

Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting

July 5, 2022

Attendees: P. Dunn, L. Gold, A Guzhnay, R. Immer, A Norcott

Absent: M Cajigas, J. Hameen, B. Schaffer, F. Vignola

Staff: A. Jefferson, K. Futrell

4:42pm meeting called to order by P. Dunn

I. Minutes

Minutes to be revisited upon a quorum or next meeting.

II. Directors Report

A. Jefferson provided an update on current programs

Amistad returned to the port of New Haven late June 29-30 in coordination with the Amistad Committee and Discovering Amistad. Events included artist showcases, opening ceremonies, film screening and talk back at the Stetson Library. Free dock side tours were also available. The vessel will be back in August. We are discussing an ongoing relationship between our department, Discover Amistad and the Amistad Committee. Discover Amistad's offices are now at the boathouse.

Cultural Equity Plan Tour- Thabisa organized three successful community events. The first was a virtual executive conversation with local arts leaders of New Haven anchor organizations with 100 in attendance. The discussion centered on how the CEP would inform their work moving forward, what changes have been made. Hosted a workshop with members of the co-creation team at the Stetson Library and hosted interactive discussion about the plan with at least 30 community members. The third event was a celebration at the State House with a discussion between A Jefferson and Mercy Quaye about the intention of the CEP.

Creative Entrepreneur Decoded – now in its 2nd years. Examining how you tell your story as a creative entrepreneur and overall branding of their businesses. The program concluded the first week of July. LG inquired about the data that was being gathered. How are the participants doing in six months, in a year?

Cultural Workforce Initiative in partnership with the Arts Council- the program led by Desiree Graham launched a month ago with 14 intern and host organizations. We have noted that several of the arts organizations have job opportunities but need assistance in finding the talent, particularly new and emerging individuals from the community regardless of age. Some organizations have inquired if it is possible for the department to assist in that role. Many of the interviewed interns between ages of 18+ were not prepared for the marketplace, needed assistance with cover letters, resume writing, the depth of arts opportunities. Staff examining what would it look like for the department to play a future role in cultural workforce development such as recruitment and placement. LG noted the Shubert's ongoing program with Cooperative High School.

Asked for temporary programming/community liaison position request under ARP funding to assist with APR related programming. A Guzhnay has been advocating on behalf of the department in regard to the distribution of funding.

Breed Entertainment partnership has been very successful in reaching audiences. Breed Entertainment has been hosting a series of smaller events, pop up shops at the State House, Boat House and Temple

Plaza. August 20 hosting an emerging and local artist performance event at the Canal Dock Boathouse from 7pm-11pm. L.G. suggested Adams & Knight (the state's PR firm) film opportunity.

The Black Wall Street will be hosted in Temple Plaza on August 27.

AFTA Arts and Economic Prosperity Study –a study on the Greater New Haven and this year are seeking specific data on New Haven. It will be a partnership with the Arts Council and will hire a part time contractor to assist with the outreach.

Underpass Murals – the murals coordinated with NuSpiral are almost complete. The locations are: Pond Lily/Whalley Avenue; Grand Avenue by Adriana's; and Front Street at Middletown Avenue. All murals should be complete by late August. Plan to host a press conference with the Governor's office.

Mural Tour – Our Yale Presidential Fellow, Morgan Galloway has been cataloging many of the city's murals and is developing an online mural tour. Additionally, we are ensuring we update the inventory on publicartarchive.org as well. M. Galloway is conducting several artist interviews and researching to highlight some of the works.

Neighborhood Cultural Vitality Grant Program – guideline revisions underway and will be released by mid-August. Revisions include a wider range of funding categories, reflecting on working with BIPOC communities have been made with the CEP in mind including proposing new applicant categories and funding levels. The department will host a free, online 10-week intensive grant writing course led by Alice Anne Harwood leads up to the application deadline of September 15.

III. Old Business

None discussed.

IV. New Business

None discussed.

V. Public Comment

none

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

NEXT MEETING MONDAY AUGUST 1, 2022