

BAC minutes
December 13, 2017

Present: Lynn Schwartzberg, Sally Gaskill, Abby Henkel, Sean Starowitz, Alain Barker, Emily Goodson, Michael Wilkerson

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report – no new expenditures. \$4372 in our nonrecurring fund, \$61,635 in municipal fund, which includes the Bicentennial Project. Things are stable.

Chair's report:

Sally reviewed the Community Arts Awards where Peter Jacobi received the Arts Advocate Award. To help expand the audience for future awards ceremonies, Sally asked if the BAC might want to volunteer to work with Ivy Tech? Perhaps we could introduce a Patti Pizzo Advocacy Award into the mix. Alain and Lynn volunteered to work on this, and Lynn will speak with Paul Daily.

A *****NEW COMMISSIONER**** has been appointed by the Mayor: Rachel Glago of Cardinal Stage, who will start attending in January. Congratulations, Rachel, and welcome! She replaces Francesca Sobrer.

There are other seats opening up, and other names have surfaced...diversity of age, ethnicity, art form, culture, etc., is an issue. The Mayor and Council offices are aware of this, but some commissioners suggested we become more proactive. Maybe get some more community people on task forces, committees, etc., to familiarize them with the BAC. We also can encourage people to apply online.

Can we have orientation for new commissioners? (Martina and Peter go off after the January meeting). What would the minutes have looked like for the past year in an alternate universe, and/or with orientation?

We discussed the written Percent for Art Ordinance. Sally met with Alex Crowley and Sean to discuss clarifying and expanding the legislation.

At our January 2018 meeting we will discuss our top goals for 2018.

Staff Report:

Sean will be issuing an RFI - Request for Interest - to identify fabricators who can be vetted to work on various public art projects. Traditionally speaking, public art projects tend to benefit certain artists; this approach would give us a chance to get a more diverse group of artists involved who are who are under-represented in the public art field. Sean believes wholeheartedly that BAC/Bloomington can "change the field of public art nationally." An example budget could be 10K for artist stipend and 30K for fabrication and installation.

In conjunction with Wage Growth Task Force and a consultant, Sean has been working to develop Bloomington's cultural identity. What is Bloomington, beyond a blue dot in a red state? What is our storytelling strategy? That's a challenge to which the BAC might be able to contribute.

The new BEAD website is up with "Art Thrives Here" as a slogan, refreshed from the original 2008 graphics. The original strategic plan has been met, and BEAD is now working now on a new three year plan. One question is whether the district's boundaries should change. Sean wants to have the plan in place by May.

The city's innovation office has developed a new website, bloomingtonrevealed.com, with the purpose of being transparent and seeing how the city can make best use of data to set policy, provide services, and make changes.

Sean hopes to make a public art presentation to the Council in March, presenting what data we have and what we are collecting.

2018 BAC meeting schedule: unfortunately we need to change January and March.

Bloomington Bicentennial:

- Our RFQ for the Bloomington Bicentennial Community Song is ready to send out! Go! Said the commissioners. Share! Promote! We might be the only city to use the song as creative placemaking from its Percent for Art fund.
- Sean showed draft bicentennial banners which will be revealed in 2018.
- There's a new "multi-commission" equity/inclusion bicentennial writing contest, for which Sally and Abby have volunteered to represent the BAC.

Commissioner Announcements: Lynn, purveyor of fresh food, is asking us for canned food so that we can sing Messiah off key at St. Mark's. Sally is into Peter Pan which opens Friday and Alain's daughter is performing in it.

Sean is developing a part time teaching career, at Collins and SPEA.

Happy Holidays, he closed the minutes, ever so slightly furthering the war on Christmas.

The meeting was adjourned, somehow, and off we went into the dark night, Krampus monster threatening us all.