

**Raleigh Arts Commission (CORAC)**  
**May 16, 2017**  
**5:30 PM, RMB 305**

Present: Chanda Branch (Vice-Chair), Arrington Clark, Linda Dallas, Gene Davis (Chair), Laurent de Comarmond, Pam Hartley, Andy Martin, Gail Perry, Joanne Sullivan, Stan Williams

Absent: Moses T. Alexander Greene

Guests: Jill Gammon, Raleigh Fine Arts Society

Staff: Scott Payne, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department  
Sarah Powers, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts

**Call to Order**

Chair, Gene Davis, called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM and introduced new commissioner, Pam Hartley.

**Approval of April Minutes**

Laurent made a motion to adopt the minutes as submitted. Stan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion Items**

**AFTA Study Breakfast Event:** This event will be held at the Umstead Hotel in Cary on June 23. It will provide an opportunity to share The Arts & Economic Prosperity Study data with the community. Gene reminded everyone that the study is conducted once every five years and empowers arts advocates by illustrating the economic impact of arts in our community.

**Advocacy Update:** The City Managers' proposed budget was presented to City Council today. Additional funding for implementation of the Raleigh Arts Plan was not included, but there is a process whereby Council can advocate for arts funding by moving salaries out of per capita and into the general fund. Commissioners were asked to reach out to council members to ensure they have all the information they need. Funding is critical for implementation of the RAP. The compensation study will add about \$20 million to the budget. Council will need to weigh the various needs in the community. Scott provided an overview of the budget process including: budget memos, work sessions, and the public hearing process. Staff will notify the commission when arts falls on Council's agenda and commissioners will report progress to Gene.

**Action Items**

**CIPAP: OPTIC Installation at Dix Park:** Arrington reported that artist, Nate Shaeffer, presented his project to AEC. It is a temporary interactive light and sound installation planned for October 2017 at Dix Park. There will be 192 pairs of neon rods and two podiums with Theremins, which will be programmed with sounds that will coordinate with a light installation in the trees. Nate is working in conjunction with the Dix Park project team and urban foresters. Volunteers will assist onsite during event hours. No funding is being requested from the city. Stan made a motion to approve the OPTIC installation project. Joanne Sullivan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Purchase consideration: McLean Fahnestock, *Stratagem 8, 2016*:** AEC recommended that this video from the first Block 2 be purchased for accession into the Municipal Art Collection. Linda made a motion to purchase. Andy seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Committee/Board Reports**

**Art, Education & Collections:** Arrington

- The upcoming Block Gallery exhibition which will feature pieces from the Envision St. Agnes program and an installation piece by Mary Carter Taub as a part of OPTIC.
- Midtown Raleigh Alliance has completed the first segment of their Citizen-Initiated Public Art crosswalk project. Arrington shared images of the completed work.
- The RLine will become the "ArtLine" on May 20 as part of Art-on-the-Move and Artspllosure. Performing artists from a wide variety of disciplines will perform live on the buses.

**Grants Committee:** Chanda

- Universal Access day was a success. A list of participating organizations was distributed.
- The new Learning Community for Universal Access application is now live. Most current members plan to reapply.
- Chanda will work with the commission to finalize Capacity Building programming in June.

**Public Art & Design Board:** Laurent

- Three artists were selected as finalists for the Biltmore Hills Tennis Center.
- Multi-media artist, Lincoln Hancock, is the recommended candidate to replace Bob Rankin on the Board.
- Elections will be held at the next meeting which is the annual meeting. Appointments and re-appointments will be made as well.
- Historical images for the piers for the Hillsborough Street project were reviewed and feedback was compiled for the artist.
- The task force for Union Station Canopy fund raising will be meeting next week.

**Executive Committee:** Gene

- Two ad hoc committees are being formed, Board Diversity and Medal of Arts Update. Chanda will chair Board Diversity. Gene, Laurent, and Stan will also serve. The Medal of Arts Update committee will be lead by Belva Parker, and will include community member, Jackson Cooper. Andy, Pam, and Gail will also serve. Joanne will be a backup. Stan recommended Charles Phaneuf as another person who could offer valuable input.

**PRGAB:** No report.

**Executive Director Report:** Sarah

- City Strategic plan has a new initiative, Arts and Technology. It will incorporate community engagement with partners from Red Hat, NC State, RCC, and Digital Connectors Program.
- Eliza Kiser has received a prestigious CAELI Fellowship.
- Jill Gammon, Kim Curry-Evans, and Sarah Powers are working together on Raleigh Fine Arts Society's arts in the community program to expand the impact.

**Public Comments**

None

**New/Other Business**

Scott reported that the Moore Square park renovation is out to bid.

**Adjournment**

Stan made a motion to adjourn. Joanne seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Submitted by Sandi Sullivan/Sarah Powers