

City of Greenbelt
Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for January 9, 2024

Meeting held at 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Members Present: Oliver Gaycken, Tom LeaMond, Vijay Parameshwaran, Barbara Stevens

Members Absent: Tatiana Ausema, John Drago, Kristin Stenson

Others Present: Amanda Larsen, Visual Arts Coordinator

1. **Call to order:** Chair Tom LeaMond called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. We had a quorum (4 members required).
2. **Amendment/approval of the agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
3. **Amendment/approval of the November minutes (B. Stevens):** The November minutes were approved as presented.

4. Public Arts Funds Report (A. Larsen):

We discussed the most recent version of Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board Report 24-1, which requests that City Council increase the Public Art Fund contribution to \$10,000 for FY25. The report had already been circulated via email prior to the meeting and board members had emailed questions and edits to the group.

The board would like to add a sentence to the report emphasizing that the City is already investing resources and giving them incentive to raise the public art fund amount. Amanda will add that sentence and get AAB approval by email before sending the request to Council.

5. Purpose of AAB:

We discussed a document from the City website called “Arts Advisory Board” which includes the following “Purpose.”

- review and make recommendations regarding the formal arts policy for the city
- advise the City Council and citizens on matters relating to the arts
- promote and work to increase citizen participation in arts program and individual activities
- assist city arts organizations in raising funds
- supplement city staff as a liaison with arts-related organizations
- assist in planning and annually evaluating the city’s arts program

We discussed how we are fulfilling our “purpose” and whether our meetings and events fall within the scope of the stated “purpose.”

Regarding our activities, the 2023 May mixer event went well, and provided us with specific ideas for follow-up and suggestions going forward. The Arts Crawl/Open House resulted in less specific results and may not be an ideal fit for the AAB. We have two plans for the future:

-2024 May mixer event at New Deal Café where we will reach out to artists and arts organizations about the arts in Greenbelt. We decided on Sunday, May 19, between Noon and 4:00 pm. Last year Amanda worked with the New Deal regarding food for the event. **Barbara will check with New Deal for availability of that time.**

-Have an AAB table at the October Open Arts Studio event (an AAB member could hand out information regarding opportunities for artists and arts organizations).

6. Round Robin:

-Amanda reported that the most recent Artful Afternoon was very successful. Amanda encourages AAB members to attend arts events and sign up for email lists to be informed of the schedules.

-Nicole wants us to know the Recognition Group application process is coming up in May. We will need an AAB member to attend one Saturday in May.

-Vijay enjoyed the Cinema Classics with live music. He asked if the Cinema could keep their website updated with the schedules for classics and silent movies.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 6 at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

AAB members include: Tatiana Ausema, John Drago, Oliver Gaycken, Tom LeaMond (Chair), Vijay Parameshwaran, Kristin Stenson, Barbara Stevens (Secretary)

Action Items:

-Amanda will add a sentence to the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board Report 24-1 and conduct an email vote on the final version.

-Barbara will check with New Deal for availability of Sunday, May 19, between Noon and 4 pm for AAB Mixer event.