

**Roanoke Arts Commission Minutes
May 16, 2023**

The Roanoke Arts Commission met on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in the Economic Development Conference room, 117 Church Avenue, SW, Roanoke, Virginia.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Ben Bazak, Laura Carden, Becky Carr, John Cornthwait, Donna Davis, Treasurer; Helen Dean, John Hitchins, Catherine Koebel, William Penn, Vice-Chair; Meighan Sharp, Chair; Pat Wilhelms and Karl Willers.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Valerie Brown.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathryn Schnabel, Artist; Chris Chittum, Executive Director of Community Development and Placemaking; Douglas Jackson, Arts and Culture Coordinator and Melissa Murray, Recording Secretary.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

For the monthly RAC spotlight, Kathryn Schnabel, a virtual artist and recipient of the *Art Matters* grant program, shared how she used the grant funds to develop 3 workshops that help artists develop best practices for sustaining an inclusive and engaging community arts practice to foster artistic, personal and community growth.

MINUTES: The minutes of April 18, 2023 were before the body. No corrections necessary, the minutes were approved as submitted.

TREASURER REPORT: \$7,698.99 reported by Donna Davis, Treasurer. She noted that 2 of the Fleming Arts Show checks totaling \$150 cleared.

William Penn reported on behalf of the AFAC Committee that City Council approved the budget allocations as submitted.

John Hitchins noted on behalf of the Collections Committee that there is no report this month.

Meighan Sharp noted on behalf of the Placemaking Committee that there is no report this month.

Douglas Jackson reviewed on behalf of the Executive Committee a draft of the FY24 Public Art Plan. Following discussion, the RAC members approved the plan as submitted by the committee.

SUBJ: MONTHLY REPORT – May 16, 2023
TO: ROANOKE ARTS COMMISSION
FROM: DOUGLAS JACKSON, Arts and Culture Coordinator

SOCIAL MEDIA -- @artinroanoke

- Facebook: 3,800 Followers (up 41)
- Instagram: 2,099 (up 59)
- Newsletter: 1,307 (up 18)
- YOTA registrations: 380
- Website visitors: 2023 (to date): 3,728 (up 700)
(2022: 11,084)

PRESS

- Dorothy Gillespie Mural
 - [WDBJ, April 25, 2023](#)
 - [Cardinal News, April 28, 2023](#)
 - [Roanoke Times, April 28, 2023 \(Front page PDF here\)](#)
 - [WDBJ, May 8, 2023](#)
 - [RVTV, May 9, 2023](#)
 - [Roanoke Times, May 15](#)
 - [WFIR, May 15 \(audio\)](#)
 - [Download the Press Release](#)
- Writer by Bus: [Roanoke Times](#)
- *Roanoke Rambler* Calendar: [here](#)
- Poetry in Motion
 - [Roanoke Times](#)
 - [WDBJ](#)
 - [Cardinal News](#)
 - [WVTF](#)
 - [WSLS](#)

THE COMING MONTH

May 16 - Artists, Crafters, Makers, & Shakers Roundtable
May 16 - Patrick Henry Art Show
May 21 - Hidden in Plain Site Event, 5:30
May 21 - Roanoke Co-Op Owners Meeting (William)
May 30 - Grandin Film Lab Showcase
June 1 - Intern start date - Miriam Yopp, VCU
June 1 - next Collections meeting
June 1 - Courthouse Reception for overhaul with Heather Marshall and Students
June 1 - National Gun Violence Awareness Month begins
June 3, 10, 17 - These Labored Hills Dance Performances at Farms/Gardens
June 6 - Sister Cities annual dinner - (Meighan & Kathryn Devine)
June 5 - 9 - Doug out

June 6 - NO Placemaking Committee Meeting
 June 20 - Next RAC Meeting
 June 21 - Arts + Economic Development Buzz4Good, 5 Points

PUBLIC ART PROJECTS (Collections and Placemaking)

Public Art projects carried over from previous year

- South Roanoke Library E-Branch Wrap – 100th anniversary of Crystal Spring.. Getting Chris Jones in touch with Blue Ridge Stamp – getting closer!
- Holding \$3K for Safer Neighborhoods committee of Gun Violence Task Force
 - i. www.Soulboxproject.org -
 - ii. June Gun Violence Awareness Month event at Valley View

FY 2022-23 PUBLIC ART PLAN

1. River's Edge - South Jefferson Bridge — \$25,000 - Under Contract, Ben as Liaison
2. Art in Place Phase 1 (public/private) — \$10,000
 - i. Dorothy Gillespie Mural conversations complete
 - ii. Fielding Calls from interested parties - Dixie Products, Breadcraft, Sister Cities
 - iii. Exploring more co-ordinated mural strategy through artist in residence.
3. Art in Place Phase 2 (public infrastructure) — \$12,000
 - i. Melrose-Rugby / Brown-Robertson project –
 - ii. Walnut Street bridge at Greenway?
 - iii. Others — Need artist/neighborhood partnership and lead see (2.iii above)
4. Elmwood Park Sculptures — \$40,000 - in turnover now.
 - i. 2 sculptures still to remove,
 - ii. 1 new piece in place,
 - iii. 3 more to be installed on Friday
 - iv. John H. as Liaison
5. Collection: 2D art by artists of color and diverse backgrounds — \$3,000
6. Donations :
 - i. Judge Beverly T. Fitzpatrick donation from artist Eric Fitzpatrick for courthouse. – approved, official letter to go out
 - ii. Nene Rowe's "Free Wheelin'" – approved, official letter to go out
 - iii. Jimmy Deck piece in courthouse (pending information)

