Meeting Agenda

February 26, 2020
7:00 p.m.
3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington, VA 22204

1. Arlington Arts Goings On – please share Arlington-based or centered arts and/or any work of your liaison.
2. Welcome and Call to Order
3. Approval of January 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes
4. Budget - Cindy Richmond, Deputy Director, AED
5. Cultural Affairs Staff presentation – Jim Byers, Kylene King
6. Vice-Chair’s Report – Anika Kwinana (Chair Report in packet)
7. County Manager Proposed Arts and Culture Budget – (AED Staff Member)
8. Committee Reports
   a. Grants Committee Report - Sharon/Carlos
   b. Public Arts Committee Report
   c. Engagement Committee Report & Activity
9. Updates on Local Projects:
   a. 4MRV Arts & Industry District Advisory Committee - Felecia McPhail
   b. Lee Highway Planning - David Carlson
   c. Shirlington Special General Plan Land Use (GLUP) Study - Ann Curley
10. Old Business:
    a. CAAC - Anika Kwinana
11. New Business
12. Adjournment

Upcoming Commission Meetings – please note the address of the meeting
Arts Commission Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 7:00 p.m. 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive
Grants Committee: April 25, 2020 – Grants Day, 1100 North Glebe Road, Suite 1500
Arts Commission Meeting: Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 7:00 p.m. 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive
Engagement Committee: Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive
Public Art Committee: March 4, 2020, 6:00 p.m., 1100 North Glebe Road, Suite 1500
Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Absent</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Absent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marsha Semmel, Chair</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anika Kwinana, Vice Chair</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terri Baumann</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Giron</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Bedell</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jordan Lewis</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Carlson</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Felecia McFail</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Curley</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sarah Robinson</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susannah Haworth Dunn</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Carlos Velázquez</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Arlington Commission for the Arts was called to order at 7:16 pm. Guests Telly Tucker (Director, AED), Nancy Iacomini, Chris McConnell and Stephanie Kline were introduced.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from the December 18, 2019 regular meeting was made by Commission Member McFail and seconded by Commission Member Bedell. The motion passed with 6 votes for, 0 votes against, and 4 abstentions (Baumann, Giron, Kwinana, Velazquez).

3. Chair’s Report

- Chair Semmel reported that Anika Kwinana will serve as Vice Chair. She also introduced Sharon Raphael as the new Staff Liaison to the Commission.
- Semmel reported that she and Janet Kopenhaver, of Embracing Arlington Arts recently met with County Board Liaison Katie Cristol and Board Member Erik Gutshall to discuss the next steps of Enriching Lives implementation and with Board Chair Libby Garvey to discuss “Arlington at 100”.
- She reminded Members that the FY 2021 County Budget season is around the corner and the Commission should begin thinking about what “asks” they might have.
- She is looking forward to continuing work on Cultural Equity and hopes to have a policy adopted by the Commission this year.

4. Getting the Most out of Commission Meetings – A Vice-Chair Facilitated Activity

- Vice Chair Kwinana led Commissioners in an exercise about values and a discussion about ideas to strengthen Arts Commission meetings (see Attachment 1.)

5. Cultural Affairs Division Director’s Report
1. Director Isabelle-Stark reported that nearly all CAD staff have moved and will be operating out of 3700 S Four Mile Run Drive. She also provided an activity report for CAD (see Attachment 2) and introduced CAD staff member, Joan Lynch, who serves as Arts Enterprise Manager. Joan highlighted activities and services provided by the Arts Enterprise Institute.

6. Arts and County Planning – Nancy Iacomini (recently retired Arlington Planning Commissioner) provided information and led a discussion about incorporating arts into Arlington's planning processes and plans. Chair Semmel recommended that this topic be included on future meeting agendas.

7. Committee/Task Force Reports:
   a) **Engagement Committee**: Committee Chair Baumann reported that the Committee is meeting Monday January 27.
   b) **Grants Committee**: In Committee Chair Velazquez reported that no applications for FY 2021 Grants have been received but they are expected to begin arriving soon.
   c) **Public Art Committee**: Committee Chair Bedell reported that the Committee met in January and Approved the artist for the 600 N Glebe Project.

6. Update on Local Projects
   - **Plan Lee Highway**: Commission Representative Carlson reported that community workshops will be held January 31 and February 1 at Washington-Liberty HS.
   - **4MRV Arts & Industry District**: Commission representative and Community Group Co-Chair McFail reported that next meeting of Phase 2 will be held on March 9.
   - **Shirlington Special General Plan Land Use (GLUP) Study**: Commission representative Curley reported that the focus of the January 21 meeting was on Guiding Principles.

7. Old Business
   - **CAAC**: C Richmond reported that the County Manager is reviewing and considering CAAC recommendations for the FY 2021 budget.

