

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

MEETING DATE: February 7, 2022

Attendees: P Dunn, J Hameen, J Hameen, F Vignola, M Cajigas, H Chávez, L Gold, A Norcott

Staff: A. Jefferson, K. Futrell

I. Call to Order

4:36pm

II. Minutes

P. Dunn motion to approve January minutes. Motion by L. Gold. Seconded by B. Schaffer. minutes unanimously approved.

III. Directors Report

Cultural Equity Plan - appreciate the feedback on the plan. Officially launched on January 13 in front of the Q House. Plan has been well received. Feedback locally, nationally. AFTA will feature in upcoming newsletter. Launching a CEI Tour. Starting virtually March 2. Flyer will be sent out to CAC. Further conversations around the plan to allow for continued community input, implementation recommendations. Will need to rely on partnerships to complete some of the work. Working with local organizations to discuss what the plan means for some of the larger arts organizations. Open to members assisting with the hosting of upcoming sessions. M Cajigas - Recommend present CEI plan to donors/staff as well as CF for Greater New Haven.

Cultural Vitality Grant Program - developing a technical assistance, cohort to provide assistance for those who want to apply for the grant. Want to be more accessible, walk through the process. Working with Alice Anne Harwood of Carnelian LLC.

Unapologetically Radical on Sat Feb 19 from 10am - 3pm. Streaming online via FB, YouTube. Similar format to 2021 and will feature artists perspectives on arts equity.

Staff support – The department will be working with two new interns responsible for social media and arts for anti-racism liaison.

Mural Underpass project: NuSpiral continues to work with local artists to develop renderings for murals to be painted this Spring and Summer. Anticipate the mural at Whalley and Pond Lily Avenues to begin in early Spring.

ARPA funding – The department has granted received \$1mil. Will be announcing another grant program in Spring. Leaning towards youth and art education programming. Open to suggestions from commission on how to spend the funding. feel free to email Adriane will thoughts. B. Schaffer inquired if ARPA can be used for neighborhood cultural vitality grants. A. Jefferson agreed to follow up.

IV. Old Business

Public Art Maintenance- Staff and commission reviewing local resources that could contribute to funding to expand the current maintenance fund for the city's collection of public art. P. Dunn anticipates review and draft of fund planning within next 60-90 days.

Wooster Square Monument - P Dunn mentioned commission will have an opportunity to review and vote on the monument commission. The project proposed represents the New Haven immigrant experience.

V. New Business

L. Gold recommends when commission reconvenes in person consider hosting meetings outside city hall and in the arts community.

Arts Workforce: Arts Council has been awarded ARPA funding for small granting. DACT over programming side of the arts workforce. Would like to host an hour meeting to discuss with the commission and community.

Adjourned 5:22pm. Motion by L. Gold, seconded by M. Cajigas

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, MARCH 7 AT 4:30 P.M.