Additional Projects

1. Hidden in Plain Site / Henrietta Lacks support - fundraising complete, team developing outreach events for spring and summer) (www.roanokehiddenhistories.org) EVENT DATES - May 21, Aug 6, Sept. 28, Oct. 4

Potential Upcoming Projects

1. Purchase of Sister Cities artists at Taubman (FY24),
 Roanoke College - Muralist (FY24)
2. Meeting with WVCC STEAM engineering lab soon.

Maintenance & Rotation this year***Pending***

1. Global Harmony repairs – concrete repair made, Jim Hudson to repair
2. Damaged artwalk piece: START by Scott Froshauer

Complete

3. Beneath the Roundhouse received artist attention
4. War Memorial cleaned.
5. Damaged Hill Climb repaired and returned
6. MLK sculpture relief wax cleaned and reapplied
7. Yulandra Livingston work being hung in 4th floor
8. Grafitti on Arches. - young child, low to ground, artist notified.
9. Installed railing on 1st floor South

VI. **AFAC - FY 24 Grants Determined - Council Report Date pending.**

VII. **NEA Art Matters Grants**

Grant agreements being followed up on. Projects and performances still taking place.

VII. **Planning & Evaluation – Building up components for next Arts & Cultural Plan-**

1. Arts Connect – Theme of recovery period and Arts and Cultural Planning. This is growing into our Arts & Culture plan framework. Theme of Daisy Art parade “Fall in Love through the Arts.
2. Collective Organizational Planning
 - i. Adaptive Leadership Training FALL 22 completed.
 - ii. Doug leading collective marketing Task Force
 - iii. Buzz4Good economic development episode to include “It’s all Here” song by Bryan Hancock, JP Powell and others
 - iv. \$7,000 in planning funds- RCE (\$4K) + RAC (\$3K)
3. Arts based action planning—
 - a. Through YOTA
 - b. Bi-monthly Arts and Culture leader conversations – NEXT June 15
4. Neighborhood engagement –
 - a. Through artists in residence and Art Matters Grants
 - b. Our Town *Arts Connect Neighborhoods* application - SUCCESSFUL!
 - c. Bloomberg application pending
 - d. Grants for Art Projects FY 24 pending
5. Collective Marketing – BUZZ 4 GOOD upcoming
 - a. Economic Development with City Economic Development (in progress
 - b. Art Matters – Social Impact: Equity, Justice and Inclusion - YOTA projects

VIII. GRANTS – Closing, Active, Awarded, Pending and in development

Active

1. VCA FY 23 - \$4.5K – Closed – Alma Ensemble / awaiting payment, reached out to VCA
2. NEA GAP FY22 –\$25K – Accepted, matched with \$35K from City, Artist in Residence
3. ARPA NEA –\$150K Art Matters: Recovery Grants for Artists, \$140K spent
4. Gun Violence Mini-grant -\$9K for EnVision Center Artist in Residence - \$3K remaining, rolling over to prepay fall artist services
5. Service payments from Stormwater (\$6K), Parks and Recreation (\$6K) and Berglund Center (\$6K)

Awarded

1. *NEA Grants for Arts Projects' 23* – Continued artist-driven projects strategy. (\$20K). This round of artists in residence will be all aligned with the neighborhood centers strategy focused on neighborhood activation, neighborhood capacity development, and physical arts-based neighborhood improvements–mentoring younger artists. **Match with \$20K from Percent for Art Funds** drawing on additional Percent for Art funds to implement larger physical projects developed through the effort. \$40K artists fees for artists and coaches; Percent for Art for project funds.
2. *NEA Our Town Grant* - Application in for \$75K, **Match commitment from City at \$75K** for *Arts Connect Neighborhoods* Strategy, RCE partner. April Notification.

Pending

1. **Bloomberg** Public Art Grant: <https://apply.bloomberg.org/submit> [This long-shot grant advances the Daisy Art Parade as a neighborhood energy driver. Spring 23 shortlist notification, Fall full notifications](#)
2. **NEA** [Grants for Art Projects for Daisy Chain Art Activations.](#) Match with \$100K from Percent for Art Funds and Emerging Neighborhoods Strategy
3. **VCA** [Creative Community Partnerships Grant - Due April 1 \(AFAC determination - Mish Moves + Spot on Kirk\).](#)

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

There being no further business the Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Melissa C. Murray
Recording Secretary