



Maryland Public Art Commission

June 4, 2024

Business Meeting

9:00-10:15 am

Comptroller of Maryland

110 Carroll St, Annapolis, MD 21411, USA

In attendance:

- Elaine Rice Bachman, Ex-Officio, State Archives
- Jerome Gray
- Jamie Heater
- Elizabeth Hughes, Ex-Officio, Maryland Historical Trust
- Leslie Kahn (end of term)
- Judy Kwon
- Rebecca Massie Lane
- Brittany McGowen (incoming/start of term)
- Kathy O'Dell (end of term)
- Flannery Winchester (incoming/start of term)
- Ben Segiel, Ex-Officio, Comptroller's Office
- Molline Smith (Virtual)
- Chris Sloan (Virtual)

Staff:

- Liesel Fenner, Program Director, MSAC
- Nora Howell, Public Art Project Manager, MSAC
- Ryan Patterson, Arts Capital Coordinator/Public Art Project Manager, MSAC
- Steven Skerritt-Davis, Executive Director, MSAC

Guests:

- Brooke Lierman, State Comptroller.
 - Chris Kensil, Maryland Commission on Artistic Property
 - Robin Gower, Maryland Commission on Artistic Property
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Welcome

State Comptroller Brooke Lierman, opened the meeting with a welcome to the Commissioners

- The Comptroller noted appreciation for working with MSAC and hosting the current art exhibit at the Treasury building.
- Ben Seigle, Deputy Comptroller represents the Office of the Comptroller on the Commission.

Call to Order



Commission Chair, Kathy O'Dell called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and reviewed the guiding documents.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Elaine Bachmann moved to approved the March 2024 minutes. Rebecca Massie Lane seconded the motion. The approval passed unanimously.

MSAC Executive Director Report

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

- MSAC Staffing Update
- FY24 Updates: \$732,282: Public Art Grant Funding, 36 projects in 18 countries
- FY25: \$36, 406,766 budgets (includes capital program) \$725,00 = Public Art Across Maryland Grants. Due to demand there are some recommended policy changes currently under review that would limit an organizations ability to apply for more than one application per funding cycle, or be eligible to receive a project grant if they were awarded a project grant in the prior year. One application/applicant/year.
- Line items: The Council will be discussion policies to address line items in the state budget.

Discussion:

Elizabeth:

- Projects Grants: Are they one and done? our grants are phased.
 - Answer: Liesel: they are one and done, they can get the grant and it should be able to finish the project within the grant
- Line Item Grants: When did you find out about the line item requests?
 - Steven: As committees were working on the budget we found out about the line item requests
- Rebecca: What types of examples come in?
 - Steven: \$400,000 general operating support, through MSAC they receive \$100,00. The BSO - they receive \$905,000- stabilization grant funding and \$500,000 to support their tour around the support. We also support their operating at \$1,000,000 through MSAC
- Kathy: Clarify: Planning grant recipients can also apply for project grant the following year?
 - Answer: Correct
- Kathy: What are the following next steps post Liesel's departure?
 - Answer: We will retain the Director and project manager role. We will inform the commission when more details are

Thank yous:

Steven: Kathy O'Dell , you have served the council for 13 years since it's inception! You supported the original guidelines for the public art program lesliekahn00@gmail.com Thank you - you have served 2 years on the MPAC and your expertise on the commission

Steven: Thank you for your service!

9:15 MPAC Administration

Kathy O'Dell

- FY25 Chair Election of Candidate Judy Kwon
 - Motion: Rebecca
 - Second: Elizabeth
 - All: All in favor
 -
 -
- Updates on candidate Commissioners
 - Brittney McGowan: Public Art Specialist
 - M-N
 - Flannery Winchester
 - Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County
- Committee for The Conservation and Preservation of Maryland Public Art Collection
 - Elaine, Judy, Maybe: Kathy
 - If it works out for the rules of state- Kathy is interesting in serving
 - The need - answer the questions, how to conserve a collection
 - Questions:
 - Are there things that shouldn't be retained in a public art collection
 - Conserved/maintained in a collection:
 - preservation
 - maintenance
 - Disappearance of public artworks
 - What is the responsibility of commission in looking for the missing public artworks
 - What does each piece on the timeline and who should be involved
 - Maybe Rebecca is interested as well
 - Elaine B: I think the formation of the committee notes a maturity of the commission. It was a new commission it was wonderful to have any money to put towards art. Initially to get the commission off the ground to make art. Shows the maturity of the collection now that we are considering HOW to conserve the works of art that exists.
 - Kathy: Thank you to Rand G. and Catherine L, before that who have invested in the growth of the commission, who built it to what it is today.
 - Elizabeth: Who is responsible for maintaining the inventory:
 - Liesel: The agency that owns

- Elizabeth: Do they have any requirements of how the agency maintains the artwork
- Ryan: A former MSAC staff - Cindy Kelly - did a lot of work around the state collection. Several works around the state. Institutional memory turns over - people forget who owns it. Part of our role - keep the memory alive, specifically for the artwork, taking assessment of the artwork, conservation reports of the artworks that we commissioned and the pieces forthcoming. We communicate it is the responsibility of the institution.
- Judy: In Austin - I worked with the public art commission. It doesn't help to have a centralized stakeholder in charge of making sure that conditions are assessed. Have a central repository - database, map of artwork, inventory of the work. It's a comprehensive assessment statewide. Even though the fiscal responsibility may be elsewhere, have a central place of the collection management would be necessary.
- Chris: Is there an active inventory collect as institutional memory may fade away. Who reports to whom so when staff changes etc.
- Ryan: We do not have that process for that in place. It's time to start that process.
- Kathy: Are there other states that could serve as a model?
 - Yes
- Judy: I love that this is happening
- Kathy: Signage! "Why are there not signs!" Why don't we know who the artist is? Who owns the piece?
- Kathy: Anything else?
- Moving on

