

Laurel Arts Council Meeting Agenda – July 09, 2025

at 6:30pm (In-Person at Gude Mansion)

Preliminaries

1. Take Roll: Inka, Ella, Melissa (Mel), Sandy, Bharati, Jennifer; Bill for the city; Angie online
Guests: Sophie (Sustainability Action Committee), Melissa (theatre production major & acapella group), Barbara (Laurel Women's Group, DIYer, ballet), Carla (creative director of Uncommon Design and painting the trash cans around the lake)
2. Determine Quorum:
3. VOTE: Approval of June Minutes: approved
4. Updates on Membership & New Applicants; Ella Alonso is a new LAC council member!
5. Results of the Doodle Poll about LAC meeting day – Sandy -- continue meeting on Wed.
6. Google Drive – set a date for small group review (Ella)
 - o **Sandy will look into where Google invites go** (into the ether)

Agenda:

7. News from City Government – Bill
 - o new development coming into Laurel will lead to more money for LAC, e.g. Upper West Side (Van Dusen & Konterra dev), Panda Express
 - o Sam is no longer with the city (dept of Eco Dev), so delays expected in responses there
 - o need to look at continuing in-person or not? Should we discuss next time?
 - o **WE DO NOT MEET IN AUGUST (all Laurel committees take it off) Sept will be in person**
 - o Supplies were bought; Angie's supplies are at Armory. Paint supplies are in Sturgis Moore shed. Mayor is coordinating the Sat night teen Armory events, Angie can reach out to him
8. Budget for 2026 - Discussion – Bill (Note: extra funds from developer fees do not expire)
 - o Bill's estimate based on FY25:
 - Main St Festival artists \$3122 (we actually spent \$2000)
 - 2 Laurel ES art workshops \$1500x2,
 - 2 additional traffic box wraps \$3000,
 - Crosswalk bumpout art \$708,
 - Selborne House Art Expo \$250,
 - Farmer's Market Music \$180x24 markets (April-Oct) = \$4320 (Michelle Blair),
 - 2nd Poetry installation in city park = \$550.
 - Swag for LAC \$300, art supplies \$400,
 - Total \$13,650 (\$650 over allocation).
 - o Bill recommends letting developer fees (about \$7K now) accumulate until we can afford a public mural
9. County, State Arts Councils can assist us– Melissa [SKIPPED]
10. New Projects for FY26 – All
 - a. Projects selected
 - Traffic box art wraps - Bharati
 - o Review and Vote on selection of Traffic Boxes (\$1,000 per box)
 - Wrap for 4 sides quoted at \$1000 per box + cleaning & installation by wrap company was \$1400 for 6 (\$233 each), artist fees were maybe \$300 each)
 - So \$1500/box = **BUDGET: \$4500 for FY26 if we do 3 boxes**
 - o Note – art wrap vs. painting directly on box?
 - o Call for artists vs. pre-select?
 - Trash can painting - Denise and Melissa, paint already purchased.
 - o **Idea: HS schoolkids volunteer as part of community service.** after school starts.

- **Ask paint store or Carla for sealant advice and cost.**
 - Start McCullough Field & Sturgis Moore Rec Area (Paints already ordered)
 - Which other parks?
 - Communicate with Sustainability but they're happy to follow our lead (part of their requirements is to collect volunteers). Sustainability will provide flyer to Bill about seeking volunteers to paint trash cans.
- Carla Conway's advice from painting lake trash cans:
 - Used primer before paint
 - 1 coat paint okay
 - Recommends sealant although she didn't apply due to time/cost
 - Chose images, shapes from nature
 - Did not use mask, used gloves sometimes
 - Used drop cloth or old sheet to protect grass
 - Subsequent problems: decorated trash cans replaced by city, graffiti appeared
- After-hours Project for Summer Nights in July – Angie will ask mayor
- Bird Mural Main Street – Melissa (October unveiling and celebration, no cost)
- b. Projects to be proposed
 - Continue poem installations in parks? Melissa; Jennifer as poetry curator
Partner with Laurel for Patuxent (L4P) - cost? \$550
 - Continue art support for Scotchtown Hills Elementary School? Melissa, Angie (\$1000)
 - Continue art & poetry partnership with Laurel High School? (\$385+\$100), est \$500 for FY26
 - Continue art partnership with City Sustainability Committee?
 - July meeting and art ideas
 - Theoretically they are funded by Michele's group and have funds (!?)
 - FY26 city festivals?
 - Pride Festival in October, ask for a free booth
 - Multicultural Festival, city is running but hasn't asked Bill to provide a project
 - Black History Festival (rock painting?)
 - Food Hall coming to Main Street - Shall we get involved in this project?
Advocate for place for artists to exhibit? (Note: city requires us to poll several businesses)
 - Film? Would fall with ECD mostly, cross-committee work.
 - Performance – music, dance ? For dance, we should maximize exposure of the community
 - City has stages available at (1) Lake, (2) Emancipation Park (Library) small amphitheater (~50 ppl), (3) McCullough Field)
 - Literature (essay contest, etc.)? Was it Calvin who suggested it?
 - Selborne house drama club?
 - Drum circles for teens?
 - Rap or poetry-out-loud for teens?
 - We can support or boost
 - Do Selbourne House again (do it at Gude Mansion so we can keep the art up, suggests Bill)
 - Consensus: An active LAC Instagram will solve many things! **Who takes the action?**

(Provisional FY26 budget next page)

11. Estimated Budget FY26

FY26 Proposed Budget:	\$14,470 TOT
Box wraps (3),	\$4500
Trashcan sealant	\$250
Poetry sign & supplies	\$550
2 ESS (Scotchtown, Laurel)	\$1000
Laurel HS,	\$500
Swag & misc for LAC	\$300
Art supplies	\$400
Farmer's Market music	\$4320 (Michele Blair)
Main St Festival artists	\$2500
Selborne House art expo	\$150

Next Meeting: September 10 in person

Next agenda items: discuss our role in Main St Farmer's Market music (invite Michelle to sit in just for that item, at either start or end at meeting as per her schedule allows)