CAF and the Office of Raleigh Arts
 - b. Based on the results of the organizational assessment, the City provide additional consultant support to assist CAF in addressing identified issues.
3. The committee recommends that CAF report back to the Grants Committee on a quarterly basis over the next 12 months to provide updates and formulate additional steps to ensure the success of CAF and CAM Raleigh.

If Council determines that moving forward is in the best interest of the City, the committee recommends approval of the entire package of recommendations.

Stan Williams seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Discussion Items

Advocacy: Sarah Powers provided a handout which summarized her presentation to City Council at their budget work session on February 28. It provided implementation priorities and strategies. The main strategy currently is to move salaries out of per capita to the general fund in order to free up funds.

Committee/Board Reports

Art, Education & Collections Gene reported the following:

- Art-on-the-Move is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. Arts office staff is working with Go Raleigh on a celebration of the event. Jenn Hales is in the process of procuring artists of all varieties to do performance pieces on the R Line.
- The next Block Gallery Exhibition, *Images of Sound*, opens on April 7 and features work by Frank Meyers and Rodney Boles.
- Andrea Pauley’s (sp?) public art exhibit, *Particle Falls*, is currently being projected at nighttime on the wall across from Raleigh Times. It will be on display for a month and illustrates real time air quality in Raleigh

Grants Committee

No additional report.

Public Art & Design Board Laurent reported the following:

- Duke Energy Center: the four finalists for the public art project have completed site visits with the project team. They will provide proposals and a corresponding budget as a part of their interviews, which will occur May 4th.
- Union Station: A sub-committee of PADB is getting together with Thomas Sayre to discuss options for securing funds for implementing the designs of the canopy at Union Station. Nearly \$500,000 is needed to realize the project, which is not funded by way of the percent for art program. This is the first project for PADB where the board needs to develop and execute a fundraising strategy
- Biltmore Hills Tennis Center: The artist selection panel for the Biltmore Hills Tennis Center will meet April 10th to select finalists for interviews; there were eight artist submissions for the \$38,000 project.
- PADB eventual vacancy: The PADB annual meeting is in May; there is one board member (Bob Rankin) whose time will be up. PADB will need to make a recommendation to the CORAC in the coming two months of someone to fill this vacancy.

Executive Committee Chair Report: Nancy Novell reported that Gifts of Gold and Pieces of Gold were both a huge success. Also, she and Jason Craighead have both finished their terms on the Arts Commission and this was their final meeting. The gavel was passed to incoming Chair, Gene Davis.

Executive Director Report: Sarah Powers reported that *My Precious* national metal smith exhibition is currently on display at Pullen Arts Center. Sertoma Arts Center will reopen with ???, following months of renovations. NC Arts Council will kick off their 50th anniversary with Arts Day. Ignite will kick off Friday and Saturday this week with the keynote theme being, “creative allies”, artists working together to tackle social issues.

Public Comments

None

New/Other Business

None

Adjournment

Joanne Sullivan made a motion to adjourn. Nancy Novell seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 PM.

Submitted by Sandi Sullivan