

Harford County Cultural Arts Board

Monday, January 9, 2023

Present: Chuck Bowden (Chairperson), Jessica Cleaver (Coordinator), Heidi Neff Chuffo (attended virtually), Chris Depkin, Gigi Devanney, Emily Fadgen, Karen Heppen (attended virtually), Sierra Keys, Peter McCallum (attended virtually), Christina McLoughlin, Bill Rothenbach, Angie Sokolov, and Erin Whipple.

Absent: Elizabeth Stevens. Jessica Boyle-Tsottles who represents the Harford County Council also was absent.

- The meeting was brought to order by Chuck Bowden at 6:03 p.m..
- The consent agenda was addressed which consisted of the following three items—the December 5, 2022 meeting minutes, the financial report, and pertinent update reports. Peter McCallum moved to approve these items and Bill Rothenbach provided the second. The consent agenda items were approved unanimously.
- The Board revisited an Arts in Education grant request submitted from Bel Air High School entitled: “Arts & Immersion: Exploring Smithsonian Art Museums and the National Mall.” Chuck Bowden recused himself from the deliberations because he is a faculty member at Bel Air High School. The Board was satisfied with the grantee’s clarifying explanation of the transportation costs and details regarding the bus contracting companies. Peter McCallum moved, and Christina McLoughlin provided the second, to approve this grant request as long as the grantee uses the Maryland-based bus contractor.
- An Arts in Education Grant application was submitted by Y of Central Maryland grant to fund a field trip to the Bible Museum in Washington, DC. The Board agreed to ask the grantee to provide explicit information about the art and cultural focus of this proposed field trip so this request can be revisited for a final decision during the February 6, 2023 meeting.
- Jessica Cleaver met with the group that is planning Harford Arts Week for 2023. This group has requested that the Harford County Cultural Arts Board sponsor this event and also make a financial contribution to Visit Harford to help fund it. After considerable discussion, the Board agreed by consensus not to participate in Harford Arts Week 2023 but to communicate the desire to Visit Harford to begin joint planning sessions now for 2024. The intent is for the Board and Visit Harford to be true collaborative partners from the beginning planning stage through the actual implementation of the 2024 event.
- The role of the Harford County Cultural Arts Board in the Harford 250 celebratory showcase was deliberated.-the Board agreed to propose Harford 250 committee will be invited to submit event’s budget to the Harford County Cultural Arts Board with increased funds to pay all participating artists at their March 31 Showcase and Harford

County Cultural Arts Board will be recognized as a sponsor. Jessica Cleaver will communicate the Board's offer of financial support to the leadership of the Harford Historical Society.

- Discussion ensued about suggestions for changes on grant application and website.
- The next meeting of the full Harford County Cultural Arts Board will be held on February 6, 2023. This meeting will be held at the Abingdon Public Library. Peter McCallum will not be able to attend this meeting so another Board member needs to serve as recording secretary.
- The meeting was formally concluded at 7:26 p.m. by Chuck Bowden.