

## **Bloomington Arts Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2018**

Taken by Abby Henkel, Secretary

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

Absent: Alain Barker, Angelo Pizzo, Mike Wilkerson

Public: Jenny Mack

Staff: Sean Starowitz, Tyler Myles

### **Call to Order**

Sally Gaskill called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Approval of Minutes**

- There is a question about the purpose of the “Special Projects” committee noted in the minutes with Mike Wilkerson, newly appointed chair. Mike is not here to help us.
- Minutes approved unanimously.

### **Financial Report – Sean Starowitz**

- No change in funds since last month

### **BAC Projects**

- Ivy Tech’s Community Arts Awards
  - It’s a great group of recipients! Monster House Press (Business), Cardinal Stage Company (Education), Danielle McClelland (Advocate), Gerry Masse/Sculpture Trails Outdoor Museum (Regional Arts Service)
  - 6-8pm on Saturday, November 17 (new date): All Commissioners are urged to attend, and to invite their local networks. We want to raise visibility for this event.
  - We are very pleased that admission will be free because of BAC support.
- 1% for the Arts
  - Meeting this Friday; we agreed that future meetings should take place the week prior to the Commission meeting, rather than two days afterward.
  - Andy is chair, has been reviewing guidelines, has proposed rewriting them as a group

- CDFI: The City has locked in a way for artists to get low-interest loans and Sean will soon be able to release RFQ's for artists for Trades District and Switchyard Park.
- Bloomington Bicentennial Community Song
  - Meeting tomorrow in Kelly Conference Room at 5pm. The purpose is to plan the community roll-out for the song, following its Bloomington premiere in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade.
  - Rachel is a committee member but Emily is.
  - Events:
    - Jeff will perform at 3<sup>rd</sup> St Park for Lotus
    - The City may host a Bicentennial Gala
- Grants
  - In the first budget hearing, Council members spoke positively about ESD's requested increase of \$20,000 to our Arts Projects Grants Fund. Hurrah!!
  - Abby will call a meeting in the next few weeks to plan for the potential doubling of funds.
  - We might want to compare BAC and BUEA grant applications, budgets, and reporting forms
  - Sean noted that the with the increase the City will equally fund the BAC Arts Grants, BUEA Arts Grants, and VisitBloomington Arts Grants, all at \$40,000. Excellent!
- Nick requested a roster of members of all committees.

### **Staff Report – Sean Starowitz**

- Council Budget Process
  - (See above.) ESD requested a budget increase from \$20,000 to \$40,000 for Arts Project Grants.
  - ESD presented the budget to Council, it was well taken, but not finalized yet; Rachel and Sean attended the meeting.
  - Three council members voiced support for arts budget.
  - Sally encouraged advocacy: you can send your email to one person in the Council office, who will forward it to all council members
- City Projects
  - Dimension Mill
    - Open Oct 31
    - Launch party Nov 15
  - Traffic Box Program
    - Extended deadline to this Friday
    - Got a lot of submissions; great diversity of artists

- A good way to encourage artists new to the public landscape to enter the field
- Indiana Arts Commission Cultural Districts
  - Sean meets bi-monthly with the IAC and other cultural districts to reassess future of cultural districts, relevance
  - Will compare Tippecanoe and Columbus cultural districts at BEAD Arts Summit
  - The IAC is considering an Artist in Residence program
- Unified Development Ordinance
  - Open for comments; commissioners or the BAC as a whole are encouraged to make comments
  - How does UDO include language supporting public art?
- BEAD
  - Holding off on promoting much while the rebrand is underway
  - Discontinuing events calendar; encouraging people to use Visit Bloomington calendar
- Bicentennial on the B-Line
  - Oct 6, 10:30-2:30
- IAC Statewide Arts Homecoming
  - October 18-19 in Fort Wayne
- BEAD Summit
  - Invitation and Facebook event will be released this week
  - Friday, October 26
  - Discussion focus: How can we make Bloomington a tourism destination for arts? Comprehensively pull data from City arts support and programming

### **Strategic Plan**

- Sean adds to it when we make changes
- We can use this as a reference point going into 2019 to see what we did well and what we can improve on in the new year
- Commissioners should refer to it every so often to make sure it's updated with everything we're doing; it's available on a Google Doc.
- Use comment function and/or assign a task to someone so they can follow up
- If three or more commissioners are on at the same time, it's a public meeting that needs to be announced ahead of time

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

- Gabe Colman has resigned from the Commission due to a new baby, new job, and new house (whew!). Therefore there is now an open seat.
  - Council appointment

- Commissioners are encouraged to think about who's not at the table and recruit candidates
- Committee chairs
  - To help with Sean's workload, committee chairs will from now on set up meetings for their committees; Sean will get a City Hall meeting room and post the meeting once it's set up.
- Strategic Plan
  - Think how we might review it toward the end of 2018
  - Review every few meetings
  - Helps us show the Council what goals we achieved, how we analyze "failure" or not meeting our goals

### **Commissioner Announcements**

- Abby is singing at First Thursday on Oct 4 with the Ooolites
  - Get a button from Andy
- Sally is semi-retired which means not retired at all
- Cardinal Stage is inviting community singers to be in the choir for The Christians (a BAC grant-funded project)
- Emily is IN the Christians!! And she is really good.
- Secretly hosted a First Friday gallery opening with artist Sean Starowitz (unknown to most Commissioners, sadly)
- Bloomington Music Expo: Nick reported that a record fair being planned by Mike McAfee and others. Rachel and Nick are involved. To be hosted at the convention center, probably Feb 8-9. Landlocked, WFHB, and Secretly will likely be top sponsors.
- Alain invited Nick to a conversation at JSoM last weekend about disruption in the art process, music/technology
- Nick is speaking about the music biz for a few IU classes
- Sean and Sally spoke about arts entrepreneurship to Alain's class this week
- IUPUI is hosting some arts seminars on Monday nights that commissioners might be interested in

### **Good of the order/Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29pm.