

CHESAPEAKE FINE ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 16, 2020

Vice Chair Lisa Doud called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Administrative Office, 1224 Progressive Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320.

Members Present

Daniel Boothe
Barbara Dorrough
Lisa Wigginton, Chair
Kim Painter
Stacey Mansfield
Thomas Retnauer, Vice Chair
Anthony Riley
Lauren Seward
Mark Warack

Members Absent

Terri Anderson
Mary Kate Andris
Neisha Jones
Amy Massey

Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Staff Present: Michael Barber, Joe Ruthenberg

Minutes Approved: No minutes were distributed from the special meeting at the Overton Theatre at Oscar Smith High School.

Introduction of new Commission member, Lauren Seward.

Myke Irving a local artist, who worked on the Heron Project for Chesapeake, came to speak about reviving the Project and the creation of a Heron Gallery between the bridge at Great Bridge and the Lock. The area may also include park features such as benches. Each heron will be sponsored and have a unique artist to design each one, possibly with help from the Chesapeake Schools. He is looking for help from the Commission to secure sponsors and new spots to display the herons in the future.

Events: Chesapeake Arts Weekend May 2 and May 3, presented by the Chesapeake Rotary Club and co-sponsored by the Fine Arts Commission. The Commission will be in charge of the artist jury, and the artist hospitality tent, which will require the entire Commission to participate. The Commission will also be helping arrange the entertainment for the event. Grassfield High School and the Governor's School will be performing. If you have any suggestions for acts please let Chair Wigginton know.

Terri Anderson is the proposed volunteer chair for the July 3rd event at City Park, as proposed Chair Wigginton, with Tony Riley also volunteering to help. Since this event is coming up quickly, acts need to be secured as soon as possible for the event. Daniel Boothe has volunteered to coordinate the 9/11 concert with Mark Warack. Daniel is trying to include Schools in the Patriots Day concert and will work toward including them in the future concert.

Grants: There was a discussion on whether to either extend the grant acceptance deadline or whether to vote on accepting any late submissions at the next meeting. It was agreed that late submissions will be accepted by staff and the Commission will vote on whether to accept them individually or not at the next meeting in February.

Commissioner Riley made a motion to change the Commission's meeting times to February, March, and April at 5:30 pm to accommodate the grant presentations, it was seconded by Commissioner Dorrough and approved unanimously.

Grant Liaisons:

Arts Alive!	Tom Retnauer	TCC	Terri Anderson
Bay Youth Orchestra	Mary Kate Andris	Tidewater Winds	Amy Massey
Chesapeake Civic Chorus	Terri Anderson	Virginia Arts Festival	Stacey Mansfield
Coastal Virginia Chamber	Daniel Boothe	Virginia Children's Chorus	Kim Painter
ForKids	Kim Painter	Virginia MOCA	Tom Retnauer
Governor's School	Amy Massey	Virginia Opera	Lauren Seward
Hurrah Players	Barbara Dorrough	Virginia Stage Company	Mark Warack
I Sherman Greene	Neisha Jones	Virginia Symphony Orchestra	Tony Riley
Sandler Center	Kim Painter	WHRO	Stacey Mansfield
Tidewater Arts Outreach	Neisha Jones	Young Audience of Virginia	Daniel Boothe

Fundraising/Budget/Long-Range Planning/Events:

The Chesapeake Arts Initiative, fundraised by Chair Wigginton and Vice-Chair Retnauer, raised \$6,000 and granted three projects, the first was from the Virginia Symphony called *Generations in Unison*, the second project is a series of masterclasses and workshops with the 2020 Virginia Arts Festival, which will include working with all ten of the Chesapeake Middle Schools. The third project is with the Virginia Stage Company which will be putting three to five small productions of *Comedy of Errors* in Chesapeake.

City Venues: Oscar Smith has done an evaluation of the sound system at the Overton Theatre, and while it is an older system, it is working well, able to support wireless microphones and other production needs. They have also planned to do a full test of the light system shortly. There are plans for some upgrades and renovations but those will be in the future.

Public Art Committee & Chesapeake 9/11 Committee: There were no meetings over the holidays, though the committee did participate in the Chesapeake Rotary Christmas Parade. The Foundation announced the discontinuation of the banner program so the funds allocated for the project from the organization should be distributed shortly to the committee for the Chesapeake 9/11 Memorial at City Park.

Arts Alive!: Arts Alive! conducted a silent auction at the Holiday Brass Concert raising over \$800. Chair Wigginton has begun to advise the group on trying to bring the schools into a better working relationship with the group, to not only increase participation in the scholarship competition but also create a better relationship between the groups for future projects.

Old Business: No updates.

New Business: V. Thomas Forehand, Jr. Student Art Exhibit is taking place at the Circuit and General District Courts Building 4th Floor on Wednesday, January 29, 2020, at 5:30 pm.

City Business: The increased budget for the FAC is still on track with the expected scheduled increases for the next few years. The City is proposing starting a new Historical Services division, which would likely be under the direction of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. The Great Bridge Battlefield Waterways and History Museum is on track to open in the spring.

Announcements: No updates.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:35 pm

Minutes submitted by Joe Ruthenberg