

Vista Partnership: Arts & Culture

Agenda – Meeting 5

2/25/2015

Overview

On Wednesday, February 25th, Vista staff and residents convened for the fifth Arts & Culture work group meeting. Here we reviewed and discussed strategies and topics concerning: Visioning Wall scope of work & sponsorships, Engagement with Galapagos art firm, updates about recent developments including the Detroit Garment District, activities with local artists, and rules to order or procedure for governance within the work group.

Visioning Wall – scope of work

The draft of the scope of work requested by a local artist has been completed, and includes the project's: purpose, location, timeline, design, list of materials and budget—as well as a sketch design of the Visioning wall itself. Staff asked work group to briefly review draft, and motion for suggestions.

Changes and/or additions

Residents and stakeholders suggested some changes and additions to the Visioning Wall, scope of work draft:

- The timeline is missing, needs a timeline for the scope of work
- Would like wall completed by end of March, no later than April 20th
 - o Display time length, from Cinco de Mayo to Día de los Muertos
- Documenting wall every so often, then erasing to start over
- Issues of maintenance (vandalism)
 - o Who will help maintain wall → (all people involved in work groups can work as a team and as individuals to help with maintenance)
 - o Vandalism concerns → most locals respect community murals
 - Boards are probably too heavy to worry much about theft
- Chalk Board Sample
 - o Latex vs. Chalk Paint vs. Grout Mixture
 - o The chalk paint seems to be the best bet for material usage

Sponsorships

- o If there are sponsors that engage in the neighborhood, are there ways to uplift the sponsorships for this project?
- o Don't have to make a decision tonight, but to keep it in mind moving forward
- o If we have an 8' x 12' mural, what amount of space is dedicated to sponsorship? 10%?
- o Bumper sticker size for each sponsor
- o Sponsorships on buildings—pay for signage fees, and adhere to city code
- o There are different types of sponsorships, can this affect aesthetics of the project?
- o Could make the project more viable, could attract funding to leverage for future art projects

Building Permission for 24th and Bagley

- Found building owners, but no contact yet
- Letters sent out to building owners
- Is this a possibility? → Hang sign on building asking owner to contact us
- Church adjacent to building has a space willing to let us use
- (1) NW or NE buildings, (2) Church (3) Vacant Lot
- Storage—St. Anthony's, Benito's

Neighborhood Arts Updates & Developments

Galapagos Engagement

- Staff have tried through e-mails and phone calls, no luck yet
 - During the work group meeting, received correspondence from Galapagos, will follow up
- Be strategic about why we want to get ahold of them
 - Engage them, "we have something to offer you," "welcome to the neighborhood," and/or a culture tour of the neighborhood, SW Detroit

The Detroit Garment District

- Detroit Garment Guild Group (DG3)
- Industrial Sewing Certification at Henry Ford Community College
- Looking to set up a 'hotspot' for sewing programs and employment in Hubbard-Richard, possibly an industrial sewing training program
- Website→resident concerns of re-imaging or re-branding neighborhoods
- Messaging of newcomers in the neighborhood can sometimes be controversial depending on how messaging is structured and delivered
- DG3 program has the potential of adding some real benefit to community
- Would like both entities (Galapagos & DG3) to engage or present in front of committee, and at next Vista community meeting

Other:

New play starting at Matrix Theatre

Local Artists

Here are some recent updates about local artists as it pertains to Vista Partnership:

- St. Anthony's event updates
 - April 9th or 11th for next community meeting
 - A way to engage people to come in and have a space to use
- Contact lists for Artists
 - 20 and counting
 - Artists associated with Matrix Theatre
 - Artists associated with 555 Gallery
- Engaging artists and supporting their needs
 - Sharing information about what local artists are doing in the area

- Are there other groups/events where artists are gathering? Let's try to make connections

Governance

As the Arts & Culture work group continues to grow and become more diverse, there is an apparent desire to have rules of operation in place for consensus building and constructive dialogue. The work group will work to find efficient and fair ways to engage in discourse:

- Who is leading the agenda?
- Who has veto power?
- What constitutes as "majority rules?"
- Keep it simple and nice, doesn't have to be weighed down by formalities
- Can people brainstorm and maybe bring some models for next meeting?
- Look up a basic rules of order
- What will keep you coming back to these meetings?
- What can help bring colleagues to meetings?
- Make the agenda public a week beforehand for collective input

Next Meeting – Scheduling

Monday, March 16th @ 5:30pm, Lithuanian Hall – 1920 25th Street, Detroit