9:20

Recent Installations:

- DCM Catonsville Courthouse, Wesley Clark

Projects in Fabrication/Installation:

- FSU Education & Health Sciences Center
- SMCM Dodge Performing Arts Center
- TU College of Health Professions-Exterior Sculpture

Projects in Design:

- BSU Communications Arts & Humanities Bldg.
- TU College of Health Professions- Interior

Projects in Procurement:

- USMSM
- UMBC Sherman Hall

Project Reports

Ryan Patterson

Nora Howell

Projects in Artist Selection:

- UMB, School of Social Work
- Shilman District Courthouse, Baltimore City
- UMD, Zupnick School of Engineering
- MD School for the Deaf, Veditz Building
- Salisbury State University, Blackwell Hall
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Rebecca: Question: Whose responsibility is it to approach MSAC when a new building is eligible for Public Art?

Liesel: We got the list from the budget management. We are working to get on the concept design phase so the architects do not pre-determine where the art work will go.

- Met w/ University of Maryland

10:00

Special Project- Black Patriot Memorial

Elaine Bachmann

Elaine: Delight that a project for an idea is coming to fruition!

The State House Trust: Approved a project of Steven X Lee to have a memorial on the grounds of the State House to honor Black people who served in the Revolutionary War

- \$250,000 approve for the beginning of the project
- Project is now on it's way
- Commission of artistic property + MSAC + DSG are co-leading
- The memorial will be figurative but open to artist property
- Elaine: Thank you to Nora, Liesel and RYan for working with us on this
- It's going to be an Artists Call. We do not often have funds to commission art
- So we are doing a Request for Qualifications - awaiting for final revisions
- August: Artist Call out, the Monument ADvisory Committee Appointed
 - State house trust
 - Commission of Artistic Property
 - +more who are leading the monument advisory committee
 - The Monument Advisory Committee: will advise the process
- Summer of 2026 - it will be unveiled
- Thank you to Ryan and Liesel : Thanks for the early support
- Thank you to Nora for leading the drafting of the RFQ

10:10

O'Dell

Open Sharing: Equity & Justice Kathy

Kathy: To keep on the mind of the Commission: Reactions within communities during Lock down and death of George Flloyd

- In Catonsville students at elementary - creative response, the students could go outside, congregate at the school, chalk drawings, a beautiful mural in progress at all times at the school.
 - Discussion within the community (mostly positive and encouraging)
 - There was an off-duty police officer who taunted the students
 - Principal at the school to create safety by having it all power washed
 - Principal: took photos of the mural
- Wondering if there is a place for Commission to store photos of temporary works, in particular around equity
- Ways to manifest commitment to equity and justice through public art - ways to support that through the commission as time goes.
- Elaine B: spontaneous public art preservation
 - The memorial at the Key Bridge
 - How to preserve information, gathering the news and media
 - Creation of spontaneous art - could have impact of the future bridge as far as its naming, food for thought
 - What role should we be playing spontaneously art
- Kathy: Lots to discuss and consider
- Jermaine: I attended a zoom meeting w/ institutions spit balling how to preserve info about the key bridge. The focus was:
 - To create narratives about the people involved
 - There wasn't discussion around the physical objects
 - Baltimore Museums of Industry: Where can we get steal?
- Molline: Thank you Kathy for bringing this back up, I love the idea the first first time, and bringing it back up. I support you. I think that the experience of going of the healing process, memorializing something.
 - The video for 9/11 : capturing the videos and stories of 9/11 memorial
 - What does it mean to memorialize something, to live beyond to live in our memorials, it can live on
- Steven: Key bridge:
 - Memorial for the bridge
 - Cherly Sparks: they are retaining, preserving sections of the bridge looking to memorials and history. Fielded a lot of request for materials
 - the Commission
 - The Baltimore Museum of Industry
 - Considering how to process the request
 - Being thoughtful - to include a memorial into the design of the new bridge
 - I shared what the commission does and staffs in terms of public art
 - I hope to have further discussion with Cherly as it develops
- Kathy: Molline - is taking the lead on a video on the 9/11 memorial as the first project of the public art commission, it was first project of the



commission and this history of the commission. S/O to Molline in taking the lead on that

- Rebecca: I read statements about public art and it's role from "Ellen Harvey Quote from Submittable: : Our commons spaces should be useful and beautiful. Not just as passive consumers ...creating a public artwork in public space, you matter, you are more than just your function...great public art makes a space memorable... "

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Kathy O'Dell: Gift to Liesel. Card signed by the commission. Gifts from the council.

Books

- Urban Soundscapes -
- Mixed Media Textile Art
- + one more book to come

Liesel: Thank you, I love books! I look forward to going into my library!

Elaine: Gift to Liesel " a kinder spirit: Presentation of a Governor's Citation!!

Molline: I wish I could be there!

Liesel: IT has been an honor to lead this program, to shepard it at beginning. It's off and rolling and it's in good hands. So much change has happened in the last 9 years, I think we are in a better position, in how we are moving forward. We are in great hands in how we are moving forward. Thank you each of you. It is so difficult to say these goodbyes. I planned to come to the dedications that are forthcoming.

Leslie: Presenting Flowers to Kathy O'Dell as a thank you

10:15

Adjourn

MPAC FY25 Quarterly Meeting Dates

ATTACHMENTS:

- March 21, 2023 Meeting Meetings
- Artwork Commissions Project List