

Bloomington Arts Commission

Wednesday, August 14th, 2019

5 to 6:30 pm - McCloskey Conference Room

Attendees: Rachel, Bryony, Sally, Sean, Lynn, Quinton, Steven

Public: Jana and Josh Jenner, Peter, Marybeth, Karyn Ndino

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Meeting called to order at 5:06 PM

2. Approval of June minutes (No July Minutes)

Rachel moves to approve. Sally seconds. Minutes approved.

3. Financial Report

Sean: No changes in municipal fund. There is a dip in finances were due to the food for the Arts Grants reception.

4. Welcome Public
 - a. Invitation for public comment

5. Janeway Collective Presentation

Janeway Collective is looking to unveil monument recognizing Captain Janeway, female lead character from Star Trek who was born in Bloomington in the show. Looking to have monument completed by May 20, 2020.

Sally: How much fundraising have you done?

Collective is working with Patronicity to host a targeted 2-month fundraising campaign.

Patronicity has a matching grant. The collective is also applying for a \$5,000 grant as well as potential funding from Artisan Alley. They've raised 1500 already and are looking to publicize the fundraising campaign through Startreck.com which has gained some interest.

They are looking to launch the campaign in October / September.

Sean: Parks and Recreations owns some of this land along the B-Line. It will likely be on Parks Property. In the past we needed to build in a retainer for maintenance as monuments in the past have gone up without any funding for maintenance.

6. BAC Projects

a. Grants Committee Update

Rachel: Grants committee did not meet in July and the last meeting was the Awards Ceremony. The Awards Ceremony had a good turnout. Andy and Sean presented at City Hall. I think we should have pushed to recipients to stay for the City Council section and also the commissioners.

Multiple commissioners note it was unclear whether we were supposed to attend the city hall meeting.

Sally: I think next time we need nametags to make it a networking event. And we need to explicitly note that people are expecting to attend the council meeting afterward.

Sean: it was explicit in the messaging and at the event itself.

Joanna: Maybe we should just role it all into one meeting in order to keep people from leaving.

Sean: Rachel and I have set the schedule for the grant's meetings for the next year. We will discuss RE-TOOL and the final grant reports at the next meeting. On Friday we will decide what to do with the data we are getting from the reports. I will create a spreadsheet in order to track the information in order to keep track of what we did.

b. Public Art Planning Committee

i. Trades District Update

ii.

Sean: Estimates are over budget. We are working through pricing and engineering issues. We need to get Stefan under contract and higher an engineer to do preliminary reviews. The site has a water retention area which is causing some issues. We need to see if we can anchor the structure to existing concrete or pour new foundation. We are considering steel and aluminum for the structure but some of the tariff issues are making that difficult. One quote was 250K.

The German embassy is supportive of international exchanges, so we are looking for additional funding from German arts and culture organizations.

c. Switchyard Update

Sean: Public Arts committee recommending T3 for the project.

Bryony: Of the 2 finalists, this seemed to be the most interactive across ages. You can move the pieces. The other finalist had no interactivity whatsoever.

Sean: We need to think about marrying the artist with the fit of the program. There is another option of a piece highlighting the big dipper. This serves as a connection to Bloomington's history as a part of the Underground Railroad. There is already a potential funding source that isn't the BAC. The total price for this is 23K.

Lynn: Moves that we hire T3 to develop the piece. Seconded. And approved.

d. Parking Garage Update

Sean: The planning arts committee and staff have decided to go with Project One, a group based in Indianapolis. The project budget is at 380K. The Urban Fabric design is 450K though, so we may have to consider issues of scale. The structure will be lit at night based on the inside light of the garage and a spotlight which will target the paneling.

The challenge is that it's in a historic district and has to be historically contributing. The budget is 85K but some of that will be allotted to maintenance. Us doing any type of façade is going to be difficult. We should work with the existing architecture of the structure and then think about the pedestrian experiences the art might include. The project quote is slightly over budget in this phase as well.

Rachel: Is the RFQ similar to Trades where you pick a spot?

Bryony moves to accept proposal with modifications from Project 1 for the new 4th Street Garage. Seconded by Lynn: All in favor. Approved Proposal for Project One.

7. Commissioner Announcements

a. New Chair

Rachel moves to nominate Bryony. Sally seconds. Motion passes. Bryony is the chairwoman.

b. Indiana Cultural District Retreat

Sally: I was Invited by IAC to do an advocacy training for new cultural districts consortium around the state. Senator Ron Grooms was also in attendance. All of the cultural districts did a presentation on the work happening in their region.

Sean: We are lucky to have the cultural district run through the city because we have a budget and many of the other districts do not.

Sally: Senator Grooms suggested the use of Tif District Funding as an intense model hurt the chances of the bill passing. In the most recent iteration the money would be collected at the local level and then go to the state and be redistributed by the IAC. There was some contention about the way the funds would be distributed.

c. Ivy Tech Community Arts Awards

Lynn: We cosponsor the community arts awards, a function previously done by the local arts council. Ivy Tech took it over a few years back. The BAC partnered with them last year and will partner again. They sent out nomination's announcements for varying awards. Deadline for nominations are August 30th.

The event is on December 6th.

d. Miscellaneous

Sean: There is a 2% increase to the grants program tied to inflation. It's \$800. I have also requested it be used for large scale public art maintenance that needs to happen. Money will also now be dedicated for Black y Brown festival. Commissioners can feel free to come to the budget meeting. The mayor sets the budget, the council only has the capacity to decrease the budget. I don't think they will on anything. They may question the budget for maintenance. We have new BEAD signs but none of our signage is ADA accessible. Some of this is things we need to consider.

I am facilitator for a program by the Mellon Foundation for the mid-America art alliance. They

awarded 16 artists 20K to support social change projects. I will be a facilitator with them over the next year. Mellon is interested in doing work in the Arts.

8. Public comment

Arts Forward will be hosting an event September 17nd at the Waldron. The event is advocacy related with the candidates running for city office.

9. Call to Adjourn