



Arts Education & Access Fund Oversight Committee

Date: April 13th, 2023

Time: 7:00pm- 8:00pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendees: AOC Members: Jenn Falco, Ellen Thomas, Hana Layson, Margo Norton, Carlee Smith, Leah Faure

City of Portland Staff: Barbra Rice, Jeff Hawthorne, Darion Jones, Stephan Herrera, Nancy Thorington

PPS: Kristen Brayson

1. Greetings/Introductions (Jenn Falco)

- a. Introductions.

2. Request for Public Comments

- a. No comments.

3. Bylaws Update (Margo Norton)

- a. Materials were sent in advance to committee: Cover Memo, updated annotated bylaws template.
- b. Recommendation from working group is that we start to move forward with preparing bylaws and engage with City to enact bylaws.
- c. Benchmarks were created by working group of Jenn Falco and Margo Norton.
- d. Updated Template has been created by City Attorney.
 - City Attorney Nancy Thorington is currently looking over draft version.
- e. Committee responsibilities, independent oversight and mandatory training addressed.
- f. Motion placed on floor to direct Jenn Falco and Jeff Hawthorne to secure City approval of Joint Bylaws proposal without substantive change.

- Minor changes may take place to improve clarity.
- Substantive changes will need to be brought back to committee for approval.
- Question from Ellen Thomas:
 - Are term limits changed to 4 years, based on City precedent?
 - City requirements are for no more than 8 years consecutively served on committees; previous terms were staggered at 2 or 3 year limits and it did not work well, so 4 years was recommended as a new term limit for easier record keeping.
- Motion is noted. Will be revisited, pending a quorum.

4. AOC/Public Officer Training

- a. Members were provided link to watch training video before tonight's meeting.
 - If not done yet, please do so by next meeting.

5. AOC Appointments

- a. James Dixon has resigned from committee. Thanked for work done on committee.
- b. Half of membership will term off of committee in Nov. of this year.
 - Would like to start process of recruiting new members.
 - TSCC would like to continue having a seat on this committee.
 - Membership can be between 10- 20 members.
 - Joint process between chair and Arts Manager to determine if committee membership is renewed for additional term.
 - Will begin recruiting for members at large and having mutual benefit conversations with current members.
 - Hana Layson has offered to help with recruitment.

6. City Arts Manager Update

- a. Update on hiring process for City Arts Education Coordinator:
 - Received over 100 applications from job posting, 74 met minimum qualifications, 6 were invited for interviews.
 - Hopeful to have someone in position by mid-May.
 - Question from Margo Norton:
 - How is coordination with district being handled before position is hired for?
 - Jeff is acting as point person currently and RACC has continued to provide some services and in addition a consultant was hired to fill in until this position has been filled.
- b. AEAF Summary Report (Darion Jones)
 - When Commissioner Ryan took over the Arts Liaison role, it was discovered that the AEAF Reports had not been presented to the Council at a public meeting in a number of years, and the City would like to move forward with getting that done as soon as possible. They are working with a consultant to create an executive summary of the information in those reports.

- Slides from a work in progress report summarizing multiple AOC reports were screen shared.
- Want to provide digestible information to the public to explain the work of the AEAF committee.
- Tentative council date of Aug. 16th, to allow for time for city Arts Education coordinator to be on board first. But timeline can be moved up if necessary.
- Would like Committee to be at council meeting for invited testimony to share experience of this work.
- Question from Jenn Falco:
 - Concerned about history of City benching AOC reports.
 - Committee felt pressure to deliver report and now report is being benched for 8 months.
 - Uncomfortable that we're being invited in to participate in a report that we were supposed to write.
 - Darion- All reports from the committee will be provided to the public on the agenda as well as overview report.
- Margo Norton:
 - Want to recognize that committee is all new, appointed in 2021, and the reports that weren't available were brought to your attention by us. We inherited an unfinished report and worked to try to catch up with cold data.
 - We hope that we get back to the time when the reports were great and that the interest in improving what's coming to the public from this committee is at the behest of the new regenerated committee.
 - Darion- We want to recognize this committee's work and we also want to acknowledge that Comm. Ryan is new in this role and we are still uncovering the lack of support this committee received.
- Ellen Thomas:
 - I think we all want the same thing. And there have been some missteps. What I keep listening for is the idea of collaboration. I keep listening where the collaboration was on the decision to withhold from council and provide this draft you showed. I think we're just surprised, and feeling that we're here and available to help.
 - Darion- I know that Comm. Ryan wants to be collaborative, and we'll take that into account.
- Jenn Falco:
 - Our next scheduled meeting is in June. Around that time I'll be expecting some collaborative work with the details on the consultant's work.

7. AOC Work Group Interest Poll

- a. Data points that would be helpful moving forward. Need to find folks who would be interested in researching these items:
 - Total number of K-5 Arts Educators funded by AEAF

- Average teacher salary 2023 vs. 2013
- Identity Element Oversight (e.g. physical mailer, email reminders, logo presence)
- b.** Margo: Would Revenue Division have first two data points available?
- c.** Barb Rice: Yes, Revenue's Audit Division would have these numbers.
- d.** Hana Layson and Carlee Smith volunteered for Identity Element Oversight work.

8. Master Arts Education Plan (Kristen Brayson, PPS)

- a.** This was presented to school board last week.
- b.** Wanted to talk about the Arts Education Journey, and why we are here today and need a plan.
- c.** PPS Intergovernmental Agreement Requirements listed.
- d.** The central goal of the plan is to increase equitable access to high quality arts education in dance, music, theater, and visual arts for all students.
- e.** All materials will be sent to Jenn to send out to group for review.
- f.** 96% of our schools are meeting the baseline of instructional minutes in Arts education.
- g.** Arts tax oversight committee is listed in report as one of the ways we're ensuring that we're making good on our promise.
- h.** Margo Norton: How did this land with the school board?
 - They are over the moon with the way this has come to be, and they are motivated to make these goals happen.

9. Meeting adjourned: 8:01 pm.