8. New Business
   - None.

9. Adjournment
   
   *The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 pm.*
Minutes Attachment 1

What are our core values? How can we use shared goals to strengthen our commission and its meetings?

- clarify the many hats we wear: community, arts administrator, arts commissioner, etc. - transparency
- clarify our specific roles as the arts commission
- reflect and assess the current talent pool of the commission
- be mission-driven
- connect with other commissions and learn from them
- bring arts organizations into our meetings - look for more ways to connect with them - in addition to liaison roles, consider more listening sessions/gatherings
- create a learning environment
- get to know one another (e.g. quarterly outings)

Comments from Survey:

- Please share any thoughts and ideas that you might have to help us get the most out of commission meetings.
- Since we have so many new members, it might be best to have an upcoming meeting restate the goals, how things are connected, what's important, etc. Also any way to encourage more dialogue would be great!
- I believe more interaction between commissioners makes for a stronger connection within the commission. We get to know each other better and understand where everyone is coming from.
- It might be helpful having an estimated time allotted to each item on the agenda to help keep the meetings focused on the work at hand for that night. There may already be an informal one that is followed but sharing that might help.
- Keep bringing the snacks and Swiss chocolate
- Formalizing action items and delegated tasks at the end of meetings
- At Commission meetings there have been calls for questions/discussion after reports have been presented. What we need to be made aware of: is that there is still time as Commissioners to provide feedback/input that should be considered (either as discussion or does one make a motion--as most committees work?) after a report is being presented to be accepted/to be voted on. This has not been clear.
- It will be good to learn more about "right sizing" participation interests, understanding that each person has varying amounts of time to contribute.
- Provide new commissioners a detailed outline of the Commissioners duties as it will line-up with Enriching Lives
## APPENDIX 2: From Enriching Lives: Arlington Arts and Culture Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL</th>
<th>STRATEGY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **ONE: INTEGRATE ARTS AND CULTURE INTO ALL ASPECTS OF CIVIC AND COMMUNITY LIFE.** | 1. Use arts and culture to create engagement opportunities that reflect and involve Arlington’s diverse and immigrant populations and the full spectrum of their creative expressions.  
2. Leverage the ability of the arts to strengthen community bonds and promote equity and inclusion in civic and cultural activities.  
3. Incorporate the varied and essential civic benefits of arts and culture by considering and including these benefits in all relevant County plans and studies. |
| **TWO: INVEST IN A VIBRANT, EQUITABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND EVOLVING ARTS AND CULTURE ECOSYSTEM.** | 1. Build essential and purposeful venues and other infrastructure that support high-quality arts activity and provide the Arlington community with opportunities to participate in a variety of artistic and cultural options.  
2. Value and reward risk-taking for innovative and impactful achievements across the artistic and cultural community.  
3. Encourage partnership and collaboration across art forms, sectors and the community to grow and deliver strategic investments in the arts and culture ecosystem. |
| **THREE: USE ARTS AND CULTURE TO FACILITATE ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, HEALTH, DISCOVERY AND CREATIVITY.** | 1. Create opportunities for participatory artistic and cultural experiences for all age groups throughout Arlington’s network of neighborhoods.  
2. Encourage partnerships between artists, artistic and cultural organizations and schools to develop new curricular approaches that will enrich academic performance and student growth.  
3. Offer traditional and contemporary artistic and cultural opportunities to foster cross cultural engagement and understanding.  
4. Promote arts and culture as critical components of 21st century workforce skills. |
| **FOUR: INCREASE THE VISIBILITY, AWARENESS AND PROMINENCE OF ARTISTS, ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS ARLINGTON.** | 1. Create sustainable public will, desire and support for arts and culture.  
2. Showcase and cultivate local artistic and cultural talent.  
3. Generate brand awareness of Arlington’s artistic and cultural activities and accomplishments. |
| **FIVE: ESTABLISH PUBLIC SPACES THAT OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR APPRECIATING AND INTERACTING WITH ARTS AND CULTURE TO ENHANCE THE DAILY EXPERIENCE.** | 1. Deliver civic and publicly accessible spaces that generate economic, environmental and social sustainability benefits for the community.  
2. Use artistic and cultural programming to activate public spaces.  
3. Incorporate public art in the design, planning, and building of the public realm. |
ACA. Chairs Report  
February 26, 2019

Dear Commission Members:

This report provides updates on some important recent Arts Commission-related developments.

**FY2021 Budget**

At the February meeting, a County representative will report on the County Manager’s proposed arts and culture budget. We are grateful to Manager Schwartz, Deputy County Manager Shannon Flanagan-Watson, and other county staff for inviting Anika, me and members of the CAAC to county offices on February 11 to give us a budget preview. You will hear more on the 26th.

