



Annual Arts Education & Access Fund Oversight Committee

Date: November 9, 2022

Time: 7:00-8:15pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

AOC Members: Laura Streib, Ellen Thomas, Michael Cummings, Carlee Smith, Suzy Root, Margo Norton, Leah Faure, Jenn Falco, Eric Miller, Walle Brown

City of Portland: Barbra Rice, Jeff Hawthorne, Angel James, Carlee Smith, Stephen Herrera

PCC:

Guest(s): David James

Meeting Notes

Welcome/Introductions: Jenn Falco welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for attending and recognized fellow committee members for their service. Jenn will be stepping into a co-chair role as Laura Streib and Michael Cummings will be terming off of the committee. Many thanks to Michael Cavazo (recently resigned), Laura Steib and Michael Cummings for all of the work that they've done while serving on the Art Oversight Committee as well as their past and continued support for the Arts throughout our communities.

Future Meetings (Jenn): There's a ton of work that needs to be done. If estimated, Laura probably spends more than 40 hours in a month in the area of the AEF. Right now, we're meeting quarterly and it's just not enough for the committee to do all the work that needs to be done. So, we want to increase the frequency of our meetings soon. Attending the meeting really matters and we're hoping to have the same support from committee members as we move into 2023.

Trainings (Jenn): There are number of trainings that committee members, participating as public officials, need to go through. For the protection of our voters and our own protections as committee members, we need to be aware that all communication methods (email, text, etc.) are potentially available to the public. As committee members, we need to understand how to make choices that we're comfortable with while serving on the committee. We'll look for time in the new year for this training to take place with the City Attorney.

Questions/Comments:

Eric- Is there additional trainings around contracts and intergovernmental agreements as we're dealing with work that may require a certain level of fluency in these areas. To date the committee hasn't received a ton of support on this from the City, so we'd like to see more.

Jeff- The built in trainings are definitely more about the AOC members' role as a public officials on an oversight committee. City staff can look into additional trainings and would ask that when recruiting members, committee members look for people that have expertise and skills around the tasks being taken on.

Recruitment-Laura shared information around how recruitment has taken place in the past which included informational meetings, requesting/reviewing CVs from various candidates, and then moving that information on to Commissioner Rubio's office for approval. She's not sure at this point if there's something more formal being worked on right now, but further discussion will take place around recruitment.

Questions/Comments:

*Carlee-*I'm not sure if we want to bring recruitment under Civic Life, but if so, we should probably include Ocean Eale (ocean.eale@portlandoregon.gov) in the conversation.

Stephen- Commissioner Rubio's office worked closely with Laura around recruitment in the past and are willing to assist with future recruitment as well.

Walle- A lot of recruitment processes are transferring to NEO Gov, so this would be a helpful and more streamlined tool to use around recruitment.

Action Items:

- Staff-Jeff will look into audit or ombudsman related training and/or creation of a guidance memo
- AOC-look at recruitment for the next year with an emphasis on those that embody the skills needed to assist this committee in specific areas.

Report to City Council-Draft (Laura): Laura reviewed the Arts Education and Access Fund Oversight Committee draft report and has asked that everyone please comment on the google doc version of the report. Various graphics have been created by Walle and shared in the google drive that help further capture the information being shared. Laura has shared the draft report

with AOC members and select City staff and has asked that it not be shared with anyone else until its finalized. Jenn also requested that the draft report not be shared to give all committee members time to review and give feedback.

Next Steps for Report to City Council-

- Review all AOC feedback/comments (this will include a working period)
- Finalize all entries/updates
- Create appendix (Jenn will create the summary)
- Present to City Council

Stephen has offered to help assist the AOC in preparation of presenting to Council and says that it would be great to look at the near final draft when its available. Jenn reiterated that the ask has been to have a dedicated ‘city process translator’ and this offer of help from Commissioner Rubio’s office would definitely fit into this type of role.

Eric- I’d like to hear from the committee...how pointed do we think certain priorities need to be articulated? I want to make sure that our message is clear, and our ask is clear.

Jenn- It can be hard to answer this off the top, but if anyone on the committee has something that you feel needs to be in the summary, please send your ideas to Laura and I and we’ll make sure its highlighted.

Stephen- Jeff and I are available to assist the AOC and make sure that the committee has as much room as possible to present before Council and translate committee asks and/or policy recommendations.

Sub Committee Work (Michael C.): Michael C. shared information regarding funding, expressing the fact that there’s been significant inflation and cost increases that haven’t really been addressed in the report. Michael and Hana have been meeting with school districts to gather input regarding what the job description should be for the Arts position being developed by the City. Each district has unique needs that need to be addressed equitably. In referencing our committee discussion, Michael doesn’t see how one person will be affective in dealing with all the issues because he feels the problems and needs are huge and need a small army to deal with them all.

Questions/Comments:

*Suzy-*It’s important to get some Art teachers in the conversation. I appreciate that these conversations are taking place, but its really important to include teachers around the development of the new position.

*Laura-*It’s also important to remember that the AEAF was not supposed to be the only source of funding for Arts Educators. The districts are supposed to assist in providing funds as well.

Carlee-Maybe we can create two liaison positions that can be filled by art educators that will better help translate their specific needs.

Margo-We probably need to talk about whether one of our future activities should be to go back and review the funding formula. We need to see what options there are, and calculate the risk/reward of opening up the Arts Tax as we are responsible to the voters and the ballot measure that was passed.

Jenn-During the first meeting of the new year we need to talk about what we're going to pick up and take to the mat. We can decide what we can and can't do, then find those who can assist in moving these items along.

Working Committee Next Steps:

- Margo and Jenn will engage with Jeff in the future to take our working agreement and update it to a Bylaws template. This will be done over the next two to three months.
- Look at not just having a Chair or Co Chairs, but an Executive Committee. Please think about what you can do as a member of the AOC, and if you have capacity to do more.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12pm