

Arts and Culture Task Force Meeting

Notes from September 26, 2019

Attendance: Gary Stone, Art Kenyon, Ruth Nerhaugen, Joan Halgren, Laurel Stinson, Curt Gruhl, Collin McCanna, Bonnie Schock, Emily Foos, Magie Paynter, Tabatha Meyer, Brian Peterson, Mayor Dowse

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

After introductions the group discussed the attached information that was handed out that provided an overview of the purpose of the task force, Red Wing 2040 Vision Statement and intent to conduct three initial meetings to kick off the development of a Red Wing Arts and Culture Plan (September 26, 2019 handout attached).

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.

At this point, this vision statement appears to continue to be valid.

Overarching Organization:

Questions were raised about what would an overarching organization look like, how would it function, do we need one? There was a discussion of general options in this regard. Many cities have an Arts Board or Commission. Some places have operated more through coalitions of organizations, with or without a fiscal agent. As a group, we are not starting with a specific proposal but rather would like to think about what such a group would do and then think through specifics.

The group began by talking about what an overarching group should not be tasked with doing.

- It should not be a top/down group that tells other organizations what they can or can't do
- It should not take over administration or grant funding duties for other organizations

Here are brainstorming ideas of what an overarching group could do:

General Ideas:

- Advocacy
- Education
- Encourage Collaboration – bring people together to communicate
- Generate ideas

- Gather ideas
- Check out Marquette Michigan

Remove Barriers to doing things

- Logistics
- Navigate the city processes
- How does public art get approved, maintained?

Arts and Culture Resource Team

- Be an information resource
- Research resource
- Measure outcomes
- Be a resources and support organization

Build Financial Resources

- Grow resources
- Initiate policies such as percent for the arts
- Go after grants and funding that involve partnerships

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

Develop Arts and Cultural Initiatives

- Be part of downtown revitalization
- Establish specific initiatives
- Work on public art projects related to infrastructure projects, parks, trails, etc.

Next Meeting: We will meet on **October 10, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Foot Room of the Red Wing Library** to continue our discussion. At this meeting we will talk about what other places are doing to meet some of the tasks listed in the brainstorming session from September 26th and begin to talk about specifics.

(The following material was handed out at the September 26, 2019 meeting)

What is the purpose of the Arts and Culture Task Force?

Red Wing has long understood the importance of arts and culture to enhancing and creating a vibrant community. The recently adopted Red Wing 2040 Community Plan included a chapter to focus on the further development of community arts and culture. The plan sets forth a road map; starting with a vision statement that leads to goals and action strategies to work toward that vision.

Vision Statement: Red Wing thrives as a creative regional arts and culture hub where every resident can participate.

Recently, the Red Wing City Council adopted its strategic plan to establish action strategy priorities that the city will work to accomplish over the next 10 years. The city council determined that developing a Red Wing Arts and Culture Plan should be one of the top priorities to work on. This plan should be developed by residents and the arts community but the city will take the lead in facilitation. We have invited the original members of the Arts and Culture Action Team that worked on the Red Wing 2040 Community Plan and other interested residents to participate.

Develop a Red Wing Arts and Culture Plan.

Everyone agrees that Red Wing has a robust arts and culture scene. There also seems to be general agreement that Red Wing is ready to go to the next level in terms of meeting its vision as a regional arts and cultural hub where every resident can participate. This plan will explore formal and informal structures that could interface between the city and members of the arts and culture community. The goals of a potential structure would be to encourage grassroots partnerships, help emerging and existing artists and businesses, highlight our community's creative economy, bring partners into the process that have not always participated, and demonstrate the positive economic impact arts and culture has on Red Wing. The plan would also draft arts and culture policies and lay out a system in which the public could easily connect with government on their ideas.

Meetings

One of the messages that was listed over and over through the Red Wing 2040 community engagement process was that there is a need for intentional community collaboration and support of artists. Could there be some organization in Red Wing that would seek to develop collaborative public arts projects, create supportive public policy, identify and grow financial support, and assist with incorporating art and culture into the public sphere? The first step in developing an Arts and Culture Plan for Red Wing is to focus on how we might be better

organized to meet our Arts and Culture goals. The first three meetings of the task force will deal exclusively on this issue and be completed in the fall of 2019.

Meeting #1

- Background and Purpose of the Task Force
- Identify current issues or barriers that we are trying to address
- Brainstorm what an organizational structure in Red Wing would be tasked with (what would we be asking it to do in relationship with the overall vision?)
- List other considerations

Meeting #2

- Based on brainstorming, present alternative organizational structures for consideration
- Feedback: How what are the pros and cons of these alternatives in terms of what we would task them to do?
- Determine if there is additional information that would be needed?
- Feedback
- Discuss staffing and budget considerations

Meeting #3

- Present draft Arts and Culture Plan organizational recommendation
- Discussion
- Consensus

Present recommendation to City Council.