



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved MADISON ARTS COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

5:15 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL-130 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 8 -

Briony Jean Foy; Norma M. Sober; Anthony L. Brown II; Patricia Elson;
Leslee J. Nelson; José J. Madera; Barbara M. Schrank and John Nicholas
Schweitzer

Excused: 1 -

Satya V. Rhodes-Conway

Anothy L. Brown II arrived after approval of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Schweitzer, seconded by Elson, to Approve the July 10, 2012 Minutes as amended. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Briony Foy is married to City Atty Michael May but had no prior knowledge or involvement in the proposed MAC ordinance changes. She does not feel her relationship with Atty May poses a conflict of interest in the discussion of or voting on the redrafting and renumbering of the MAC ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [08046](#) Poet Laureate program

Commissioners read and discussed a letter sent to them by the Madison Poets Laureate, Sarah Busse and Wendy Vardaman. Commissioners expressed how deeply they appreciate the work the Poets Laureate have been doing already. They reviewed the list of specific initiatives the Poets Laureate intend to take on and were quite impressed with their ambitions. They ask that the poets consider whether or not the new initiatives they want to develop are sustainable into future years without a designated funding source. They clarified that they have no expectation or intention that poets laureate fundraise as part of their position. MAC will do anything within their power and resources to secure funding for the Bus Lines program. That being said, they also expressed appreciation that the current Poets Laureate are willing to appear at private fundraising events intended to increase the

Poet Laureate endowment held by the Madison Community Foundation. The commissioners believe the presence of our esteemed Poets Laureate at those events could be a powerful leverage in efforts to raise private funds for the position. They also wished to encourage Ms. Busse and Ms. Vardaman to apply for City of Madison funding through the Blink temporary art funds or to apply to our annual Signature or Project grants if they have ideas for one-time initiatives (Fabu applied for and received many grants from MAC during her time as Poet Laureate). Finally, the Commissioners considered the mission statement included in the letter and concluded that it was fine for the Poets Laureate to create that vision for their term in the position, but they felt that creating a general mission statement for the ongoing position of Poet Laureate would require more of a public process and open discussion. Thus, if used, the mission statement developed by the current Poets Laureate must always be clear that it belongs to them during their tenure and does not not necessarily reflect a position or policy of the Madison Arts Commission or the City of Madison. No official endorsement by The Madison Arts Commission or the City of Madison should be inferred by its use.

A motion was made by Elson, seconded by Schrank, to Approve and submit this response to the Poets Laureate. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

2. [27526](#) Renumbering and amending Section 8.33 as Section 33.34 of the Madison General Ordinances to update and clarify the functions of the Madison Arts Commission.

A motion was made by Schrank, seconded by Sober, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL WITH THE ATTACHED RECOMMENDATIONS - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. [20545](#) State Street Design Oversight Committee Report to MAC
No Report
4. [21279](#) MAC Administrative Reports
See Attached
5. [25024](#) 2012 Press and Publicity
See Attached

ADJOURNMENT