

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
Minutes
May 8, 2019

Members Present: Karen Askin
Therese Capal
Tim Nixon
Mary Baltimore
Liliane Blom
Jesse Marciniak
Howard Jung
Alicia Martin
Gary Gill
Patricia Dubroof (phone)

Members Absent: George McHugh

Councilmember: Mark Pierzchala

Staff Present: Andy Lett, Laura Creech

Karen Askin called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the Blossom Room at the Rockville Senior Center.

Re: Approval of the Minutes

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the April 10, 2019 meeting.

Re: Rockville 2040: Comprehensive Plan

Presentation from Andrea Gilles, Principal Planner on the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The draft plan contains multiple chapters: land use, future city organization, transportation, housing, facilities, parks, historic preservation, and maximum growth limits. Public hearings will be held on May 15, May 22, and June 4. Cultural Arts Commissioners can submit testimony by email, regular mail, in person or a combination of all three.

- Economic development tailored to arts and development. p.183
- Land use - focusing cultural and arts venues in town center p. 48
- Parks and Recreation section p. 109
- Available at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040

Re: Chairperson's Report

Boards and Commission Task Force representative informed Karen that all boards and commissions have similar challenges with inclusion, diversity, multi-generational.

Karen encouraged all commissioners to take the Open Meetings Act class online at <https://www.igsr.umd.edu/VLC/>

For an overview of the Maryland Open Meetings Act, please see Open Meetings FAQs - A quick guide to Maryland's Open Meeting Act at:

http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/OpenGov%20Documents/Openmeetings/OMA_FAQ.pdf

For in-depth information on the Act, please see the Open Meetings Act Manual at:

<http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/OpenGov%20Documents/omaManualPrint.pdf>

Karen thanked the City and City Police for their support to make the ARTS festival on May 4-5 successful. Saturday was nice, but Sunday was rainy. There was good participation from the various city arts organizations such as the Swing Band, chorus, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Adventure Theater, Civic Ballet, Rockville Little Theater brought costumes from Sherlock Holmes so that people could dress up. They were impressed with police coverage and how friendly they were. Noticed the demographics of attendees were younger and lots of families.

A community mural to honor Mattie J. T. Stepanek was finished will reside in the Peace Room.

Re: Councilmember Report

Mayor and Council passed the FY20 budget. Approved two significant development projects at Twinbrook and Shady Grove, which will increase the tax base.

Re: Staff Report

Staff reported the following items.

- Police chief Brito would like to brighten up a tunnel with artwork that goes between the police buildings and is only accessible by staff. There is no funding for this project however, it would be an excellent gateway for high school artists or new artists. Looking into funding options, possibly police funds, since art would not be publicly displayed so can't be considered public art.
- Andy was contacted by Human Rights Commission asking to get more groups involved with Rockville Pride Celebration event on June 25.
- City Staff is working on final preparations for the Rockville Chorus event at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 19 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.
- The Rockville Art League and staff are working on final details for the Opening Reception of the Rockville Art League Juried Members' Show scheduled for 1:30- 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 19 at Glenview Mansion.
- The City is scheduling interviews and meetings with Martin Cohen, Partner of The Cultural Planning Group, on May 21 and May 22 for the Arts and Culture Study and would like more people involved including the Economic Development Advisory Committee.
- Betty Wisda is in the process of obtaining cost estimates from artists to restore works of art in the Art in Public Places collection.

- The Planning Commission has released the Comprehensive Plan, Draft for Public Hearing. The Draft Plan is available to view at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040. Public hearings will be held on May 15, May 22, June 4 at 7 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Chambers. Written testimony also may be emailed to planningcommission@rockvillemd.gov.

Re: Task Force/Committee Updates

Art in Public Places

- Lilian shared George's report.
- The fiscal Year 2020 Art in Public Architecture Art Projects: The one percent amount yielded from construction costs for renovations to the Outdoor Bathhouse, the South Pool and the Locker Room is \$106,488 for the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Art Project. The one percent amount yielded for the construction costs for the Skate Park is \$13,980.
- Greetings Project - The initially proposed location at the corner of Montgomery and Helen Haneghan Way is changing ownership and thus not viable. We're now considering our first option as the location identified by City Hall. This is a wall fronting Maryland Avenue.
- Underpass Project - City Manager Rob DiSpirito has reviewed the rust issue and the next steps will be forthcoming depending on what Betty hears from Rob re-engineering solutions to the rust. Phone conversation held with CSX and City officials and reviewed expectation for an engineering plan. CSX expects the City to pay and submit an engineering plan for review if the project were to move forward.
- Glenview Mansion - The loss of the gallerist position has been raised consistently with the City Manager. Latest we've heard is that there has been no movement in the budget for restoring the position.
- Public Art Condition Assessment - Per the recommendations of the assessment, artists are being contacted, and minor/moderate repairs are being scheduled at various artworks as identified in the assessment.

Culture and Arts Organization Committee

- We are nearing the end of visits from the original list of arts groups in the city. Jesse is working on a summary of the visits and hopes to have it done soon. No report from the subcommittee.

Re: Old Business

- Alicia visited the Kaleidoscope exhibit at Glenview Mansion and was very impressed. It runs through May 26.
- Karen encouraged everyone to go online and view the Rockville master plan 2040 and send in your feedback on the proposed plans which does involve the Stonestreet corridor.

Re: Community Group Presentations

Presentations by City of Rockville Recreation Staff members, Andy Lett, Superintendent of Recreation, Colleen McQuitty, Special Events Supervisor and Paige Janzen, Superintendent of Facilities.

Re: New Business

- Karen asked Howard Jung to give a presentation on Noise Control at the next meeting.

Re: Next Meeting

The next meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 in the Blossom Room at the Rockville Senior Center.

Re: Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Alicia. The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.