

RICHMOND ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION MINUTES

Thursday, January 23, 2014
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Richmond Conference Room
450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond

Chair: Phillip Mehas

Present: Brenda, Kit, Silvia, Najari, Michele

- I. Welcome/Call to Order

- II. Action Items
 - a. Amendments to agenda; Phil changed the order. Approval of agenda by Brenda with a second by Silvia
 - b. Minutes approved by all

- III. New Business
 - a. NPA Project Updates by Commissioners (All)

Harbour-8 Mural Project: Silvia Ledezma RACC Liaison

Toody Maher (Project Manager) wants Richard Muro to serve as designated Project Manager. This represents a change of scope, but may ease relations between participants. An itemized revised budget is still needed. Phil suggested possible suspension of this project. Michele countered; we just need to figure out who gets what. This is a \$6k grant; clarify new budget.

Action: Sylvia and Michele will meet Tuesday at 9:00 am with Desi and Richard

American Teenager Project: Kit Pappenheimer RACC Liaison

The American Teenager Project exhibition was on display at the Richmond Art Center as of 2/1/14. They did an interview with KTVU. Budget revised as requested; looking for permanent placement.

Action: Najari to talk to Amanda Elliot

Action: Kit- needs to get exact dimensions for possible County buildings; Michele has contact with WCC Unified School District and County Supervisor.

Washington Elementary School Music Project: Najari Smith, RACC Liaison

Kit Eakle teaches music at Washington Elementary. As part of his classes, he is bringing in musicians to teach and engage with students. The project will go for 10 days in 30 minutes increments. There will be 25 to 30 kids in each workshop, and they will run from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Instruments are being donated by “Little Kids Rock.” Kit will not be raising additional funds. He will just use the awarded money, as he doesn’t have time to raise more.

Action: Revised budget needed

Alive & Free Mural: Silvia Ledezma RACC Liaison

They have supplies; are holding on to receipts; still filling out MOU. Removing old mural boards. Power wash scheduled for next week. Storing murals off Greenway; discussion about relocating them.

Two of the other artists are no longer with the project. Not recommended that Richard do all the work himself, but he seems willing.

Suggestions: Seminar for grantees in the future (Silvia), used to do this in the 90’s (Michele); PAL has lots of kids around looking for things to do (Phil).

We Can Live As One Mural Project: Phillip Mehas RACC Liaison

This group is organized, and has enthusiastic assistants. They also have other resources. They are recruiting members from SNAP to assist the artist, Edythe Boone, who is 76 years old and a force of nature! At the end of the project each participating group or individual will do a report at a public presentation. There will be a workshop next year where current participants will be involved.

b. Poet Laureate Update (Seville)

Seville reported that she and Kate Sibley are working with the current Poet Laureate, Duane Parish, to do a chapbook of his work. He is in poor health and unable to do live poetry readings, so this is an attempt to get his work out in the public.

There needs to be a panel to select the next Poet Laureate, as the current term is almost up. The PAAC and RACC need to recommend roster of possible new Poet Laureates. Molly Rainer (Project Manager for Po’ Boys Kitchen) has agreed to be on panel. Other nominees are welcome and needed.

IV. Old Business

a. Review STQRY Program Proposal (All)

The cost would be about \$1k per year. Doing more research on possibilities.

b. Richmond Writes!

RW! is on track. Ten judges have agreed to participate this year. Poems are due from the students 2/10/14.

c. Commission

We still need two more commissioners. Everyone encouraged to recruit.

d. Staff Updates (Seville)

The City will be proposing a 1/2 cent sales tax for street paving. This will go on the November ballot. As part of the Percent for Art Resolution, 1.5% would go to Public Art if the bond passes.

Bridge Storage update: Inspection turned out to have good results. There is a new timeline for renovations. Approval of plans is in the works, and the space where artists have workshops will be renovated; they will be able to stay until their space until it is being worked on, and would then vacate while work is done.

V. Announcements (attachments)

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting Thursday, February 27, 2014