

# Bloomington Arts Commission

## Meeting minutes

Virtual meeting, Zoom

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Attending: Babette Ballinger, Nick Blandford, Valeria DeCastro, Rachel Glago, Bryony Gomez-Palacio, Karen Hallett-Rupp, Elizabeth Licata, Essence London, Elliot Reichert, Samuel Sveen

Absent: Quinton Stroud

Staff: Tyler Myles, Marnina Patrick, Sean Starowitz

**Bryony Gomez-Palacio** called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm and welcomed everyone. The minutes from the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed, accepted, and voted on.

**Rachel Glago** gave an update on the grant program. Every applicant was funded and has been notified. **Sean Starowitz** updated that there are twelve completed applications and waiting on a few others for eVerify affidavits. **Rachel Glago** spoke about creating a more transparent conflict of interest procedure to include on the website for the public to be more informed. Research is being done into what verbiage and information other groups are using. Lastly, there will eventually be a call scheduled with all the grantees to get feedback and information to help guide the second round.

**Public Art Committee update: Nick Blandford** spoke about the RFQ for the Trades District's garage with a deadline submission of July 8<sup>th</sup>. The goal for this public art review process is to be mostly complete by the beginning of August. The pool of applicants will be narrowed down to two finalists after which there will be a final review culminating with a vote. The budget listed is \$75,000 with an additional \$5,000 which has been set aside for future maintenance. **Sean Starowitz** shared background information on the Commission's work on equity and inclusion in the RFQ process to eliminate barriers to entry.

**Sean Starowitz** then spoke about the Jordan River project in which Utilities is replacing a culvert. This is a three year \$11 million dollar project and the idea is to have 3 to 5 artists create art projects during the project. This will consist of temporary installations for temporary works therefore not subject to the 1% program so funding will have to come from elsewhere. It was proposed to have a working session with Utilities to firm up the idea.

**Sean Starowitz** then gave updates: 4<sup>th</sup> Street is under contract negotiations hoping to close that deal soon, Switchyard has ordered the lights for one half the installation and are working on design features and safety issues, Trades' contract has been sent to Lucas Brown, and 10<sup>th</sup> Street mural is still being discussed. Lastly, the Cardinal Spirits mural is a great example of what can happen when people are paying attention. The public reached out to say they wanted to do something and found a private partnership all the while utilizing the City as a liaison and resource.

**Staff Report: Sean Starowitz** is pursuing a public/private collaboration with Duke at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street energy substation's wall enclosure. This is part of the effort to put artists to work with RFQs, murals,

etc.... Also, Ivy Tech has decided to relinquish control of the Waldron. There are not many details at this time, as the City is still figuring out what they are doing with the building, but it will be a public process. A letter to the City will be drafted to communicate the BAC's thoughts on the matter including the public process. **Sean Starowitz** then spoke about the Hospital Town hall meeting that is taking place with encouragement for commissioners to attend as one of the early recommendations for the site was an art center.

**Strategic Plan update: Bryony Gomez-Palacio** took several sources of information and distilled them into a single document to inform the Master Plan. Key areas of focus were detailing the BAC's purpose and core tasks while identifying the tools/methodologies used to achieve these goals. The BAC was asked to think about what the BAC's identity is and how BAC can best accomplish that while considering the time that this work will require.

**Bryony Gomez-Palacio** adjourned the meeting at 6:36 PM.