

City of Takoma Park
Arts and Humanities Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 25, 2017

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission met on Tuesday, July 25, 2017, in the Hydrangea Room, Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park.

Members Present: Eric Gordon (Acting Chair), Kevin Adler, Emily Dufton, Allie Reyes-Pinkston, Gloria Tseng-Fischer, Joelle Rabion and John Warren

Members Absent: Ebonee Harllee, Abraham Joyner-Meyers, Madona Tyler LeBlanc, Tommy Parlon, Susan Strasser and Courtney Tompkins

Staff Present: Sara Anne Daines, Housing & Community Development Director

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Gordon at 7:05 pm.

Welcome, Introductions and Commissioner Announcements

Members of the Commissioners welcomed John Warren to the Commission. Informal updates on their recent activities were provided by individual Commissioners.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Adler, seconded by Reyes-Pinkston to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2017 meeting as presented.

Program Updates

We Are Takoma

Staff thanked Commission members for their participation in the selection of proposals for the upcoming We Are Takoma series. Schedules for the Humanities Lectures (September 2017 - March 2018), Docs in Progress Screenings (September 2017 - June 2018), the Third Thursday Poetry readings (September 2017 - May 2018) and the Performing Arts series (September 2017-March 2018) were presented. Members were encouraged to serve as hosts for the scheduled events.

The Commission agreed to the issuance of a second call for proposals in the fall for the purpose of completing the calendar, noting that no further action was needed for film series.

Cultural Plan

The June 6 draft of the recommendations section of the Cultural Plan was distributed. Commissioners were encouraged to review the document and provide feedback to the Committee. The plan is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the City Council on Wednesday, October 25 with formal adoption in early November.

Holiday Art Sale

Staff provided a brief overview of the format of the upcoming holiday art sale, scheduled for Saturday, December 9. Commissioners were encouraged to participate in the selection of vendors and during the sale.

Miscellaneous Items

Upcoming Events

The Commission expressed its interest in participating in both the Takoma Park Folk Festival (September 10) and the Takoma Park Street Festival (October 1). Staff will send out a Doodle Poll for scheduling volunteers for each event. Suggestions for items for the table were made including We Are Takoma Flyers, sign-up sheets for the weekly Arts eNewsletter, and information on upcoming solicitations.

Art A'Bout

Staff introduced the Commission to the Art A'Bout project. An online collection of art located throughout the community, the project serves as an easily viewed record of various public and private, formal and informal art installations. Commissioners were encouraged to submit locations and images for the project. A suggestion was made to include some of the more elaborate free libraries that have been located throughout the community.

Staff Update

The Commission was informed that Arts and Humanities Coordinator Marilyn Sklar had accepted a full-time position with the Montgomery County Parks Department. Ms. Sklar, a former member of the Commission, has expressed interest in continuing to work with the Commission and has applied for re-appointment. She is expected to be appointed by the City Council on July 27.

Adjourn

There being no further action required, the Commission adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sara Anne Daines
HCD Director