

# Laurel Arts Council Meeting – May 14, 2025 at 6:30pm (in person)

## Agenda

### Preliminaries

1. Take roll: City: Bill, Sadaf. Members: Sandy, Bharati, Melissa, Angie, Rubama. Visitors: Lisa, Matty, Margaret, Ella, Francesca, Jonathan
2. Quorum : yes
3. VOTE: Approval of March Minutes (April no quorum – notes only): *approved*
4. Updates on Membership : *3 slots available*

### Agenda

1. **Introduction guests/potential volunteers** (*see roll*) Margaret is possible liaison for Laurel Art Guild
2. **Updates From City, Bill and Sadaf**  
(Sadaf leaving city employ)
  - Financial Disclosure Statement reminder
  - New supplies (Imprinted pencils, banner, 2 tablecloths, chalkboard) and storage: *received and used*
  - Master Plan: *10 year, being updated, will include arts & entertainment. Events like chalk walk, etc for Main Street*
  - *New Public Art fees from developers are \$6150 and \$909.30 (added to our \$13K budget)*
  - *Idea: Laurel Main St Ghost Tours should be a thing (work with Laurel Historical Society and Museum)*
  - *Main Street Committee: next virtual meeting, Calvin's invitation. That committee is considering how to make Main Street a historic destination. Also possibility of a Laurel Arts District*
3. **Project Updates**
  - Poetry writing workshop - April 5 by Jennifer; Cheryl from Laurel for the Patuxent (L4P). *Angie, Rubama, Melissa helped. Attendees asked for more such workshops.*
  - Poems in Parks - April 26 (Melissa, Jennifer, Cheryl of L4P) – *poem installed by DPR on picnic table in Sweitzer Park. Attendees, including Laurel mayor, read their own poems. Two poems in Spanish.*
    - *Continuing annually with new park each year*
  - Bernadette's House sit-n-paint (Angie, Inka): *successful, ~12 teens attended*
  - Volunteers Fair, Laurel Multi-service Center (Sandy, Melissa) – *signed up several potential members*
  - Main Street Festival (Sandy, Rubama, Melissa) – *community-created murals, led by Luther Wright.*
    - Disposition and display of 2024 murals (3 canvasses)?
    - **ACTION: writeup by Melissa needed for Bill, then he'll move them around city facilities**
4. **Projects Upcoming**
  - Laurel High School Art at Laurel Towne Center, May through summer (Melissa) – *artwork bring installed now by Towne Center*
  - Scotchtown Hills Elementary School art show, May 22, Laurel Armory (Angie, Melissa) 5 to 7 p.m.

- L4P's Bird mural fundraiser at Olive on Main, May 21 (owner will match donations): *artist is Jahru, location 45-foot Quick Mart wall at 5th & Main, \$5K raised so far \$18K estimated cost, Olive on Main will match donations on 21st plus 20% of dining purchases*
- Music at Farmer's Market: \$180/event for band, Michelle Blair runs it ([mblair@laurel.md.us](mailto:mblair@laurel.md.us)), all slots for 2025 scheduled.

*Suggested: City have a form or process so anyone can apply, rather than opaque word of mouth approach*

#### 5. **New Business from Members –**

- Prince George's Co. Film Festival (Sandy)
- Arts & Economic Development in Maryland (Melissa) *Creative economy brings in billions so Maryland State Arts Council still going to get full funding.*
- *City Budget ends June 30th, \$4,400K left.*
- ***ACTION: Bharati will take up the Traffic Box Wraps project (contact Kayleigh for contacts)***
- *Crosswalk project: table until next year*
- *Find ways to take advantage of Preakness 2026 which will be at Laurel Racetrack*

#### **Adjourn**

- Next meeting June 11, virtual