



Maryland Public Art Commission

December 19, 2024,

9:00-10:30 am

Virtual Meeting

Commissioners Attending: Judy Kwon, Ben Seigel, Brittney McGowen, Catherine Leggett, Elaine Rice Bachmann, Elizabeth Hughes, Flanner Winchester, Jamie Heater, Jerome Gray, Rebecca Massie Lane

Staff Attending: Steven Skerritt Davis, Nora Howell, Ryan Patterson

Members of the Public: Kathy O'Dell (former Commissioner)

Call to Order

Commission Chair Judy Kwon called the meeting to order at 9:05, offered a brief introduction, and moved through the MSAC grounding slides.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Jamie Heater moved to approve the September 2024 meeting minutes, Jerome Gray seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

MSAC Executive Director Report

Steven Skerritt-Davis, MSAC Executive Director, provided an update to the Commission.

- Former Commission Chair Kathy O'Dell was recognized for 13 years of dedicated and outstanding service to the Maryland State Arts Council and the Maryland Public Art Commission.
- Steven provided an update on staffing and noted that he is very close to adding two new boxes (positions) within the public art program. More details will be provided when they are confirmed.
- An update on the reorganization of the Commerce Department was provided
- An overview of the Governor's Budget for FY26 was given, noting that a 2.9 billion-dollar deficit is forecasted. There is no information as of yet about how this will impact MSAC.
- Maryland Citizens for the Arts continues to lead the state-wide effort to advocate for the arts sector.

Commission Administration

- Judy Kwon led a discussion and vote for an interim Vice Chair to fill the role until the annual meeting in June. Having this roll filled will allow the Executive Committee to meet/function.
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- **Vote:** Jamie Heater was nominated. Elaine Rice Bachman made a motion to elect Jamie Heater as Interim Vice Chair, Jerome Gray seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Program Report

Ryan Patterson provided an update on the Public Art Program.

- There is a new shared google drive to provide Commissioners access to meeting and committee documents.
- New calendar invites to commission meetings have been sent out. The calendar invitations from the former program director should be removed to avoid confusion
- The date of this meeting is also the deadline for FY25 PAAM applications, staff will provide an update at the next Commission meeting
- Ryan updated the commission that the Public Artist Roster proposed in 2022 and established in 2023 is up for renewal. The Roster has made the process of artist selection incredibly efficient compared to the previous process and provides a resource for constituents.
 - Elizabeth Hughes noted that she has referred people to the roster as a resource on numerous occasions.
 - The Commission was asked to vote on re-establishing the roster with two significant updates:
 - The new Roster would be open for at least 3 years (rather than 2) FY26-FY29.
 - The new Roster would also include Artist Services (as observed from San Antonio's roster) to help constituents connect with service providers (i.e. fabricators, conservators, etc...)
 - **VOTE:** Judy Kwon motioned to approve the new Roster with the suggested amendments, Jamie Heater seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.
- Ryan presented briefly on Public Art Archive as a recommended service to act as a collection management system for the state's growing collection. The factors that lead to the recommendation of this product were 1) cost 2) accessibility 3) that the works from any given collection are integrated into a larger map/collection within the overall PAA system) 4) the updates to the metadata and user end that allow the platform to function fully as a CMS.
 - Commissioners Jamie Heater and Rebecca Massie Lane, expressed their enthusiasm for the aseptic and public view.
 - Commissioner Elizabeth Hughes asked about the cost, and Ryan replied that the cost is approximately \$3,000 a year to "brand" a page and collection specific to our program.
 - The Commission approved MSAC to move forward with procuring this service and establishing a Collection Management System for statewide commissions.

Projects Report

Nora Howell, MSAC Public Art Project Manager presented a report on active projects



- A vote was requested to restrict the following upcoming projects to MD artists only: Maryland State Police Barrack L: Forestville, Maryland State Police Barrack Q: College Park, Baltimore City Community College Learning Commons
 - Commissioner Judy Kwon noted support to restrict these projects to in-state artists based on the budget size
- **VOTE:** Rebecca Massie Lane made a motion to restrict the project eligibility to Maryland-based artist studios, Catherine Leggett seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Rebecca Massie Lane, noted that it was disappointing to learn that the community/Regional Colleges had an exemption from participation in the MPAC legislation and wished they would reconsider the benefits of the program. Commissioner Leggett agreed and ask how they could be approached to revisit the decision.
 - MSAC Executive Director Steven Skerritt Davis noted that he could request Commerce's legislative affairs liaison to discuss these questions with the Commissioners following the upcoming legislative session.

Reflection & New Business

- Commissioner Elizabeth Huges was contacted by the Dean of Architecture from Univ. of MD College Park with questions about the public art, developing a masterplan for the campus, but she was not aware of MPAC.
 - Staff noted they have been working with the campus and will follow up with them. It might be wise to invite the campus's art committee to observe an MPAC meeting or present on their work.
- A question about in-person meetings was raised for discussion.
 - Pending schedules, a 2nd or even 3rd in-person meeting would be welcome.
 - Staff will attempt to do this for the benefit of networking and fellowship, but in-person meetings do add a logistical/capacity challenge.
 - If Commission meetings are difficult , there are many projects nearing completion, and dedication events can provide a good time for Commissioners to interact in person.

Adjourn

Judy Kwon called the meeting to a close at 10:30 am