

Arts & Culture Work Group

Agenda – Meeting 9

7/29/15

1) Update on the Arts and Culture work group activities:

- a. Vista wall: At a previous meeting, the group discussed moving wall from 24th and Bagley to 25th and Bagley. It was moved to 25th and Bagley at the pocket park before the Vista summer celebration. There have been new comments on there since the wall has been moved. It can be moved again in a couple of months when it seems to not be as active.). It was suggested the group begin to brainstorm other spaces: maybe a vacant lot to see what other responses people have. Could put at any pocket park, garden, etc.
 - i. Benito mentioned his uncle had an old garage that could have the Vista visiting for a while (shared by Clayton
 - ii. There is a lot on the NW side of Vernor and I-75. It is overgrown and used to have basketball hoops.
- b. Benito and Antonio have a lot of experience doing pop-up wood wall murals. Perhaps Vista could take proposals for \$ to put in vacant lots and pocket parks.
- c. Update: there is a “Before I Die” wall in downtown Detroit
- d. Do we want to attract attention to what we’re doing, like the wall? Share with newspapers and other sources? Would be good to involve workgroup members who already have connections to newspapers.

2) The concert series:

- a. There are two concerts left. The first was in June (African American Celebration) and the second was in July (Multicultural Celebration). Brainstorming ways to bring crowds. Maybe blocking off streets and putting tents at road to attract folks. Next concert is Arab American in August and then Latino Heritage in September.
 - i. Piper is going to connect with Reuben re: promoting concert series through his Rubo Fest contacts.
- b. Someone suggested having a concert over at the pocket park—a lot of people walked there from their homes and it would be a great place for an evening concert, potentially with all SW Detroit musicians. Maybe we could get a small mini-grant to host it. This could be extended into the building in the cooler months.

- i. June 10th artists celebration: There was discussion regarding the issue with the sound on the 2nd floor during a concert. Shawn has a contact who may have ideas on how to fix it. It needs to be looked at more thoroughly before the September 19th Mary McBride concert.

c. July Vista Event:

- i. Clayton shared it felt more inclusive than past events, maybe because it was outside. The food was also inviting and it was fun and had children's activities.
- ii. Recommendation: Moving the speaker to a corner so that everyone can hear. Potentially also need speakers that are better for outdoors.

3) Updates on St. Anthony

a. Brainstorming- artistic use of the building; Murals, art, etc....

- i. Maybe doing murals or rotating art from local schools or artists in the hallway and upstairs area. Or do kids art on walls and have a fundraiser for program or art supplies, etc. Al knows two students at Honeybee who might be interested in having an art show. The group suggested maybe having a larger arts and culture meeting/session in the fall rather than a regular Vista community meeting.

b. Building usage— rental/free

- i. Trying to figure out the balance between for-profit and free space for residents. Finding parameters for how much we need to make, and that it is in the interest of the committee to find paying customers to keep it free for other parts of the week. Currently, they want to gain \$24,000 a year from 2nd floor to pay for building usage and upkeep. Brainstorming ways to get rentals into here. There will be different rates for daytime vs. nighttime or weekends.

4) "Wayfinding with Art" Signage Updates

a. Pocket park signs

- i. Group is meeting next week to discuss physical signs in parks.

b. Pocket Parks -Linkage

- i. There is a walkability/signage group that meets bi-weekly. There is a walkability map developed with American Heart Association with pocket parks listed on it and steps to each park.
- ii. Mapping asset project from community: This is a sensitive topic— "branding" of the neighborhood. Call artists, have everyone submit design map or logo and have a way that residents can vote on it, so people

in neighborhood have a say on what map or graphic is chosen to represent the area. So that they have ownership over it.

- iii. How far is it from each park in minutes? Reuben mentioned planning a musical that would go through neighborhood. Each song would be at a different place. AARP has an initiative right now for minority engagement that might bring in some funding.

5) Rules of Order and Meeting Standards- further thoughts and plans for consensus building

- a. Coming up with a set of rules and consensus building to make decisions and choose projects, especially if conflict arises. Might be good to find out why past meeting attendees are no longer coming.

6) Other -

- a. Old Business: nothing to report

7) New Business/Opportunities

a. Joint promotion and share of activities in the Vista program area.

- i. Develop list of what each committee is working on. i.e. land use workgroup going to look at pocket park guidelines and rules so that these can be cross-promoted.
- ii. Recommendation: include key bits of information from other committees on each agenda

8) Next Meeting Date

- a. Last Wednesday of the month at 5:30. List dates in email sent to everyone. List dates at end of agenda for upcoming meetings, maybe next three meetings.

9) Announcements

- a. Detroit Drunken Historical Society-Al is a part of this group and promoted its events
- b. Celebrating Southwest Concert Series at the Ford Resource and Engagement Center (FREC):
 - i. Arab American Celebration: August 30, 12-5pm
 - ii. Hispanic/Latino Celebration: September 13, 12-5pm