

Cultural Planning Subcommittee (CPS)
Portsmouth Arts and Nonprofit Committee (PANC)
Minutes of the joint meeting – **July 10, 2023**
In Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall

Attending:

CPS members Alan Chace, chair, Jeffrey Cooper taking minutes, Jason Goodrich, Tom Kaffold, John Mayer, Suzanne Danforth, Karen Battles, Ellen Fineberg in person, Emma Stratton and Karen Rosania joining by Zoom

PANC members: Genevieve Aichelle, Russ Grazier in person, Barbara Massar, Robin Albert, Renee Gilfoy by Zoom

City Councilor Kate Cook,

City staff Sean Clancy, Stephany Secord

Meeting called to order at 12 AM

Motion to accept minutes from June 12, 2023 meeting made, seconded and voted unanimously.

Feedback on July 6 kickoff meeting with ACG

- Russ, having worked with Bruce Thibodeau at ACG, is very confident in their abilities to complete the work necessary to meet the deadline.
- Alan - ACG is familiar with Portsmouth and referred to the descriptive paragraph and interview comments that demonstrate they are totally about inclusion. ACG's measure of effectiveness will include the percentage of the overall population reached and its demographic components.
- Sean -t ACG feels good about the work the CPS has already done and that the ultimate plan is the CPS's plan according to CPS benchmarks.
- John Mayer expressed concern about meeting the CPS goal of having people trust the process, having felt included. In order for the results to be embraced by the community the community engagement standard must be robust, much more than just a survey on the website.
 - Russ noted that the channels of engagement include in-person listening sessions and other approaches to assure broad participation.
 - Jeffrey underscored the importance of making sure studio artists are included, not just the nonprofits
 - Genevieve noted that nonprofits are a good way to reach individual artists who are contracted actors, musicians and such.
- John asked about process – who actually runs the listening sessions? Who writes the plan?
 - Councilor Cook – CPS convenes the listening sessions and the consultant runs it and compiles the insights derived.

- John suggested that ACG provide a timeline for the process, working backwards from the deadline and also detail their level of participation.
- The understanding is that ACG plans to attend the scheduled Work Group sessions that they can – not convene separate meetings with the Work Groups.
- Alan asked that CPS members direct questions for ACG to him.

Councilor Cook led a discussion of the draft ordinance to create a City arts agency, soliciting any changes. Highlights:

1. Membership proposed was 17, but this is amended to 14 to be made up as
 - a. 4 local arts institutions. These can be either for profit or non-profits. Representatives of these organizations do not necessarily have to live in Portsmouth as long as the organization is based here.
 - b. 4 individual artists who live and work in Portsmouth
 - c. 4 members of the community at large who live in Portsmouth and have shown a commitment to supporting the local arts and culture
 - d. A representative of the City Council
 - e. A member of City staff
2. Membership is for 3 year terms; however, in order to create rotating membership initially 4 will be appointed for a 1 year term, 4 for 2 years and 4 for 3 year terms, after which all appointments will be for 3 year terms.
3. Appointments will be at the discretion of the mayor at the time, with advice and consent from the whole of the City Council
4. The newly formed Public Art Committee will work closely with the city arts agency
5. Some grammatical suggestions were made; the legal staff will do one more review for word-smithing before final submission

Motion to approve the final draft ordinance with amendments was made and approved unanimously. The ordinance now moves on to the Governance Committee to be shepherded through the approval process at the City Council.

Sean will circulate a final draft.

This concludes the work of task group 2. Russ has now joined Group 4, Communications and Tom has now joined Group 5 Public Input.

The process of connecting with representatives of ACG was clarified

- The work group schedules a meeting time at which to invite AGC
- All workgroup meetings with ACG must be coordinated through Sean.
- ACG said they will do what they can to accommodate our meetings - and will do their best to get the most appropriate individual(s) on the zoom or live meeting where needed.
- AGC representatives will join by Zoom
- If the ACG rep is not available groups will reschedule as needed

Group 4 has scheduled a meeting for Thursday morning and is hoping a representative of ACG will be available to join them. Group 5 is working on that.

Robin gave a brief update on the AFTA process.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM,

DRAFT