

Meeting Minutes  
June 24, 2015

Members Present		Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests Present
J. Kopenhaver	L. Sarli	W. Baez	M. Isabelle-Stark	K. Moskowitz
J. Hensley	M. Semmel	C. Cadby	C. Richmond	
C. Murphy	C. Velazquez	R. Goler	C. Mitten (CMO)	
C. Patch	T. Worden	L. Lombard		
J. Russell		J. Zeeman		

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Commission Chair Kopenhaver welcomed members and called the regular meeting of the Arlington Commission for the Arts to order at 7:02pm.

**2. Conversation With Carol Mitten, Deputy County Manager**

Commission members expressed their concerns and desires, and described their current activities and future plans to Deputy County Manager Mitten. Led by Commissioner Kopenhaver, with contributions from all Commissioners, the following topics were discussed:

- Strategic Plan for the Arts -- currently underway
- Planning for Arts Facilities -- process for Commission participation
- Role of the Arts Commission – increased involvement of Commission in decision making
- Benefits of Arts in the Community – articulating the positive impact of the arts
- Youth -- enhancing the youth voice

Ms. Mitten suggested that the Commission should encourage residents to attend County Board meetings and tell their story in an effort to give the Board a better understanding of the impact of the arts on the community. She also suggested that requests to the County Board should be as specific as possible. The Commission thanked Ms. Mitten for being so forthcoming and helpful.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

*Motion to approve minutes for the May 27, 2015 regular meeting was proposed by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Sarli. The motion passed unanimously.*

**4. Election of Vice Chair**

Janet Kopenhaver was reappointed as Chair of the Arlington Commission for the Arts by the County Board at its June 22 meeting.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Kopenhaver and seconded by Commissioner Hensley to elect Marsha Semmel as Vice Chair of the Arlington Commission for the Arts for FY2016. The motion passed unanimously.*

## 5. Chair's Report

- Discussion related to modifying components of the Arts Grant Program guidelines was continued from last meeting. In the interest of time, the discussion of Challenge Grants will be postponed until the July meeting. A discussion regarding project grants took place and modifications to the existing guidelines were discussed. It was decided that the incubator grant program will be on hold until next year. Commission members will meet with C. Richmond and J. Lynch in a small group to complete grant guidelines in time for July meeting. A final version will be available for the Commission to review and consider at the July meeting.

## 6. Cultural Affairs Division Director's Report

- Director Michelle Isabelle-Stark updated Commission members on the closure of Artisphere. An inventory has been completed and all Furniture Fixtures and Equipment are being categorized for repurpose, surplus or donation. Next week the absorption of Artisphere staff into the offices at AED will begin.
- Upcoming events were discussed such as the Jazz Festival. Plans for Columbia Pike and the Courthouse area are underway.
- Richard Brewster is holding focus group meetings on two dates with Arlington arts groups in July as the Strategic Plan is still being developed.

## 7. Committee Reports

- **Facilities and Capacity Building Committee** - Commissioner Worden reported that it is a work in progress and they will report more at the July Meeting.
- **Public Art Committee** – Commissioner Murphy related that her report was included in the discussion with Ms. Mitten.

## 8. Update on Local Projects

- **Realize Rosslyn** – Commissioner Hensley suggested that the Commission send a letter to the County Board about the Corridor of Light project.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Hensley and seconded by Commissioner Murphy to send a letter to the County Board about the Corridor of Light project that supports existing language in the Rosslyn Sector Plan and supports the Planning Commission's recommended changes. The motion passed unanimously.*

- **Long Bridge Park** – Commissioner Lombard was absent.
- **Courthouse Square** – Commissioner Sarli discussed difficulties in quantifying the need in the public benefit process. He described difficulty in programming the spaces and the need for a master plan. Currently there is no process in place for Arts Commission input early in the planning process.

- **Facilities Work Group** – Commissioner Patch informed the Commission that the Facilities work Group was meeting simultaneously about ConnectArlington.
- **Youth Project** – Commissioner Velasquez discussed the importance of having a youth perspective in the Commission. A mentorship program was also discussed.

**9. Old Business**

- None

**10. New Business**

- None

**11. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 pm.*

The next meeting of the Arlington Commission for the Arts will be held 7:00 pm, Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 1100 North Glebe Road, 15 Floor, Arlington VA 22201.