

MINUTES – BAC – Wednesday, October 10, 2018

PRESENT: Mike Wilkerson, Lynn Schwartzburg, Andy , Nick Blandford, Rachel, Alain Barker, Sally Gaskill, Sean Starowitz

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Matt Ellenwood, visiting architect. Experience with the bus shelter competition.
- Sam Welsch-Sveen.

MINUTES

- Unanimously approved. No comments.

FINANCIAL REPORT, Mike Wilkerson

- No changes to report
- 402: \$61, 635.66
- 403: \$4,371
- In addition: \$500 payment to the Ivy Tech Arts Awards: we need an invoice from Paul.

FINAL REPORTS RECEIVED, Sean

- Carlson Palmer
- Dance Network Alliance
- Comment: perhaps we should invite the groups to report to us in person. Voluntary.

PROJECT REPORTS

- Bloomington Bicentennial Community Song, Nick

Met on Sept 27. Lots of action items. Rachel put together a set of tasks for PR and distribution.

November 2, official release of recorded version of song on various platforms and city website.

Jeff has provided a rough mix audio recording with Jenn Cristy, voice. Filming very soon for the video. Need additional actors: grown-up version of 8-11 girl with dark eyes. Man who can play older tradition father/parent. Other events in town include Lotus in the Park, B-Line Trail last Saturday. We've paid Jeff half of the fee. Once recordings and transcriptions are completed, the remaining amount will be paid.

- Public Art Planning committee, Andy

RFQ for the Trades District is posted (deadline – Dec 6). One received and 12 possible.

Advertised in a number of places, including School of Art and Design, Architecture in Columbus, locally as well. Interest from SF Arts commission and Regional Arts commission in St Lewis.

Committee plans to develop a series of article templates. What, How, and Why articles. Business Audiences a focus. This and Switchyard will support minority artists, with low-interest loans.

Pre-certifying fabricators, etc. making it possible for a more diverse set of proposals. OpEd articles might be a possibility. Rachel put together a timeline for action. Sean is putting together basic information. Committee will then draft info on the initiative. Switchyard RFQ will be coming out soon (deadline – Dec 21). Three other projects coming up: Hospital, Fourth St.

Garage, and Convention Center. Mayor is very supportive of revising guidelines for Percentage for the Arts to make the initiative more effective. Never been a true formula for it. Guidelines (first) and ordinance (later) updates would make a big difference.

- GRANTS COMMITTEE, Rachel

Possible 20k more for the grants, which will total \$40k. Vote tonight!

Project Grants = \$20k.

Operating Support Grants = \$20k

Questions: Do we want for profit, not for profit, loosely organized organizations. We need to be clearer. Extra points for emerging organizations, vs. more established organizations. Do we open it to individual artists?

Operating Support: What restrictions and eligibility. 50k, 75k, etc.? How many orgs fall into those categories? Depending on the pool, we need to choose. How do we account for matches: in-kind or cash? Do we want a minimum number of producing before the org is funded. Needs to prove that it's a sustainable project. We need to consider how the orgs are funded already funded by the City through buildings, services, or cash. How does that impact access to support? Where to establish the line? From previous research: \$100k = around 7 organizations, \$75k = around 11. Sean: Perhaps we need to move to \$50k?

Generally – no double-funding from both grants. Do we want to be flexible with the amount applied to both grants? To do this, the applications would be simultaneous. Council is very concerned about Living Wage. This might need to be included in requirements of the grants. BUEA is considering a limit of 50% for second year from the same organization, or requiring a year gap between grants from the same organization. Distinction between grants being more variable. Operating support, on the other hand, needs to be more stable. Next meeting of the committee is November 7.

BAC discussion on pros and cons of grants committee thinking. Would \$20k in operating support make a substantial difference vs. an extra \$20k in the pot for project support. Working in a logic so that orgs don't depend on operating support indefinitely. Lots of questions have yet to be answered.

Sean: City looking at arbiters, perhaps bringing in Susan Sandberg and Mayor to get a sense of where they stand. Council conversation: interested in leveraging private support with City support. Public dollars need to be leveraged with private support. Make sure that this continues to grow. Sustaining organizations cannot be the case. Cycling orgs in and out make this possible. Looking at Joanna's report is also important. Bringing in two members of the public would be healthy on the committee.

Andy: does the project support grant support staff and other annual expenses? Sean read out the limitations of the grant.

Sally: operating support would make sustaining support clearer.

Mike: I would be more comfortable with the operating support grant program, if it was as substantial as \$100k. With \$20k, it feels that just a few organizations would have access to the program, which potentially excludes other worthy organizations.

Sally: We do a disservice to the larger organizations that are doing service in the community and, without the operating support grant, we're not honoring them for being successful, with staff.

Lynn: Agreed. However, if you look at the Chamber Singers, which has also been a bedrock of the community. They also need to be supported in what they do.

Rachel: With the additional funding, we need to take the risk to introduce a new concept. Hopefully, leading to more funding in the future.

- COMMUNITY ARTS AWARDS - Sally
November 17, 5-7pm, at the Ivy Tech Waldron Auditorium. The Bloomington Song will be folded into the event – perhaps as a sing-along? Perhaps the chorus for the Fourth of July Parade. A Musical Happening would be great! Facebook Live Event!?
- CITY REPORT, Sean
Trades District project is very active.
BEAT Summit is moving along. Strategic plan is moving along. 10 years on is interesting to look at, such as Lotus building. BAAC is mentioned. A number of City initiatives are being folded in. Tetia Lee will be there. Catherine Armstrong from Columbus will talk about. Ed Comentale from IU and Erin Erdmann-White from Visit Bloomington.