

Meeting – March, 12th, 2025 at 6:30pm
In-Person: Gude Mansion, 13910 Laurel Lakes Ave, Laurel, MD 20707

Agenda/Minutes

Preliminaries

1. Take roll: Inka [chair], Melissa, Sandy, Jennifer (online), Angie (online); Bill, Sadaf (online)
2. Quorum: yes
3. VOTE: Approval of February Minutes (approved & seconded)
4. Updates on Membership (changes in roles from last meeting)

8 active members listed. Discussed, how to recruit (past: informal, booth at Laurel events, Facebook page)

estimated 2 people can be outside city limits (currently 1: Rubama)

Parks and Rec will share the post.

5. Guest Attendees: COULD NOT ATTEND, moved to next [week month](#)
Margaret Panebianco, a Mixed Media Artist [with Laurel Art Guild](#)

Agenda

6. Updates From City, Bill and Sadaf

- Financial Disclosure Statement reminder. We have copies to fill in and return to Bill in-person
- City to help with request from Giselle Ramirez with the list of all events from from January 2024 to January 2025

Upcoming:

~~Patuxent~~Patuxent River Cleanup, April 5th (clashes with poetry workshop) @ Riverfront Park (10am)

Earthday Cleanup, at Lake, April 19th (10am)

EGGstravaganza April 12 12pm at Lake, around 15 minutes

Arbor Day Tree Planting, April 22nd 11am at Gude Mansion

starting in April, Mayor is starting monthly 'Mayor in the Park' meetings, April 24th at Lake at 6:30pm; future ones will rotate' May will be Discovery Park at Harrison & Greenhill behind

shopping center, June has none, July at Marcus Colbert Park off Contee Rd, August at Greenview Pool.

** Lakefest is Sat May 3rd, if we want a booth we can. We can discuss in April meeting.

Update on tablecloth from Sign-a-rama, estimate was high and design wasn't finalized. Since sign got lost at Main St Festival, we need something. Bill will have staff look it up. Bill will get it down for under \$300 and go ahead and order.

Decision: stretchy or tablecloth fabric, or both? Even if it's extra. (Fabric online was \$125 so won't go much over budget.)

Vote: both. Bill will confirm items. We'll do this quickly. Will finish offline.

Also in future, look into additional signage.

Melissa relayed update on [Sadaf's](#) population demographics report of Laurel: 29,000 people. 14-16% white, 22% hispanic, black/african 51%, asian/pacific/middle east/india 10%.

A second roundtable (on community engagement) is Wed March 26th 6pm at Council Chambers

Response back to Gizelle: **Melissa will put something together and run a draft around.**

Reminder: financial disclosure forms due! (can deliver to Laura in City Admin office)

7. Project Updates

- Laurel Shopping Center (Melissa)
on the shelf

- Laurel Town Center Laurel Window Artwork Update (Melissa)
artwork from Laurel HS students, Melissa sent it on to the town center liaison (who is working with a design firm in R.I.) She'll be using Sign-A-Rama for the wraps. Last year's is still up near Mission BBQ. Teachers were pleased to get the supplies city paid for. Art will go up soon.

- School Engagement, Creative Outlets/Scotchtown Elementary (Melissa)
[Angelie \(sp?\) Anjali](#) Wells got a grant to work on it, PG County has set up some schools to have liaisons to find ways to enrich what the kids are doing.

We funded part of her work, will also display the kid's art [at Armory](#) in May (not March 19th/cancelled). Melissa will send date to Bill so he can book the place.

They chose one of Jennifer's poems for this.

- Poem in Park - April 26 (Jennifer, Melissa) AND
Poetry writing workshop - April 5 by Jennifer. Laurel Municipal Pool mtg room. Volunteers needed. Jennifer will lead the intro exercises and workshop. The attendees will be able to take a booklet home with them. [Cheryl Dyer \(L4P\) will lead attendees in crating the booklet.](#)

Poetry they do on the 5th is going to be set up for the later event. Hopefully will feed into the ceremony on the 26th.

Angie and Melissa agreed to volunteer, setup is low. If [City I.T.](#) can provide a projector, will use tech optionally; otherwise she'll read it out-- Bill will look into getting something for her.

Bill picked up notebooks and pens for the writing workshop; Melissa will bring them.

Planning still in progress for Poem in the Park event, basically going to [install put the a nature poe](#)~~try~~ onto [a picnic table via metal overlay, and possibly a different kind of use special](#) paper

to hang [poems](#) on trees etc. Bill has some info: Cheryl Dyer (~~sp?~~) reserved the ~~pavillion~~[pavilion](#) at Switzer Park, she's working with ~~the city dept~~[Parks & Rec](#) for the metal/plastic [poem overlay](#), ~~that which~~ the city will secure to a picnic table (city will deliver day before/morning of). Cheryl is part of Laurel for the Patuxent (L4P).

- Quick Stop Mural (~~LP4~~[L4P](#)) [celebrating birds](#)

New owner (who also owns Olive on Main) is going to hold a fundraiser [for mural](#). Cheryl wants to use [a guy artist](#) named Jahru (Baltimore), who offered to do it for half his normal cost (around \$20K for the whole wall, 40' long). Look at Burtonsville Crossing for an example. Original idea was a bird mural for the ~~naiontally~~[nationally](#) known ~~ernothologist~~[ornithologist](#) who lived in Laurel, Chandler Robbins. LAC does not have to put any money into it, we (LAC) just have to review the final design.

- Budget planning

We have not used much. Most of our activities have become recurrent events, or partners like L4P or companies. This is good.

Farmer's Market music tbd. Starts May 1st. Only \$180 left for this year; we could move money to fund this. Market will be every week but music only every other week. We need two for May, two for June = 4 x \$180 = \$720.

We are not doing crosswalk or traffic wraps this year. Vote agreed: shift money to cover music.

We have money for art supplies for Main St, etc.

8. New Business from Members

- Main Street Festival, May 10th (Inka will be out)

Suggested: bring the same artist as last year. Melissa will reach out to book him.

Promo giveaway of pencils-- Sandy will finish ordering this.

Angie will judge again.

- Participation and Volunteers needed at the Laurel Multiservice Center, Gymnasium on Wed April 30th from 6:00-8:00pm (Carreen Koubek contacted LAC)

Volunteer fair, man the table. Sandy & Melissa volunteering.

- Membership count check and updates: did at beginning.
- Get with Laurel Board of Trade for venues for pop-up galleries.

Ally Ramsey, others that Inka connected to, so there are 2 places where artists can access space on C Street.

Jimmy Cross is open to ways to intersect Main St Festival with artists in vacant fronts, or as a pop-up, etc.

- Joanne Barr (~~sp?~~) retired from the city.

9. Adjourn