

Arts Commission Retreat Minutes City Council Chambers, Feb 10, 2018

Objectives:

- Build trust and camaraderie between members
- Have clear vision for the roles, responsibilities, and parameters of members
- Define and clarify communication and decision-making process

Team-building activities/ Introductions

Members and City of Beaverton Staff in attendance:

Raziah Roushan (Chair), Gina Wilson, Shelley Fagin, Chris Ayzoukian (General Manager/ Head of Arts Program), Sue Pike (Alternate), Tom Doggett (Vice Chair), Debi Thompson, Kourtnee Buechner (Staff Liaison), Greta Jasker, Carley Adams (Faciliator), Allison Wimberly-Tivnon, Lani Parr (Staff Liaison), Ronald Tenison, Rebecca Benoit, Melissa Riley, Katrina Petrovich Byas, Julie Nielson, Amanda Clark, Jim Blaich, Marcie Brewer

Accomplishments/ Recent Successes (Kourtnee)

- Expanded arts programming
- Artist Resource (Free workshops, Write around Portland--artists statements)
- Grant Opportunities (Large and small)
- Refugee Assistance Information Network (RAIN); Write around Portland
- Arts events over the summer (4790 people in attendance; 290.5 Volunteer Hours in 2016; 207.5 Volunteer Hours in 2017)
- Public art installations (Vinyl wraps throughout the community; Engaging students in the process; Creation of interactive maps of art in the community)
- Hello Neighbor Project (Collaboration with Home Plate)
- Global Art Dance Studios
- Two Sculpture installations on Broadway and Lombard
- South Beaverton Sculpture in Progress Ridge (awaiting dedication)
- Forest for the Trees murals
- Street mural (Became and neighborhood event)
- Sculptural Bike Racks
- 2017 Visioning Partner: In 2017, the Arts Program received and Visioning Award of Excellence (internal partner) from the Visioning Advisory Committee

FYI:

- Public Art Master Plan (available on-line; Will be sent to all Commission members)

Question from Allison Wimberly-Tivnon: What is our goal for participants? Are we looking towards growing those numbers? Do we have the space?

This led into a conversation about some of the Arts Program's very successful programs

- The next year is an opportunity for us to reflect and re-establish goals for the Arts Program

- Ten Tiny Dances/ Concerts (Initiative of engaging diverse communities)
- Arts Mix--Looking at some sort of online inventory tracking system to ease the logistics of this process
 - Bring in community members to the event; To celebrate the diversity of our community

Big Picture Vision for Arts Program and Commission (Chris)

Community Vision Plan Targets:

- Foster and promote a common sense of community identity
- Improve "look and feel" city wide
- Community events, celebrations and attractions
- Create a recognizable, vibrant, walkable mixed-use downtown
- Establish and grow Beaverton's identity as a premier destination for arts and culture

City's Marketing Plan--Arts are a key component to a friendly, active, and responsible city

Looking ahead:

- Fine tuning--review of programming and opportunities
- Marketing alignment
- Beaverton Center for the Arts in development
 - Advocacy
 - Consistency of message-
 - Feedback
- Listening Sessions next week--Capital Campaign--Focusing the message
 - NEED FUNDING--
 - Avoid the perception that this is a done deal--This would undermine fundraising and ultimately the project
 - (Beaverton Arts Foundation is the driving force behind the capital campaign)

Roles & Responsibilities (Chris)

- Advise the City on arts and culture strategies--dialogue with City Staff
 - *Raziah: Must be realistic about the limitations of staffing and understanding of their multiple roles and responsibilities*
- Feedback from the community--offering perspective
- Advocacy to advance the arts
- Support the Public Art plan
- Volunteer at events--planning of signature events
 - *Chris: The role of the Commission is not just to generate a body of volunteers; there needs to be a healthy mix of advocacy and advice*

QUESTION:

Melissa: Does the BAC still have the same mission?--Chris: Examination of the bylaws may lead to a revision of the mission; Today's focus is examining the bylaws.

BAC's MISSION

The Beaverton Arts Commission's mission is to enhance, unite, and celebrate our diverse community through art.

QUESTION:

Ron: When will be released with talking to serve as advocates for the Center for the Performing Arts? Chris: We should feel empowered to talk about it now. Talking points and FAQ will be available to us soon (within a couple months)

QUESTION:

Rebecca: In examining the purpose in the bylaws, we should look at incorporating the roles and responsibilities outlined by Chris in his presentation. Carley: We will look at addressing this into our reflection of the Bylaws.

