



Arts and Humanities Council of Falls Church Meeting

September 15, 2022

Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Members Present: Laura Hull, Mary Sellers, Elise Neil Bengtson, Maureen Budetti, Ron Anzalone, Ellen Gross, Nikki Graves Henderson, Ari Autor, Katharine Stewart

Liaisons: Corey Price, Keith Thurston, Letty Hardi, Ed Henderson, Marybeth Connelly, Jacqueline Connelly

Guests: Regan Davis

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Laura Hull at 9:34 a.m.

Receipt of Public Comments

- No public comments were received

Minutes: Minutes were approved for the August meeting

Roundtable Discussions

- Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation
 - Held 1st planning meeting for next year's music festival on June 10th
 - Boy Scout Project, through the CATCH Foundation, produced 2 banners for Tinner Hill district with approval by EDA, with more banners to be produced.
 - Mural Project is still in talks with Foxes Music, the Optomotrist Building, and Ace Hardware.
- Falls Church Chambers
 - Booth at Falls Church Festival on Sept 16
 - Oct 4th - family fun night at Jefferson Park, community event
 - Nov 15 – Nonprofit Forum
 - Reminder to send text on upcoming events for e-newsletter
- Friends of Cherry Hill Foundation
 - 3 weeks of summer camp were completed and summer tour attendance was strong
 - Oct 8 – Farm Day from 10 am to 3 pm
 - Fall newsletter coming soon
 - Board sent a letter to Council on the Great Streets Project
- CATCH Foundation
 - Watch Night preparations moving forward
- City Updates
 - Grant Review Committee has completed their recommendations and Arts & Humanities Grants will next go to City Council for final approval

- Boards and Commissions will require to go back to in person meetings starting October 1st
- Reminder to continue surveying for the Arts & Prosperity Report
- FCCPS
 - Regan Davis is the new FCCPS Community Outreach Coordinator and become the school representative on the AHC
 - Fall Musical Pippen is scheduled for November
 - Sept 29 & 30 - 7th grade classes will take a walking tour of the Tinner Hill Historic District
 - Veterans Day celebration will include honoring four George Mason Alumni who served in the Vietnam War with plaque approved by the Historical Commission
- Falls Church Arts
 - Currently accepting art for upcoming show, Scapes
 - Sept 24- Plein Air Festival
 - Falls Classes include several watercolor classes and stamping classes
- VPIS
 - Organization has submitted comments on the Great Streets Park Ave project
 - Working on Transition zoning issues
- Creative Cauldron
 - Icabod production starts next month with musical theatre ensemble of young people
 - Fall classes underway with strong enrollment
 - Mondays from 7-8 pm – Acting and Improv class lead by Laura Hull, drop-ins are welcome.

New Business:

- **City Council work plan**
 - The two year work plan includes completing the Public Art Policy and 4 new municipal art wraps
 - How can the AHC support these City Council work plan goals?
 - Marybeth suggested using some of the fiscal year surplus towards hiring an individual to manage the municipal art wrap project.
 - AHC should make sure a certainly caliber of art is maintained when it comes to Public Art in the city.
 - Consider having art connect to the location its placed in (example- Tinner Hill Mural Project), connected to the history of the community
 - Need to make sure artists are compensated for their work
 - Maintenance needs should be considered for any public art project
 - Make an effort to value diversity
 - Could the AHC advocate for funding an arts manager as an ongoing line-item? How can we continue this funding?
 - AHC can communicate to developers that we are an enthusiastic resource
 - Staff is currently working on the Public Art Policy
 - Recommend the AHC write a letter to City Council advocating for a paid project manager for public art municipal wraps.

- Ari has offered to work on the letter to City Council with the help from Maureen and Katharine.
 - AHC voted to write a letter to City Council on the above content
- AHC Goals
 - Need to make sure goals give enough attention to culture
 - Goals should be items the group can accomplish in the next 5 years
 - Group decided to schedule a separate meeting to have a full conversation on this topic
 - Meeting was scheduled for Thursday Sept 22 at 9:00 AM

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 AM

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20 at 9:30 am

Submitted:

By Corey Price