

MINUTES

Arts & Culture Advisory Committee – 9/19/2024

Call to Order: 5:48

Attendees: Tonya, Stacy, Savannah, Robyn, Eric, Eze, Sean, Joe, Nicholas, Wendell, Mary Ann, Jeannie, Amy, Mary Ann, Cara, Maggie, Jess,

Ed Gunts

Approval of Minutes: May 16, 2024: Stacy Handler

Motion

Seconded

Ice Breaker: Words to Live By

Executive Order Highlights & Discussion

- Using this time to evaluate committee members, structure, and goals
- Robyn read the order and duties of the Committee
- We spent the last year getting to know each other and getting into a flow with each other. After a year, we're able to lean into the work a bit more
- Tonya is asking the committee to really bring items and discussion to the table, versus her reporting out to the committee on updates
- More community engagement opportunities - noting moments of success: panel at the Lewis, Art after Dark
- We need to work together to identify systemic needs that are impacting artists and how we can address them
- Robyn suggested partnering with organizations that may not be cultural orgs, but might have synergistic needs, but cultural orgs, as well
- Jeannie suggested investing time and resources in data collection to get more information on the current state of artists and their impact in the city
- Mary Ann shared that there is an effort to map arts education activities across the state
- Nicholas shared he's hoping that this committee can serve as a "hammer" to advocate for greater change for artists
- Stacy shared that perhaps, this year, we focus on our role as advocates for funding for the city's artists and arts organizations
- Cara shared that if we're asking for more funds, we need to also know what we're asking for - there are multiple sectors of the industry (independent artists, orgs, businesses, institutions) and they all need different things, but they rely on each other and support each other
- Mary Ann shared that the ask that was successful for the state has been focusing on the sustainability of the sector
- Ideas around conveying the possibilities of partnering with Baltimore County to make the case to the Mayor

- Tonya shared that she is looking for the Committee to be an active, proactive group. She is asking the Committee to think about the priorities that we should be focusing on as we move into the next year
- Eze shared that he likes the idea of bringing members of the community. Instead of bringing them into the meeting, since we have limited time, we can go into the community and do site visits
- Savannah suggested engaging with the city's Storyteller and other city employees/assets that may be able to assist with the site visits

Nomination: new members x chairs

- Share suggestions of member nominees to Tonya via email
- Share chair nominations

Updates: Tonya Miller Hall

Funding Structure

- Sub Committee examined the funding structure and made recommendations about how to reallocate the current funding
- Asking to carve out \$1M to individual grants
- Also asking that current recipients submit a final report

1% for art

- Department of Planning has agreed to take off \$1M/year out of the Capital Improvement Grant
- This was approved this week
- It will go through the legislative process to be introduced to the City Council for a vote in January

Graffiti task force code

- The city did not have a stance on graffiti
- Tonya drafted some legislation

New A&E District

- Remington wants to start a new A&E District

Housing

Baltimore Together

Downtown Rise

BMA After Party

Round table: All

Adjourn: 7:04

Decisions

- Figure out how we can get out into the community and do site visits and field research
- Sticking with every other month for meetings
- Tonya to share deck post-meeting