

# Arts and Culture Task Force Meeting

Notes from October 10, 2019

Attendance: Michael Anderson, Heidi Bacon, Anna Ostendorf, Gary Stone, Art Kenyon, Ruth Nerhaugen, Joan Halgren, Curt Gruhl, Collin McCanna, Magie Paynter, Brian Peterson, Mayor Dowse

If you missed any of the meeting, please feel free to participate in the next meeting.

After introductions the group reviewed and discussed the notes from the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The vision statement from Red Wing 2040 was reviewed first:

Vision Statement: The Red Wing 2040 Vision Statement for Arts and Culture reads: Red Wing thrives as a creative regional arts and culture hub where every resident can participate.

Members generally thought that the vision statement is valid, however, there were comments about whether it could be slightly revised to eliminate the word resident and change it to ...everyone can participate. Also there were comments that our vision should recognize the importance of arts and culture as an economic driver for the community.

## How should Red Wing Organize?

The group reviewed a list of organizational models that are common in other places.

City Commissions	Nonprofit Organizations	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northfield Arts Commission</li> <li>• Grand Rapids MN, Arts and Culture Commission</li> <li>• Fegis Falls, Arts Commission</li> <li>• Winona Fine Arts Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lanesboro Arts</li> <li>• Cook County Arts Colony (Grand Marais, MN)</li> <li>• Twin Rivers Council for the Arts (Mankato, North Mankato)</li> <li>• Greater Rochester Arts and Culture Trust</li> </ul>	<p>Austin Area Arts (Nonprofit with funding from city tax levy)</p> <p>Paducah, KY (Main Street organization)</p>

### What do we need?

The group continued to brainstorm ideas about what an overarching group could do in Red Wing. These ideas are a continuation of ideas brought on September 26<sup>th</sup> and were organized as follows:

#### **Remove Barriers**

- Logistics
- Navigate the processes
- Develop procedures
- Sort out who owns and maintains
- How does public art get approved, maintained?
- Artist housing

#### **Support Resource**

- Information resource
- Data Base or organizations, artists, and patrons
- Research resource
- Measure outcomes
- Marketing support
- Education and Training
- Collaboration
- Be a resources and support organization

#### **Financial Support**

- Grow resources
- Initiate policies such as percent for the arts
- Go after grants and funding that involve partnerships
- Tax Levy, fees, etc.

#### **Promote Inclusivity**

- Could figure out who is not currently engaged
- Could make sure that all residents are able to participate
- Reach out to populations in the city

#### **Integrate Art with Public Projects**

- Be part of downtown revitalization
- Manage specific initiatives
- Participate on public art projects related to infrastructure projects, parks, trails, etc. (early in the process)

#### **City Liaison**

- Advisory to city
- Facilitator
- Convener
- Collaboration with city departments and agencies
- Advocate for policies
- Awards and celebration

There was some additional general discussion about an overarching organization, ideas listed include:

- The organization needs to be staffed by a knowledgeable person if it is to be successful.
- The Port Authority and the Community Development Department with the city should be involved because of the relationship between the arts and economic development.
- The group could be advisory to the arts organizations.

Council member Laurel Stinson was unable to attend the meeting but Brian Peterson read an email that Laurel wrote so that the group would know her thoughts on the subject:

After giving some thought to the comments made at the last meeting here are some things I'm thinking I would like to see in regards to what the group will do.

- Advise the City Council on matters of Arts and Culture public policy and make recommendations to the council on relevant issues.
- Work with the public works department to identify opportunities for public art within the capital improvement plan. Make recommendations regarding those projects including selection of artists and artwork.
- Work with city staff to develop procedures for permitting of Arts and Culture events with the goal of removing obstacles for live events.
- Work with the Port Authority to develop strategies for recruiting and retaining Arts and Culture businesses and organizations.
- Work with the HRA on housing and redevelopment issues from an Arts and Culture perspective. (E.G. Artist housing/lofts, community land trust for non-profits, etc.)
- Be advocates for Arts and Culture in the Community.

Next Meeting: We will meet on **November 7, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Foot Room of the Red Wing Library** to continue our discussion. At that meeting we will begin to talk about a recommendation to make to the city council. The group decided that it may take more than one additional meeting to come to a firm recommendation and so we are leaving open the possibility of additional meetings. Brian will also send out links to Arts and Culture Plans that have been completed by other communities.