



Evanston Arts Council Minutes

Tuesday, February 15, 2019

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Room 2402

6:30pm

MINUTES

Members Present: Susan Davis Friedman, Beth Adler, Judith Cohen, Gay Riseborough, BJ Jones, Jamal Ahmad, Angela Williams, Lisa Corrin (arrived at 6:34pm), Indira Johnson (arrived at 6:36pm), Hope Washinushi (arrived at 6:42pm)

Members Absent: Toby Sachs, Steven Demorest

Others Present: Lara Biggs, Andy Tinucchi, Fran Joy, Paulina Martinez, Janella Hardin

1. **Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum**

Ms. Davis Friedman called the meeting to order at 6:31pm and declared a quorum.

2. **Public Comment**

No public comment

3. **Approval of the January 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Adler moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 15, 2019, seconded by Ms. Riseborough. **Vote called and taken. Mr. Ahmad abstains. Motion carried unanimously.**

4. **Neighborhood Arts Funding**

No applications to approve.

5. **Robert Crown Public Art Installation**

City Engineer Lara Biggs explained that the City was unable to reach an agreement with selected artist Marc Fornes. She discussed approaching the next two artists, Lynn Basa and Blessing Hancock to adapt the scale of their submissions to fit within the budget.

A discussion ensued about whether there should be a separate, new RFP for \$300,000 and if it should include a call to locally known artists. City Engineer Biggs explained that the budget is \$325,000. She added that a new RFP would not meet the deadline.

Ms. Adler would like to negotiate with both artists to adapt their design both within budget and community appropriateness. She would also invite them both to come to the meeting to engage with the Arts Council. She asked the members to think of questions and input for the artists for the next meeting.

6. **Staff Report**

Paulina Martinez, Assistant to the City Manager discussed working with the Legal Department to revise the Arts Council Ordinance and establish bylaws for the Council and its subcommittees.

7. **Cultural Fund Grants Update**

Ms. Davis Friedman provided an update on the grant process and the parameters. The grant guidelines were published as press releases on the City's website and the Evanston Roundtable. The call for applications closes on April 1st. She will host a grants workshop on February 27, 2019 from 4-6pm in the Parasol Room of the Civic Center.

There are two granting categories in the Cultural Arts Program.

- a. **\$30,000 for Grants to Organizations** – Funding is awarded to Evanston nonprofit arts organizations (501c3) for operating support or capacity-building efforts.
- b. **\$15,000 for Special Programs and Projects** – Funding is awarded to nonprofit arts organizations for projects or programs that serve residents in the City of Evanston. The organization may be located outside Evanston, but the organization must clearly demonstrate that the program or project service area is within Evanston's borders. Funding for special project will \$1,000 or under.

Ms. Davis Friedman will send information for grant panel slots to all Arts Council members.

8. **Chairs Report**

Ms. Adler confirmed the Arts Council Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Avenue from 12-5pm. The purpose of the retreat is to discuss the vision for the year and discuss contributions council members would like to make.

9. **Public Art Subcommittee Report**

Ms. Riseborough does not have a report. She asked if any members are interested in joining the Public Art Subcommittee please contact her directly.

Ms. Johnson and her husband currently have an exhibition at Oakton Community College. It is called Intersections of Place and Time. Ms. Riseborough encouraged Council members to attend the exhibition and show support for a fellow Council member.

Ms. Adler discussed the Noyes Project. A developed contributed \$10,000 for an art installation under the Noyes viaduct. The Arts Council will contribute \$6,000 in funding to the project for a total of \$16,000. She asked for project suggestions.

The next Public Art Subcommittee Meeting will be February 28, 2019 at 1pm.

10. Announcements

Ms. Adler will be a facilitator at the C3 Evanston after work mixer “Keeping Evanston Artsy” on Monday, February 25, 2019 from 630-8pm. It will be held at 818 Coworking (818 Lake Street, Evanston, IL 60201) and the cost is \$7.

11. Adjournment

Ms. Cohen moved to recommend adjournment, seconded by Ms. Corrin. The meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janella Hardin, PHR