

CITY OF LAUREL
ARTS COUNCIL



Virtual Meeting – January 8th, 2025 at 6:30pm

Minutes

Preliminaries

1. *Take roll:* Kayleigh, Melissa, Sandy, Angie, Inka (*Quorum, majority of 9*)
 - a. City Govt: Bill, Joanne, Sadaf, Sam Braden (new dept dir eco dev)
 - b. Guests: Cheryl Dyer (sp?)
2. *VOTE: Approval of November Minutes:* approved and seconded

Agenda

3. Updates From City:

Joanne on murals, what is public vs private art. Leah was assigned but departed so Sam is taking over for eco & comm dev department.

City does not have right to go onto private property to place art. If the owner agreed and we wanted to move forward with a public mural using public funds, it would require a 20-year easement agreed to by the owner.

In historic district, rules say Arts Council has rules for oversight.

20 year easement and other details are flexible, but legal would need to go through it to implement.

Ordinance #1991 has the language we're looking for.

Request from LAC: a concrete example of what an agreement would look like.

Melissa: we're volunteers, so would need city staff support to do this

Unified Land Development Code

Public Art Sec. 20-28.6, Sec. 20-28.7, Sec. 20-

28.8 https://library.municode.com/md/laurel/codes/code_of_ordinances

On Jill/Federal Realty, that approached us: They may have funding, could do their own artist but want to support public art. They'd like us to put together an event. All very open ended. (See previous minutes).

[much debate on whether Jill would be providing funding; unclear]

Sam would like to be included in the next meeting with Jill, to catch details.

Kayleigh: Need to scope out (e.g. painting those panels, etc)? Point out Arts Council doesn't have direct funding but can provide input, connect with community partners to help bring it to life, and that the city can provide event support (like closing the street, etc). Happy to talk more.

ACTION: Melissa offered to initiate the contact.

Note: Joanne retiring March 7th.

Cheryl: QuikMart on Main St purchased recently by Olive on Main owner, wants a mural on that space. He approved Brian at Laurel on the Patxutent on this. Some research was done. "We're in the beginning of stages in this", if LAC wants to partner on this.

Is there currently a Main St Fascade Improvement grant in existence? (Sam will check)

Sadaf: opportunity will open later this, prior was 2022. Could re-apply? Has vagueness on 'exterior painting' we might explore?

(Some discussion of Justin's pre-pandemic attempts)

4. Project Updates

a. **School Engagement (Melissa)**

no updates

Art show on March 19th by students, including some created by this grant.

Town Center artwork status: haven't heard back.

5. New Business from Members

'Poetry in Parks' pitch by Cheryl, based on poet laureate metal engaged US project. Bill said no obvious no, so Cheryl will get costs from guy at Sign-o-rama.

Suggestion (by Melissa?): What about using existing Laurel digital displays to show poems? Melissa will reach out to our poet-member.

Bill: Police contact asked if we have any ideas on some paintings or something for their lobby, tie in to school?

Sadaf on farmer's market music: yes, there is music earmarked for May/June. Probably will continue for next FY, likely to remain in budget.

Main St Festival still likely near Mother's Day, no announcement yet from Laurel Board of Trade.

Discussion: keep as is and do virtuals back to back, or shift everything 1 month?

Decided: keep existing schedule, so Feb will be virtual.

6. Adjourn