

Laurel Arts Council Meeting Minutes – Oct 8, 2025

at 6:30pm (virtual via Zoom)

now reachable as LaurelArtsCouncil@gmail.com

Preliminaries

1. Take Roll: Melissa, Sandy, Rubama, Jennifer, Angie (phone), Bill (City)
2. Determine Quorum: yes (barely)
3. VOTE: Approval of Sept Minutes: approved
4. Updates on Membership & New Applicants: Denise has resigned, we're at 8 currently

Agenda:

1. News from City Government – Bill
 - Pride Festival this weekend
 - Music at the Mansion next Friday (80s night)
 - Main St Festival has changed date to May 2nd (due to Preakness/avoid back-to-back events)
 - Lakefest will therefore move back a week to April 25th
 - Chandler Robbins mural unveiling on 5th street on Oct 25th
 - City in prelim stages to do stuff for Preakness, open to ideas
 - LAC ideas? Preakness has a national Arts Contest, we could do a local one?
 - Terra Sheppard (terra.sheppard@marylandracing.com) Marketing & Events Mngr) managing the Preakness art contest
 - Bill ideas: open mansion event with people showing Preakness-themed wares, movie at lake, music at mansion, music at main st, etc.
2. October Pride Festival art table
 - Bill texted James for a table, Angie suggests canvas paintings as usual and will Angie lead a sit-and-paint table. Short on volunteers (Rubama will help; Sandy offered 3 hours max)
3. November Selborne House art exhibit
 - For Gude Mansion, Melissa suggest Selbourne House (easier setup). Paul will check with mngmnt. Nov 8th (Sat) as likely date. Jennifer might be able to help with setup too.
4. Trash can painting: good results so far. **Still 7 trashcans to be decorated.**
5. Traffic box wraps: *table for next meeting*
6. Schools:
 - LHS will participate in the trash can painting.
 - Leon Michell (a gaffer with respectable imdb film creds) has a mother who is LHS guidance counselor, he wants to do a short workshop on film production for them; also scouts DMV locations for producers, finds carpenters, electricians, etc,
 - Scotchtown Hills: Katherine Ortiz gathering resources for a playground refresh-- possible ground mural?
 - LES has Dr. Rhea Bush new community liaison
 - Art for wellness workshops in the past, or literary activities, are ways to maybe get involved
7. Poems in Parks. Jennifer could do another poetry workshop + installation for April Poetry Month, she'd like a date on the calendar. Has a former MD poet laureate she can reach out to.

8. Writing club (no action yet)
9. Ghost tours: Savage has one (last ran in July), Laurel's Haunted Theatre ghost-hunting, Historical Society house tours. Will check with Crystal Fox, the cool knife shop, Laurel Mill Playhouse for potential guides, we can help with the city if they're worried how to start.
10. New business: (discussed how to feed to Instagram) Melissa will ask Ella, record session

Next Meeting: December 12, 2025 (in person)