I will be making a statement at our formal budget work session with county staff and the board on Tuesday March 17, from 3-6 p.m., and I hope that many of you will attend. (The session will also be streamed on the net, and my report will be submitted in written form.) The two public budget hearings will be on March 31 and April 2, and I hope you will inform your liaison groups about all of these meetings. As I prepare the Commission statement, based squarely in *Enriching Lives* and our work this past year, I've been in close touch with Janet Kopenhaver, former commission chair, member of the CAAC, and founder/director of Embracing Arlington Arts, a nonprofit devoted to championing the arts and artists of Arlington County.

Janet and I agree that, while there is much to appreciate in the proposed arts budget, we should nonetheless be advocating for a significantly larger allocation for the grant program. We believe that we should request $279K, which was the size of this program in 2010. This request would include a challenge grant program. Since then, the grants program budget has steadily decreased, to its current #215K. We also believe that the entire grant program budget, including challenge grants, be stipulated as a line item and not subject to one-time funding.

We want to build on last year’s efforts, which brought our arts community together in powerful ways—and brought many county residents out in support for the arts—and continue to make a strong case that the arts are not simply “nice to have”. They are necessary elements of any quality community and contribute in vital ways to individual and community well-being. As we note in *Enriching Lives*: “Art has value in itself. Arts and culture are a strategic community resource. Arts and culture underpin economic development and sustainability.”

Accordingly, we also believe that it in order to make an effective case for a greater grants budget, we need to provide specific examples of ways in which our grantees would use additional funds to form, deepen, and/or expand their service to the community (per the goals of *Enriching Lives*).
In early March, we plan to survey our arts organizations to gather specific examples of what they already do, alone or in partnerships with other organizations, to promote learning, use art in service of mental or physical health; diversity, tolerance, and cross-cultural understanding; in-school or out-of-school learning; workforce skill development; civic engagement; and other community issues. Do they work with affordable housing facilities, veterans’ groups, Arlington Public Schools, seniors, people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities or other populations? Do they provide scholarships or other accessible entry points for people of limited economic means?

In addition to capture what is already happening, it is even more important to gather examples of how, if grant funding would increase, each organization would use additional funds to support the needs and goals of our community? Could their artistic reach extend to more retirees? More people in affordable housing? More populations that may need additional accommodation? More diverse segments of our county, including those where the arts are not readily available?

I think this information, like the results of our community listening sessions, will help us strengthen the case for increased grant support.

Connecting with Other Commissions

Former arts commission members Tina Worden, Leo Sarli, and I had a recent meeting with Elizabeth Gearin, chair of the planning commission. Elizabeth and I had met before, and she’s been following our work with Enriching Lives. Elizabeth is a firm supporter of the arts (and a deep believer in the arts playing a critical role in equity, quality of life, education, etc.), and she expressed some concern about the availability of sufficient and accessible County arts and culture opportunities. She suggested that we send commissioners to planning commission meetings and invited us to make a presentation later this spring.

Elizabeth echoed Nancy Iacomini’s suggestions about the necessity of creating an arts and culture master plan and further noted that the planning commission is not alone in wanting to learn more about the arts and culture in Arlington. She advised us to connect with other county commissions as well. I hope that as the engagement committee continues to form its plan, this commission-to-commission communication stays high on the list.
Tell me about Arlington's arts!

- Arlington is home to a huge network of artists, performers, writers, and craftspeople. Venues including art galleries, studios, theatre, music, readings and more are present in Arlington county through public and private spaces.
- This includes visual artists who might hang their work in a gallery or make a sculpture for a public park; performance artists like a theater troupe, dancer or musician; and literary artists like authors and poets.
- Arlington's artists range from professionals to students still in school and everything in between.
- *(This would be a great place for the commission member to mention their liaison individuals/groups.)*

So, what does the Commission do?

- The commission is made up of Arlington artists and art enthusiasts who are appointed by the County Board
- We facilitate grants, help realize public art projects, and advocate for the arts as the County develops policies and programs.
- We work with Arlington's artists, writers, businesses, educators, politicians, and civic leaders to build a community where the arts are integrated, visible, accessible, and inclusive.

What's the big deal about the arts?

- The arts are important to Arlington and the people who live here!
- Studies show that beyond art’s intrinsic value, an investment in the arts is an investment in our community with economic, environmental, educational, and civic dimensions.
- This is because on an individual level, engaging in the arts helps us feel happy and be healthy, it stimulates creativity and problem-solving, and it encourages us to engage in other aspects of our community like voting. The arts stimulate growth of inspiration, through new ideas and experiences that engage our community.

How can I get involved?

- Sign up for our infrequent emails and learn about arts happenings by leaving your contact information [on sign-up sheet, if available]. *(In addition to equipping Commissioners with a button, maybe we can formally move to hand out Enriching Lives cards to interested folks? Thinking about shows or events with no table or other literature.)*
- Come to shows and readings, stop by galleries or buy art, attend festivals, join a class, and appreciate and maybe snap a picture of public art you see around Arlington.