

Richmond Arts & Culture Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
450 Civic Center Plaza  
Richmond  
Richmond Conference Room

Thursday, March 22, 2018

In attendance: Jenny Balisle, Rosalie Barnes, Silvia Ledezma, Ben Steinberg, Nava Mizrahi, Antonio Tamayo, Florene Wiley, Melissa Kirk

Absent: Fletcher Oakes

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager; Katy Curl, Director, Library & Cultural Services

Guests: Iris AlRoy, Bridge ArtSpace; Valden Kemp, West Edge Opera; Emily Leighton and Sarah Rosenbach, TellArt

I. Call to Order 7:00

II. Approved Agenda 7:03

Silvia Motion - Rosalie Second

Note: working on getting minutes transcribed. Update in one month 7:05

III. Presentation - Heritage Trail - Not here.

V. Presentation - Bridge ArtSpace 7:18

Iris AlRoy: Bridge ArtSpace will officially reopen in May. There will be a new Film Center Opening Event on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Review of membership options at Bridge, and other information about improvements, etc. For more information go to <http://www.bridgestorage.com/>.

VI. Presentation - Imaging Opera at the Craneway Conference Center 7:29

August 4-19 are the dates for the 2018 Summer Festival with opera performances by West Edge Opera at the Craneway Conference Center in Richmond. There will be Internships available for youth. For more information go to <http://www.westedgeopera.org/>.

VII. Bloomberg Grant Proposal 7:42

Emily Leighton and Sarah Rosenbach from Tellart Design Studios did a presentation of their ideas for a proposal for a Bloomberg Grant. The deadline is April 11, and they wanted to get the RACC's feedback. The grant must be in collaboration with the City of Richmond, so they would be seeking support from the Mayor. The proposal would be addressing blight on Macdonald Avenue, and they proposed three ideas. Deadline early April. Packets will be sent to Commissioners for comments.

VIII. Presentations by Candidates and Vote on New Executive Positions 8:00

Rosalie - Vice Chair - 8 votes

Jenny - Chair - 6 votes

Silvia - Chair - 2 votes

According to the votes, the new Chair is Jenny Balisle, and the new Vice Chair is Rosalie Barnes.

IX. Update on RACC Table/Sisters in Solidarity and “She” Film Event 8:24

Sisters in Solidarity on March 10<sup>th</sup> was a great success. The RACC had a table hosted by Florene Wiley, Melissa Kirk, Brenda Williams, Jenny Balisle, Silvia Ledezma, Nava Mizrahi and Michele Seville. 150 people attended the event.

50 people (capacity at “She” Film Event ) on March 17<sup>th</sup> at Bridge ArtSpace.

Staff expressed appreciation for BK Williams, who has been a great commissioner. She was the creator of Richmond Writes! poetry contest, and a mover and shaker in Richmond. BK has now termed out, and is leaving the commission as of April 2018.

X. Staff Report (Seville) 8:34

XI. PAAC Report (Balisle) 8:46

XII. NPA Project Review (All) 8:52

Tony added an update. His NPA mentee is finding actors for his film project.

XIII. Comment Period 8:57

Tony mentioned Strategic plan. Interest in starting an Instagram account; Melissa offered to help.

Ben mentioned RYSE needs help in designing RYSE’s NPA performance space. Flo offered to help.

XIV. Announcements

XV. ADJOURNED 9:05

Next meeting will be on Thursday, April 26, 2018