

BCA Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

3:00-5:00 pm

Meeting Conducted by Zoom

Advisory Board of Directors Voting Members in attendance: Rachel Kahn-Fogel, Billi Gosh, Jeffery Harkness, Lisa Lillibridge, Laura McDonough, Bryan Parmelee, Jacqueline Posley, Jackie Reno, Milton Rosa-Ortiz, Beth Montuori Rowles, Lori Rowe, Dana vanderHeyden, Jon Weisbecker

Staff present: Doreen Kraft, Sara Katz, Joyce Cellars, Heather Ferrell, Melissa Steady, Sally Sheperdson, Zach Williamson, John Flanagan, Meara McGinniss

Meeting called to order at 3:10

1. Consent Agenda—All in favor
  - a. Approve Agenda
  - b. Approve Minutes of September 15th, 2020
2. Public Forum –No public was present
3. Public Art Update- Installation of a new piece of public art in City Hall Park was completed. Artists Kat Clear and Tessa O'Brien worked closely with the landscape architects and the waste water department to design a functional runnel created out of Champlain marble to assist in the improved run off design of the park. The artists worked closely with the contractors to ensure proper installation. Gina Carrera finished restoring her mural on Leahy Way last week. Repairs were made to the Millennium Sculpture in City Hall Park. Unfortunately the time capsule element of that piece appears to have been damaged. The 4x8 project has been a great collaboration with the REIB department, a committee has been formed and selections will happen this week. Sara has recommended that pieces be installed at the BCA Studios at 405 Pine Street. Jeff Harkness asked for an update on the public art planning for City Place. Sara responded that the public art funds are tied to TIF dollars and therefore are in limbo. Jeff agreed to follow up with the developer.
4. Education Report- Youth fall programming is well underway. In September it was on Mondays and Wednesdays, now because of school schedules it is only on Wednesdays. Fifteen kids are currently enrolled, 67 kids have been served so far-72% of which are Burlington residents. Nineteen children have received full or partial scholarships. BCA Studios has been designated a child-care hub by the state of Vermont which will prevent closure. Teen programming didn't enroll fast enough to run and will be postponed until January. Chris Vaughn has opened up the clay studio, very safely, to about 30 members. Kiersten Williams has been focused on adult online programming which will feature live access to a teaching artist and

supply kits. The hope is to continue a hybrid virtual and in person model in the spring. Gallery education is continuing virtually. Art from the Heart has continued despite many challenges at the hospital. Lori Rowe asked if education programming was poised to pivot further in the face of Covid challenges and Melissa explained that the team is working really quickly in an effort to stay flexible and not programming more than 4 weeks out. Milton shared that a fellow nurse's child is really loving the clay program. Lisa brought up BHS students and the need for more teen programming, wondering how to best get the word out to high schoolers.

5. Communications Update-John Flanagan described the recent work of the communications team including gallery guides and individual artist information that is now available digitally at the BCA Center. Promotion of education programs has been an interesting challenge. Ted is designing collateral for other departments of the city including the REIB and rapid response teams. John has been working closely with EOC and writing the cultural update each week. A social media toolkit has been created for each artist participating in the Holiday Artist Market. The communications team has also been hard at work on supporting the efforts of the development team in the year end appeal, with a focus on utilizing community members as ambassadors. A completely virtual Highlight is requiring lots of promotion. Home Studio had a dip in views over the summer but the team continues to ensure that there are plenty of resources available online. Virtual gallery tours have seen an enormous gain in attendance. Rebecca and John are working with the Children's Hospital to create virtual AFTH content for their site. Work on the new BCA website is well underway and very exciting!

6. Event Update- Zach shared more details about the upcoming Holiday Artist Market which will take place in City Hall Park on 12/5 and 12/6. Zach is working with the Church Street Marketplace to extend that concept to other vendors during the holiday season. Vendor stalls are being created by Generator and funding is coming from Northfield Savings Bank and emergency funding. A lighting installation will be featured in the park through daylight savings time in March. Highlight Hosuse Party is coming together-very low production costs, anyone who is interested in participating can-home cooks, kids, and professional musicians. About 120 people are slated to perform. The digital platform is very cool!

6. Development Update-Joyce shared that things are on track despite obvious challenges. Foundation grants are going really well-funders seem to understand what we are doing. Mascoma Bank has renewed their support of our exhibitions for 2021 at the \$25,000 level. Meetings are being set with major donors. Our year end appeal will feature a more customized mailing and more robust digital campaign. Board giving is going great and Joyce would like to thank the whole board!

7. Gallery Update and Vision- Heather recapped 2020 so far: we have held 7 exhibitions, supported over 100 artists. The summer Artist Market was a huge success. Before the pandemic we were on track to exceed attendance numbers at the BCA Center. Gallery education programming has pivoted to entirely virtual. Of the 4 FY21 exhibitions, three of them were curated in less than 2 months. The exhibitions team has worked very hard to ensure that the gallery remains open using best safety practices in the face of the pandemic. Over half of the piece in Stay Home/Stay Safe exhibition sold. Upcoming exhibitions include Meg Lipke, Diane Gabriel, Pip & Pop, and Kaylynn TwoTrees.

8. Directors Report- Doreen will continue to update the board via email and is committed to providing condensed talking points about BCA and anticipating information that the community will want.

9. Financial Report- Laura McDonough reports that 60% of our fundraising goal has been met. There is a loss in revenue from event rentals. Art sales are projected to be over. Class registrations are on target to meet our reduced goal. Board giving is going great! Still operating under our FY21 “austerity budget”.

10. Nominating Committee Update-The committee has met and is recommending that our honorary board members, Dana, Rachel and Barbara, terms be approved by the board. The board voted and all are in favor. The committee has three potential board candidates and interviews begin tomorrow. There will be a second round of candidates and interviews in April. Doreen recommended that the committee seek the support of REIB department to ensure that the board application process is inclusive. Jacqueline Posley agreed with this and spoke about how the concept of diversity should not be limited to race. Doreen is participating in a short training on recruitment and will report back to the board.

11. The proposed Racial Equity and Inclusion committee will gather and report back at the next meeting.

12. 5:01 pm Billi Gosh moved to adjourn, it was seconded by Jackie Reno. Approved by all.

BCA’s mission is to nurture a dynamic environment through the arts that makes quality experiences

accessible regardless of economic, social or physical constraints. We do this by:

- Supporting and promoting Vermont artists and advancing the creation of new work

- Offering a wide spectrum of arts education and engagement opportunities
- Presenting exhibitions and events that place Burlington in a global context, promote critical dialogue

and encourage local participation

- Serving as the City of Burlington's cultural planner by making the arts integral to the area's economic

and civic development, urban design, and livability.