

# **Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Committee Meeting Minutes**

## **Jan. 23, 2024**

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The Arts and Humanities Committee met on Jan. 23, 2024 in the Hydrangea Room at the Takoma Park Community Center.

**Members Present:** John Warren, Linette Lander, Taylor Johnson, and Jose Luis Diaz

**Members Absent:** Joshua Vickery

**Staff Present:** Arts and Humanities Coordinator Brendan Smith

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### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

### **Public Comments**

Takoma Park City Councilmember Cara Honzak attended the meeting and spoke about her role as the new City Council liaison to the Arts and Humanities Committee.

### **Approval of Minutes from Dec. 5, 2023 Meeting**

The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Upcoming *Takoma Park Arts* Events**

Brendan Smith asked the Committee members to help promote the upcoming Franglais gypsy jazz concert on Feb. 9 and the *Soul of Langston* play on Feb. 23. The iMusical performance that was canceled on Jan. 19 because of a snowstorm will be rescheduled later this year.

### **Washington Post Article on the Bird Calls Phone**

The Washington Post published an in-depth article about the Bird Calls Phone public art project that received about 100 positive comments on the Post's website. The project also has received media coverage from ABC Channel 7, NPR's Weekend Edition, and other outlets.

### **Takoma Park Recreation Center Public Art Project**

The call for submissions for a sculptural installation at the Takoma Park Recreation Center was issued with a deadline of March 3. Smith said he would promote the call again near the deadline.

### **Annual Report and Possible City Council Presentation**

Smith said the Committee needs to work on its next annual report to present to the City Council during the FY 25 budget process in the spring. The Committee may also hold a work session or presentation before the City Council if so desired.

### **Takoma ARTery Exhibition at the Community Center**

Smith said he was working with the Takoma ARTery to stage an upcoming art exhibition featuring ARTery members. The details and date for the opening reception are still in development.

### **Arts and Humanities Division Staff Hours**

Since the arts and humanities intern resigned, Smith said he spoke with his supervisor about increasing his hours from 25 hours to 32 hours per week instead of hiring a new intern. The change wouldn't have a big budget impact because there is more than \$15,000 in unspent funds for the intern position.

### **New Arts and Humanities Committee Members**

The City Council appointed four new members to the Committee, including Rickey Anderson, Theodore Carter, Susan Comfort, and Catherine Goode.

### **Adjourn**