

## **Bloomington Arts Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2018**

Present: Sally Gaskill, Michael Wilkerson, Andy Findley, Nick Blandford, Rachel Glago, Abby Henkel, Lynn Schwartzberg, Emily Goodson

Absent: Alain Barker, Gabe Colman, Angelo Pizzo

Staff: Sean Starowitz

#### **Call to order**

Sally Gaskill called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.

#### **Approval of March Minutes**

Lynn Schwartzberg moved to approve. Nick Blandford seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Financial Report**

No changes in our finances. BAC has no operating money – what’s in our operating fund is leftover from postcard sales. We have a new fund of \$50 created for public art by a donor in memory of a deceased artist. We can consider adding to it in order to maintain public art projects.

#### **Richard Ross Residency in Bloomington - Recap**

Rachel Glago reported that 347 people attended the events, and more than 1,200 engaged with everything including in-person and online. There were nine events in total. It was awesome. Richard Ross connected Sean Starowitz and Rachel to Julian Robinson in Louisville for more projects. Attendees from other counties at the stakeholder lunch are looking into connecting with the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative for their facilities.

#### **BAC Projects**

Bloomington Bicentennial Community Song

- The committee selected three finalists
- Meeting with them next week; we’ll make a decision next week
- Diverse finalists – yay

Arts Project Grants

- Six commissioners on the grants panel; three are returning, three new
  - Sally, Lynn, Abby, Nick, Rachel, Emily
- 22 applicants
- Meeting April 25 at 4pm in a closed meeting to review grants
- May 9 meeting with full commission is when we will make final decisions

- In addition to the public meetings, Abby and Sally met with some applicants to give advice
- Michael pointed out that there is often great diversity of opinions between commissioners on each application, and some people might have been misled during the workshop if the commissioner they met with liked their application, but the committee doesn't. Others responded that each applicant generally gets more than one point of view from various commissioners.
- All commissioners are welcome to come to the panel meeting, but only the six on the panel will be scoring.
  - All commissioners should skim the applications so they are prepared to vote on May 9
- Conflicts of Interest must be reported before commissioners receive and score applications
  - Sean will send new form as soon as he gets it
- Nick suggested that first reader & second reader on each app be a combo of new and experienced commissioners

#### Percent for Arts Committee

- This month's meeting postponed. Current task is to revise the existing guidelines.

#### **Chair's Report – Sally Gaskill**

- Sally can't wait to retire (June 30) so she has even more time for her volunteer activities

#### **Bicentennial Arts Contest – Abby Henkel**

- Abby is representing the BAC on a joint committee with members from several commissions to run an arts contest for kids to explore local history of underrepresented people this summer
- Exhibit of winners at the Monroe County History Center in July
- Michael moved to contribute \$100 to the exhibit costs from our 4300 fund; Andy seconded. Motion passed!

#### **Staff Report – Sean Starowitz**

##### UDO

- This Friday will be a public report by consultants on the UDO. Nick will attend (and maybe Rachel)
- May 1: update on UDO at the public library. Rachel will update the BAC.

### Black and Brown Arts Festival

- Sean is partnering with the Latino Affairs Commission and the Commission on the Status of Black Males for a Black and Brown Arts Festival (May 19, 12-4pm). Could use BAC volunteers the day of, or just attendees.

### Percent for Art

- Trades District 1% project: We will have \$80k-\$90k
- Bids just came in on Switchyard Park art
- Working on an overhaul of the traffic box painting project
- Touching up Animal Island soon

### Other

- Community Development Financial Institution: City is seeking CDFI-friendly status to help people seeking affordable housing loans and opportunities. Could be used specifically to help artists and arts organizations.
- City has new digital form for public record for each commission, if members of the public have public comment but can't attend the meeting

### Commissioner Announcements

- It is really pretty out and Abby is happy about that.
- Lynn: Cool outdoor light show on Fountain Square Mall as part of the Combine with Blockhouse Studios, subsidized by Cook
- Lynn is singing Bach on Sunday, 3pm at St Mark's
- Mike will be talking about Kurt Vonnegut at the Granfalloon on May 11
- Sally and Abby will be singing with Voces Novae at the Granfalloon on May 11 (it will be hella lit)
- Mike's senior seminar is moving along; big takeaway from the survey is that college students are more interested in arts involvement than they expected
  - May 1 at 9am: final presentation, room A203 at SPEA
- Mike's assistant director is moving to another office; looking to hire her replacement
- Nick:
  - Secretly artist Phoebe Bridgers playing at the Bishop on Saturday
  - American Assn of Independent Music (lobbying assn) gave 12 nominations for annual awards to Secretly artists
  - He's going to a conference in Toronto and will be on two panels (but has to miss the Granfalloon)

### Adjournment

Sally Gaskill adjourned the meeting at 6:00 and invited everyone to join the Bicentennial party happening down the hall.