

# GREENSBORO CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021; 5:30pm

Meeting held in person, Room 108 Greensboro Cultural Center

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doug Bender, Catena Bergevin, Duane Cyrus, Mignon Elkes, Leigh Ann Little, Victoria Milstein, Janine Robledo, Naomi Woods

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:** Juliette Bianco

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ryan Deal, Josh Sherrick, Karen Archia, Karen Kixmiller-Budget Dept. Sr. Analyst

**OTHER SPEAKERS PRESENT:** None

**WELCOME:** Ryan Deal, Chief Creative Economy Officer, called the meeting to order at 5:39 pm, and welcomed the Commission and attendees.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion and Approval of October meeting minutes
  - a. No discussion.
  - b. Motion to Approve: 1<sup>st</sup>: Mr. Cyrus, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Woods;  
Roll Call Vote: 7-0, the October meeting minutes approved.
- B. Discussion regarding Participatory Budgeting/Hester Park mural project
  - a. Ms. Kixmiller gave an overview of the Participatory Budgeting (PB) program and the two previous public art mural projects created via PB. She also introduced a new project, Hester Park Wall Mural, which approved during Phase 3 of PB Voting. The project must first receive local council resolution and is then subject to NC DOT approval through their Right of Way Public Art policy. Mr. Deal explained that the Budget office has directed Creative Greensboro to implement this project and that the Creative Placemaking subcommittee will be involved.
- C. Discussion regarding Neighborhood Arts – Residences
  - a. Mr. Deal introduced the Neighborhood Arts – Residences and its connection with the Housing GSO Plan. He also explained the key steps in the implementation process up to this point, including identifying funding sources via Neighborhood Development department’s HUD resources, identifying the geographic scope of the program as Kings Forest, Dudley Heights, and Glenwood neighborhoods, engaging residents for artist selection and direct point of contact support throughout the program.
  - b. Ms. Archia presented an update about the progress and current work of each neighborhood.
  - c. Mr. Deal discussed next steps for the Neighborhood Arts – Residences program, including the culmination of the current projects and dedication events for them, the creation of a FT position to lead on similar initiatives moving forward, and considerations for how to sustain the program in these three neighborhoods and how to expand it to other neighborhoods.
- D. Introduction and summary discussion about Downtown Arts: Call for Artists
  - a. Ms. Archia gave a short summary of the Downtown Arts Call for Artists, showcasing two paid opportunities for local artists: Art on Downtown Kiosks and Art in City Hall. Art on Downtown Kiosks will pay \$500 to 10 artists to feature previously created work on the 12 digital kiosks. Art in City Hall will be a \$3,000 commissioned piece of work that is digitally printed and installed on a large wall inside City Hall.

- b. Ms. Milstein commented about raising the profile of our city’s work, away from the digital nature of public art. Mr. Deal explained that the opportunity will result in a physical piece of work (24”x24”x24”) that will become a permanent piece in the City’s collection, however to cover the large wall in City Hall and preserve the opportunity for any artist that works on a smallish scale, this process to print a large scale mountable graphic is the best approach.
- E. Introduction and summary discussion of American Recovery Plan Funding requests
  - a. Mr. Deal explained that Creative Greensboro submitted two applications for ARP funding. The first request is for \$3.5M to support deferred maintenance and improvements in the Greensboro Cultural Center. This proposal includes physical maintenance improvements and the creation of co-working spaces and larger programming spaces for shared usage. The office also submitted a request for \$200,000 to sustain and expand the Neighborhood Arts program for 2022 and 2023.
  - b. Ms. Bergevin explained the ArtsGreensboro request for ARP funds, which is summarized on their website at [www.artsgreensboro.org](http://www.artsgreensboro.org). Mr. Deal explained that the City will review all proposals first with relevant staff members and then City Council will provide final approval of fund allocation.
  - c. Commissioners discussed the role of the Commission to advocate for these proposals.
- F. Commission Leadership and committee next steps
  - a. Mr. Deal discussed the results of a survey of commission members regarding their expressed interest.
  - b. Committee work will be focused in 3 subcommittees: Creative Placemaking Committee, Impact & Investment Strategies Committee, and a Marketing Committee.
  - c. Mr. Deal asked all commissioners if they would you be comfortable with the circulation of the raw data from the interest surveys and the overall interest forms from the initial commission formation, all agreed.
  - d. At the Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, the commission will consider motions for the nomination of a chair and vice chair, whose role will then be to assign membership to the subcommittees. He will also include a contact list for the other commission members.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Deal closed the meeting by offering information about upcoming events.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to Adjourn: 1<sup>st</sup>: Mr. Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Bergevin; Roll Call Vote: 7-0 (Mr. Cyrus left the meeting before the meeting ended). The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Josh Sherrick, Business Services Manager  
Creative Greensboro, City of Greensboro