



(314) 863 5811
(314) 863 6932 FAX
WWW.ART-STL.COM

REGIONAL ARTS
COMMISSION OF ST. LOUIS



**Regional Arts Commission
Ad Hoc Facilities Committee Minutes - DRAFT
May 20, 2021 @ 8:00AM via ZOOM**

Attendees

➡ Sam Fiorello, Jerry Gennaria, Eva Frazier, Mont Levy, Andrea Purnell

Staff: Vanessa Cooksey, Chloe Smith

Other: Lea Sutherlin, Admin Consultant

Welcome and Call to Order

Fiorello called meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Committee Members & Objective

Fiorello: Recently held core planning meetings with co-chair Gennaria and RAC staff; noted the need to be careful making long-term decisions that would have implications for RAC both now and in the future.

Committee Key Data Points & Timeline

➡ Gennaria: He and Fiorello are co-chairing this committee which includes Levy representing Commission leadership; Frazier brings historical knowledge about the building and Purnell represents the artist community; Chloe and Vanessa will staff the committee.

Fiorello asked Cooksey to share background presentation.

Gennaria: Key data points and information gathering will be in two areas – (1) financial and (2) programmatic; goal is to have a complete picture on what it will cost to stay or move based on operating costs analysis, usage analysis and other key data.

Fiorello: Reviewed in detail the timeline including milestones and timing; next step, following this kick-off meeting, will be information gathering and community feedback to be executed from June – August 2021.

Discussion held regarding engaging a professional facilitator to manage community engagement and focus groups; additional administrative support maybe necessary due to capacity limitation of current RAC staff; each chair has made recommendations for a facilitator.

Open Discussion/Q&A/Feedback

Open discussion held regarding the need to enter and exit the community properly; pending developments for Delmar Loop; possibility of renting to or from another organization; parking as an important consideration; focusing on the strategic plan; evaluate how facility is being used as part of a vibrant district; RAC's responsibility as a convener; space for artists and being a resource for the arts community; identifying focus groups and preparing the right conversations/questions around RAC's key role; identifying a professional facilitator for focus groups; and possibility of expanding the RAC presence in the city and county.

Additional discussion held regarding paying off bond - and owning the facility; problems of the building/facility over the past couple of years; what the community needs from RAC as a facility; focusing on the purpose of RAC – to make grants, advocacy and promoting the broader purpose of the arts; possible need for additional administrative support for this effort.

Review Next Steps & Adjourn

Action item: Gennaria will start a document capturing some of the questions raised today and circulate to this Committee to add to it accordingly. Will also need communication back and forth on gathering the data and scenario to form questions for focus groups.

The Ad Hoc Facilities Committee meeting ended at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by Lea Sutherlin
Administrative Consultant

Attachments

- PPT Presentation – RAC Ad Hoc Facilities Committee