

Arts & Culture Work Group Notes – Meeting 7 – May 27th, 2015

Update on Vista Wall

Sharing the impact of the Vista Wall

The group shared ideas of ways to present the information that was being gathered to the community (Press release, Skillman articles, etc). It was recommended to prepare a press release or article soon as possible. Overall there has been a strong, favorable response from the community.

June 10th Open House at St Anthony's for artists/cultural workers (5:30-8)

What do we want to achieve?

There are two main objectives for the June 10th event. The first is focused around thanking local artists for their work and dedication in the community. The second is to show off the St. Anthony's community space with the hope of building a buzz.

Display / Performance:

Performances during the event will include a trio of performers as well as a dance performance from the Motor City Rockers. Residents were asked what additional ideas they had for the event. One suggestion included a brainstorming/art wall (chalkboard/whiteboard/canvas/corkboard/etc) and where to place it. Other ideas included potentially adding a projector, a use of open mic, and having a place where artists could promote their wares.

June 6th African American Mercado Concert/Beautification Day/Community Lot Work, etc.

Another four concerts were approved to be performed at the Mercado/Welcome Center area. They follow the 11 concerts from last year. The first concert is on June 6th – The African American Heritage Celebration – and is free with some world renowned talent. There will be other events in the immediate area that day including Neighborworks Beautification Day and Detroit Lemonade Day.

The next 3 concerts are still looking for suggestion on artists – contact Piper Carter or Ozzie Rivera. It was announced the August concert was moved back to August 30th. Outreach for the events was another discussion topic where it was suggested that there be more outreach to bakeries and churches within the area.

Updates on St. Anthony

Floors

The first floor's flooring is finally done! The Vista Partnership team announced they will be moving over their on Friday. The second floor space is getting sanded and will be done by the 10th for the artist appreciation event.

Kresge Grant / Future Use / Events

Protocols for use at St. Anthony's were discussed. Most people interested should contact Dan Pederson while long term plans are devised. Types of requests participants were curious about revolved around arts, gatherings, and fitness. Vista would love to have input on vetting ideas to be used in the space from the community. Kresge provided a grant for the space which will help outfit the space with items we would like to see (tables/decorations/etc.).

Signage

Pocket park signs

Signage has been a huge component of multiple workgroups. The committee discussed creative ways to use parks as a wayfinding point to avoid unnecessary use of permits. The visual look of the signs was also up for debate. Ideas included standard Monopoly style maps, murals, and placemats. The group agreed that we may need to test different forms of signage at different parks and follow a vista wall format to get feedback. It was also suggested that members who were passionate about signage should link up with the communications and business work groups in order to refine a plan.

Pocket Parks –Linkage

Members from the Communication work group shared an idea they had linking the pocket parks together by tracking steps people would need to take in order to reach each park. The goal would be not only to promote walkability, but also to promote a healthier lifestyle.

Rules of Order and Meeting Standards

Consensus building

The work group also wanted to briefly discuss ways to come to consensus should problems arise down the road. Time/decision making was brought up as well as the idea to construct basic rules/guidelines. It was recommended that group members should look at Robert's Rules and use that as a starting point.

New Business/Opportunities

New Director of the DIA

Residents briefly discussed the importance of voice in regards to the new director of the DIA as well as the need for the community to keep/gain control of the commons and public goods.

Wedding Photographers Expo at St. Anthony?

A discussion about providing a Wedding Photographer Expo was presented. The goal is to show off local wedding photographers to the community in order to promote their business. It was recommended that should an event like this happen that they also try to branch out to other wedding related businesses – The focus would remain on the photographers, but would expand to include other wedding businesses (ex. Cake decorators).

Next Meeting Date

The Arts and Culture committee agreed they wanted a more consistent time to meet. It was decided that they would aim for the last Wednesday of the month. The next meeting would be **June 24th at 5:30 pm.**

Announcements

1. The Art Project – Performance at Matrix Theatre
2. Dreaming At Daybreak – A fundraiser by Matrix