

Maryland Public Art Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2022, 9:00-10:30 am
Held Virtually

Attendance: Tom Riford, Steven Skerritt-Davis, Liesel Fenner, Ryan Patterson, Rand Griffin, Catherine Leggett, Kathy O'Dell, Jerome Gray, Judy Kwon, Leslie Kahn, Elizabeth Hughes, Elaine Bachmann, Rebecca Massie Lane, Rosa Chang.

Rand called the meeting to order at 9:06 am. He noted the important new proposal that will be presented today that came through the Roster Committee and has the support of the Executive Committee.

Tom spoke to the administrative transition currently underway at Commerce. He also mentioned the honoring of First Lady Hogan and the dedication of the galleries of artwork at BWI airport.

Steven presented the open positions at MSAC for Deputy Director as well as the Arts Capital Program Coordinator whose role will include public art project management. MSAC has awarded Arts Relief funding totaling \$23m of the \$40m for this FY23. This year we have awarded \$44m combined of all our grant programs equaling 1453 grants - we usually award 900 grants per fiscal year.

Liesel reported on the record number of Public Art Across Maryland grants submitted at the fall deadline. Of 80 grants received, 60 were awarded for a total of \$1,014,745. The majority of the grant awards were for Planning Grants that will support the time in selecting an artist, developing the artwork proposal and garnering permissions, then awardees will come back and submit Project Grants at the spring deadline. We also saw the largest number of Conservation Grants (8) submitted.

Liesel reported on a Planning Grant award to an individual seeking to plan a memorial honoring a black Revolutionary War soldier proposed for the State House grounds. Elaine and Elizabeth spoke to the challenges of implementing a project that would involve coordination with the State House Trust. Ryan noted that the award was strictly for planning and research. Catherine and Rand recommended that when and if appropriate, MPAC could provide a letter of support.

Liesel introduced the proposed Public Artist Roster describing the current challenges facing staff and artist selection committees in procuring public art with our state agency partners. DBM supports the Roster procurement process. The proposal was informed from precedent Roster programs at other state arts agencies.

Ryan described the Roster selection process and added that we are putting out a Call for Panelists, nationally, and will select 9-12 who will be paid for their service. We are also currently in the contracting process with Submittable.com for the application software. We are in conversation with state agency partners for our upcoming projects to inform them of the

proposed Roster selection process. We anticipate having artists selected to start using the Roster in July.

Rand expressed support for the new Roster process in simplifying the artist selection process. Elizabeth suggested that perhaps applicants could select the areas of MD or types of agencies they'd like to work in. Catherine added that the proposed implementation timeline is ambitious.

Ryan added that the Terms & Conditions of being accepted onto the Roster will state that artists are not guaranteed a project. Artists not selected for the Roster will receive written feedback.

The Commission will approve the final selection of panelists (through email), as well as the final artists selected for the Roster as recommended by the panel.

Catherine put forth the motion to approve the Public Art Roster. Rebecca seconded the motion. All Commissioners approved the motion.

Ryan gave an update on active Artwork Commissions in process including UMES, Coppin State, Bowie State, Frostburg State, Towson Univ. and Catonsville District Courthouse. Artist Aurora Robson was selected for the St. Mary's College of Maryland new auditorium building lobby.

Rand proposed a spring gathering of the Commissioners in person. Dates will be discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:35.

