



Management Team Meeting

Saturday, January 30, 2016

Sailing Center, Roger William University, Bristol, RI

MEETING MINUTES

The Arts in Common Management Team, formerly Governance Committee, meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

1. Role Call

Team members: Chair, Michael Rich; Craig Fisher; Nicole Downing; John Lusk; Antonio Teixeira; Rebecca Riley; Doug Popovich; Stephan Brigidi; Donna Personeus; Marie Knapman; Andy Workman; Murray McMillan

2. Discussion and Vote on the Board Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2015

Minutes from the December 12, 2015 management team meeting were approved with edits after a motion by Mr. Brigidi, which was seconded by Ms. Riley. The vote was unanimous by all attending members.

3. Review the decisions/plans that emerged from our last meeting

Organization Name: Arts in Common

The team revisited their decision to change the organization's name to "Arts in Common" from "Bristol Arts District" based on the feedback results from the survey sent to the Future Search database and key community leaders. Mr. Popovich reported 92% of the survey respondents were in favor of the name change. The Team agreed continue with the name change and not re-vote on it based on the survey results.

Mission Statement

The team discuss the survey results in respect to the mission statement as voted on the 12.12.15 governance meeting. It is was determined that the mission statement as voted upon in the 12.12.15 meeting did not match the mission statement in the survey. There was agreement by the team after review of the survey stated mission that the team would continue using the unanimously voted upon mission statement going forward, not the mission as stated on the survey. The team also agreed that the mission would be review in six months time to see if revisions are necessary. The team also agreed that the mission statement should be part of the March 2016 Open Public Meeting discussion. A motion to continue accept the 12.12.15 mission statement and agreement to review the mission statement in six months was made by Mr. Workman and seconded by Mr. Fisher.

Our current mission statement as of 12.12.15:

“Arts in Common embraces and supports the shared goal, to stimulate, make accessible and sustain arts activities and organizations that promote educational, economic and cultural growth.”

Transparency

The team discussed the importance of being transparent to the Future Search attendees and public during the process of growing the organization to keep all parties engaged. Ms. Personeus stated she would create a website to provide a location in which all current organizational information (mission, meeting minutes, past and future meeting dates, etc) could live. The team agreed that would be a good idea.

Logo

Mr. Popovich presented a logo for Arts in Common for review. A motion was made by Mr. Brigidi to accept the logo as presented, which was seconded by Ms. Knapman. The vote was unanimous by all attending members.

Organizational Structure

Mr. Popovich presented a reworked organizational structure for Arts in Common based on discussion from the 12.12.15 meeting. Link to structure chart: <http://artsincommon.weebly.com/our-teams.html> for review which includes the following: Executive Team, Facilities & Building Team, Education Team, Arts & Programming Team, Communications Team, Advisory Teams: Artist, Business, Community. A motion by Ms. Personeus was made to expect the new structure with edits as discussed which was seconded by Ms. Knapman. The vote was unanimous by all attending members.

The team discuss filling the Organization's Executive Team positions of Vice Team Leader, Treasurer and other Team Leader positions. After discussion, Mr. Brigidi made a motion to nominate Craig Fisher as Vice Team Leader which was seconded by Ms. Knapman. The vote was unanimous by all attending members. Mr. Brigidi made a motion to nominate Ms. Knapman as Treasurer which was seconded by Mr. Workman. The vote was unanimous by all attending members. Ms. Personeus made a motion to accept the following Team leaders: Arts & Culture Programming: Team Leader: Bradley Webster, Artist, tenant in Byfield Bldg, Bristol resident; Education & Community Engagement: Team Leader: Murray McMillan, Artist & RWU Professor; Facilities & Shared Resource: Team Leader: John Lusk, Architect; Communications & Outreach: Team Leader: Doug Popovich, Bristol resident & business owner which was seconded by Ms. Knapman. The vote was unanimous by all attending members.

Link to completed organizational structure: <http://artsincommon.weebly.com/our-team-leaders.html>

Start-up timing and strategy

After discussion the team decided to move forward towards securing non-profit status. Ms. Knapman stated as Treasurer, she would reach out to Ms. Tanner to try and secure legal help pro-bono. She stated that she would also reach out to Mr. DeAngelis, who had agreed to provide accounting services pro-bono, to begin the non-profit process. Ms. Knapman said she would look into securing a mailing address at the Reynolds Building (235 High St. Bristol, RI 02809) for the organization. Mr. Popovich stated he had secured a google phone number (401.237.0779) and agreed to answer it for the short term.

Fundraising plans

Ms. Riley reported that there was a grant opportunity by Art Place America that she felt would be appropriated for Arts in Common to submit a Letter of Inquiry by March 2, 2016. She stated she would be willing to write the necessary letter if the team deemed the grant to be appropriate for the newly formed organization. After discussion and information regarding the grant was provided by Ms. Riley. The team agreed that Ms. Riley should proceed with writing the narrative required for the letter of inquiry. Ms. Riley agreed to email an outline summary of the grant as well as the narrative draft to the team for review and comments. It was agreed that a meeting would be held with any interested team members to support Ms. Riley's efforts. The date and location of the meeting to be emailed.

4. Plan for the meeting for the larger group that will both provide updates on what is happening, invite broad participation in the work and challenges ahead, and to celebrate . State House?

Possible date Feb 20, 27, March 5th?

After discussion, it was agreed by the management team to invite all Future Search attendees and community supporters to a public meeting to discuss the progress that had been made by the Management Team formerly the Governance Committee. The team selected Saturday, March 19, 2016, 3-5pm for the Open Public Meeting. Ms. Knapman volunteered the use of Franklin Court as the location for the event. She stated the location provided ample parking and existing tables and chairs for the event. The team selected a date of February 17th at 6pm at 446A Thames St. for the team to gather and secure the structure of the Open Meeting.

5. Decision tree moving forward - what needs to happens to turn initiative into reality

Action Items:

- Ms. Knapman to secure mail address, speak with Ms. Tanner and Mr DeAngelis regarding moving forward with securing non-profit status, speak with the bank regarding when to best open a checking account for the organization, book Franklin Court for Open Meeting
- Mr Popovich to send eblast invitation to the March 19th Open Public Meeting once details have been secured.
- Ms. Personeus to create a website for the organization
- Ms. Riley to email summary of Art Place Amercia grant as well as drafts of narrative for letter of inquiry.
- Set up fundraising meeting to support Ms. Riley in Art Place Amercia grant process

6. Other Business

Ms. Personeus shared the reaction to "Arts in Common" that she had received when she spoke about it to a local arts organization. She reported there was confusion regarding the benefits that "Arts in Common" would provide to an existing art community. There was concern that "Arts in Common" would be a competitive organization. Ms. Personeus suggested that the team prepare presentations and develop a community outreach program to answer these concerns directly with each organization that would benefit from the mission Arts in Common.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 AM.