

Urban Media Arts
Board Meeting
August 15, 2024 7pm

Zoom Attendance: Lori, Emmanuel, Eden, Jon, Ari, Tina

Guests: Felicia, Aliyah

Absent: Karen, Lissette, Brian

Minutes - motion to approve June minutes by Jon, 2nd by Ari

No discussion on minutes all in favor minutes approved

Intro to Aliyah Dominquez - new civic engagement specialist

3rd year at UMass Boston in Communications with a minor in film

Finding her way at UMA

Board introductions

Fundraiser Report: email was sent out

Aliyah has some great skills and has been very helpful and hands on

Look back on growth

- Choosing when and where to apply for grants is important

- We should apply to things greater than \$25,000

- Clean up membership roles

- We are still operationally defining everything

- We are tracking people and getting contact information etc

- There is a member email to help figure out member questions/needs

- There will be a quarterly fund development report

 - Feedback - the report was very helpful and detailed

- The hope is to make the organization self sustaining down the road

- We want all the bells and whistles which we are building towards

- We found out the feasibility study is actually double in grant money

- Working with study people and staff providing diverse ideas to architects

- We are looking for low and high end wish lists and price tags to see what is feasible

- The next grant cycle we may look into more grants on the state and federal level

- Starting research on workforce development needs

- Felicia created a grant cycle calendar as well as grants we were awarded to give us data

- The organization does not currently have solidified areas

- Almost hit our goal of beta testing paid services but need more processes in place

- We have two systems that do not talk to each other so updates are manually done

- We have different ways to process memberships

- Donors are getting personalized letters sent in traditional mail

- We are getting high schoolers who want to volunteer and do content creation

- Youth is an area that is really difficult to do things that are sustainable

- Hope to beta test some youth programs and have a youth program next summer

- Awaiting to hear about a grant in November that might fund an educational coordinator

Trying to get general grants to use as desired
Felicia works towards Tina's priorities and what we can sustain
Felcia has done more 2nd year since her hours increased
For federal dollars they recommend hiring a full time person to focus on grants
Being up to date on state level paperwork etc is very helpful

ED Report

Lawyers are still trying to figure out which drafts are the right drafts to use
Main hvac system went down - waiting
Looking at solar power, airflow in the basement etc.
Auditor came this week and audit looks good thus far
Thanking board for doing work in executive session and appreciating Tina's work
Board says thanks for the time and work Tina has done as well
Tina has ankle surgery a week from tomorrow
Once ready Tina will work from home initially

Annual Meeting

Open seats - no member seats this year
Four appointed seats
Ari is finishing up
Alex, Jordan, and Mary also need to be filled
Nominations committee will meet but anyone can suggest
Would like to form a bylaws committee/review by November
Try to have membership seat always available
In the past we try to give a person who runs and comes in 2nd place an appointed seat when possible
When we moved from 9 to 11 board seat the two additional seats were appointed
We only have 3 membership seats at the moment
With a September meeting we can wait until October to pick officers
Typically people serve 1 year to be eligible for officer position
If anyone is interested in an officer position let Emmanuel know by the meeting

Rika Welsh Award

Rika Welsh was the first executive director and a well known pioneer
This is more for people who help the organization who do not benefit from membership for themselves
It is about being a champion for community media especially in Malden
Tina wants to contact Rika herself
Tina would like to give the first award to Anne for neighborhood view 10th year
So far Tina has not heard back from Rika and won't use the name otherwise

Legacy Award - Staff is working on and has ideas but not consensus
Barbara Tolstruff, Ed Lucey, Mike from 02148, Jimmy etc.

The board president will give an update at the annual meeting

ED - would like to talk about Neighborhood View 10th year

Perhaps intro by Tina and update by Anne

Would like to advertise once details are finalized

It was nice last year at the studio

Members are invited to see what we do

Recap past year

Food for socializing after

New Business - Lori will send out annual meeting minutes from last year

- Auditor needs minutes

Subcommittees

ED evaluation - finished

Nomination committee will meet to focus on new board members

Fundraiser committee has met twice

Talked about annual meeting, replications from last year etc

Set up eventbrite for free registration and send out save the date

Morocco informational meeting coming up, advertised etc

Old Business - please share Moroccan trip information

Tina is happy to see board members sharing UMA info

As a board member, we do a variety of different fundraisers

If they want more information they can contact ED

Fundraisers are different than programs

Adjournment -Eden motions to adjourn, Ari 2nd everyone is in favor

- Meeting ends at 8:40pm