

Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting May 1, 2023

Attendees: M Cajigas, R. Immer B. Schaffer,

Absent: P. Dunn, J. Hameen, L. Gold, A Guzhnay, A Norcott, F. Vignola

Staff: A. Jefferson, K. Futrell, T. Rich

Guest: Steve Roberts

4:38pm meeting called to order by B. Schaffer

I. Minutes

B. Schaffer called for a motion to approve the March minutes. M. Cajigas motioned to approve. Seconded by B. Schaffer. Motion unanimously passed.

II. Directors Report

A. Jefferson discussed the April 19th budget hearing with the Board of Alders. The departments presentation was well received. The 2024 budget is \$190,000. Members discussed future intentional advocacy efforts with the commission that would include testifying during the hearings.

The ARPA funding opportunities have been posted to the purchasing website. Since the funding requires a SAMs number, which many artists and potential applicants may not qualify, an addendum has been created for the Creative Arts Advancement Program and Citywide Arts & Culture Events and Pop-Up Markets that allows applicants to engage a fiscal agent.

The progress report for the Cultural Equity Plan activities is in process and will include accomplishments from the past 3 years. The community will also be engaged on the how they feel like they've benefited from cultural equity. B. Schaffer suggested including local non-profit organizations in the report.

The survey portion of the Americans for the Arts art and the economy study is closing soon. The results of study should be complete by late September/October.

A Jefferson reported on the convening of various creatives and creative organizations to discuss cultural tourism and the recent naming of New Haven as one of the 52 best places to visit in the world. The discussion was well received and considering hosting on a quarterly basis. In addition, the department is exploring hosting a bi-annual arts, culture, and tourism conference.

Members were invited to attend the 6pm meeting on May 10th at the Fieldhouse at Hillhouse to envision the future of the Armory. The building currently needs several costly repairs before it can be repurposed.

Black Wall Street event will be held Saturday, August 19 on the lower Green and Temple Street. Staff is currently fundraising to support expanded activities. More details to follow. Staff will share the sponsorship packet.

III. Old Business

None discussed.

IV. New Business

Members discussed the July 3 meeting date and opted to cancel the July date and reconvene in August.

V. Public Comment

None

ADJOURNMENT

Members adjourned at 5:12pm.

NEXT MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023 AT THE NEW HAVEN MUSEUM