City of Beaverton's Public Art Master Plan for the City (Raziah)

These values include:

- Community
- Diversity
- Arts/Artistry
- Education
- Excellence (Execution with professionals)

Raziah: Arts in general is on a microscale and can feed into organizational art, and this feeds into Public Art

BYLAWS (Carley)

- Examine Article 2 and 3 of the Bylaws. What words stand out for the group?
 - Diverse
 - Foster communities
 - Strategy
 - Recommend
 - Opportunities
 - Education
 - Annual Report
 - Community
 - Bring people together
 - Strengthen connections

Questions/ Thoughts:

- Explore art
- Educate about art
- Missing the word "engagement"
- What is the Public Art code 2.03.239 from the Beaverton Public Art Plan? (We will revisit this at a later meeting so it can inform us of our purpose and duties.)
- Gina: Strengthen connections among diverse community groups AS OPPOSED to bringing in quality art

- Rebecca: Needs to include more of Chris's roles and responsibilities (as outlined during today's Retreat)
- Chris: Are the duties clear enough? Are they too ambiguous? Are they broad enough that they really reflect what the BAC is doing?
- Do we need to capture the relationship with the Beaverton Arts Foundation somewhere in the Bylaws?
- Bylaws updated in 2016, but are they truly reflective of the purpose and function of the BAC. (Lani explained this process. Quite a lengthy process [4-5 months].)
- Chris: Why "strengthen connections among diverse community groups"
 - Drafted by the Board; Perhaps in response to Council priorities
 - Is it too specific? Should it be included? Does it shift our focus? Do we need it?
 - Marcie: Yes. It should be a universal. As very homogenous group of citizens on this Board and we should use our privilege to empower all the diverse population of the city of Beaverton
 - Melissa: Perhaps the mission comes from the former Arts Commission's purpose?
 - Councillor Arnold: Is also the Council Liaison to the Diversity Citizen Board. She is willing to reach out to them and perhaps make a space for us to collaborate.
 - Tabled now for later conversation/ perhaps a sub-committee for this work

What does "success" look like for BAC?

- Outreach
- Sold-out shows
- Engagement
- Support
- Visibility
- Community awareness
- Supporting artists
- Creating an atmosphere for safe and inspirational dialogue
- Build community
- "Brand Beaverton"
- Connection to Broader Arts communities/ Global awareness
- Industry Trends
- Youth involvement

Commitments/ IDEAS

- Send Public Art master plan (Chris)
- Send a BAC volunteer event calendar (Kourtnee/ Allison)
- Global calendar of Beaverton-wide arts events
- Share city codes at an upcoming meeting
- Consider questions/collaboration with the Diversity Advisory Commission
- Share art experiences at monthly meetings with a provided framework
- Talking points for organization to use with Artists

Arts program org chart – basics of city structure

What does "advisory" mean to the city?
Examples of other boards/commissions and projects

Communication Process

Establish a clear process for communication, prioritizing, and decision making

Communication:

What does open communication look like?

Who is the point person for communication with the city?

What is the expectation of communication to/from city liaison to commission?

What is the expectation of communication between committee members?

Prioritizing

What is "do-able" in 10 meetings?

Decision-making

Who makes the agenda?

How do items get on the agenda?

When is a reasonable time frame to revisit the process?

12:40 – 1:10 **Lunch**

What communication looks like – and establishing organization

Internally

You (BAC) and City

You → broader community

How do we be successful?

You and City of Beaverton

*BAC is recommended by Mayor, appointed by City Council

What do you need for communication?

How often should things be communicated?

- Monthly newsletter?
- Nothing else?
- Mid-month?
- One week? → Raziah
- Then mid-month (staff)

Commissioners vs. staff?

Staff update mid-month, prioritizing, City Council, city-level arts

- Mini blurbs
- Council related activities
- Job changes
- Commission changes

What are other boards doing? (Lani)

- Amanda suggested chairs of each board to meet quarterly to update each other
- Raziah to reach out to other chairs

How to get things on the agenda?

- Add-ons, ideas to chair and staff liaisons
- Public notice – any ideas not on agenda can't be decided
- Establishing tasks and next steps for sub-committees

Ways to communicate:

- Mighty form?
- Google calendar?
- Why is this important? How will we use it?
 - Tualatin Valley Creates (calendar)
 - Allison, Katrina, Raziah, Amanda – sub-committee to look for a platform

2:05 – 2:12 *Closing remarks*

2:21 – 2:15 *Updates*

2:15 *Adjourn*