

FACA Steering Committee Minutes March 23, 2016

SPECIAL MEETING to discuss April 27 meeting and MAC CCED grant application.

In attendance: Elizabeth Guffey, Keith McBride, Betsy Roper, Mark Evans, Jane Bradley, Ed Bradley, Julie Freund, Carol Wishcamper, Jim Chute, Shari Broder, and Nancy Salmon & David Webster (via phone)

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

(1) April 27 meeting planning

Question was raised as to whether we should proceed with this meeting or wait until we have heard if we received the CCED grant and have more information about Property C.

ED recommended we postpone the April 27 meeting. Group agreed by consensus to postpone.

In the meantime

* the InfoHub Working Group may hold an informational meeting to launch the Virtual Kiosk and show people how to submit their events and listings

* we may report on our progress over the last year with press releases and posts to the virtual kiosk

We thank Carol Wishcamper for her advice on this matter and her willingness to facilitate a public meeting when the time is right.

(2) CCED Phase I grant

Ed reported on reasons to apply and process going forward.

Reasons for cultural plan:

(1) brings more people into the process

(2) focuses our resources and energy on what is demonstrably needed for the community

(3) helps us figure out how to organize town-wide as opposed to genre by genre

Ed, Elizabeth, Jane, Keith and Julie have been lining up project partners and letters of support, finding a suitable cultural planner, and completing the application. The plan is for FEDC to be the applicant, with FACA to be the coordinators of the project.

VOTE: Nancy moved to approve applying for the CCED Phase I grant. Betsy seconded. Passed unanimously.

We will make a request to the Town Of Freeport to release arts district TIF funds to match the CCED grant.

(3) Property C update / Finance Committee

(a) Peter Warren & David Merrill continue to work on a conceptual plan and preliminary capital budget for the building based on a list of spaces identified by the location working group.

(b) Ed is working with advisors to create a pro forma budget for purchase, renovation and operation of an arts center at Property C.

FACA Steering Committee Minutes March 23, 2016

(c) Group discussed whether to purchase a one-year hold on Property C while we assess community support for a center at that location and evaluate financial feasibility. Group also discussed whether we could use the property during that year without making alterations to it.

VOTE: Shari moved that we proceed with working out a structure for a deal to hold Property C for one year, subject to approval by the Steering Committee. Julie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ed will work on that deal with the owners.

VOTE: David moved that we find out what uses would be allowed and viable under town and state regulations during the period we lease/option the building. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Keith will research this question and research the options under temporary activity permits.

(4) Virtual Kiosk

Website development is on schedule. Anticipated launch date April 28.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, April 7, 7pm, Town Hall.