

Benton County Cultural Coalition
April 16, 2008
Majestic Theatre Community Room

Present: Walter Frankel, Diane Tarter, Rick Wallace, Joe Malango, Court Smith, Ilona Haines, Susan Johnson and Sara Swanberg
Excused: Kathryn Burton, May Dasch, Ann Staley
Absent: Karyle Butcher, Stephani McRae-Dickey

The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Chair Walter Frankel.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The Coalition got right to the business at hand and began a discussion concerning the updated Cultural Plan which is being readied to send to the Oregon Cultural Trust. Rick Wallace was commended for his extensive work with formatting the document and for the cover letter, which Walter Frankel read. Susan Johnson was commended for her extensive work on the document as well.

Susan mentioned her appreciation for the Table of Contents in the document.

Court Smith made three suggestions that he felt would improve the document:

1. include the word *creativity* as well as the word *culture* throughout the document focusing on why culture is important, and the fact that the arts, humanities and heritage are ways to stimulate creativity in cultural engagement;
2. move the priorities section up in document order, to appear before grant procedures;
3. refer to *specific* appendices as they are mentioned within the document so that readers can go directly to the appropriate text.

Various Coalition members responded positively to the suggestions, agreeing that these changes would add a more active nature to the document, as well as refine its clarity.

Walter mentioned that a “conflict of interest” statement, which the Coalition has, might be included in the document. Diane felt it would be well placed in the appendices, referred to in “procedures” in the body of the document text.

Coalition members felt that finalizing the document and getting it sent to the Oregon Cultural Trust early (it is due later in May) would be in our best interests.

Court is working on a second graph for the document to display statewide donations information by county and per capita. This will appear in the membership section of the document.

It was moved (Court) and accepted (Susan) that the Executive Committee be given the power to further modify the document so that it can be completed and sent without delay.

Rick will incorporate the changes into the document and send them out to Coalition members in the next few days.

Walter and Ann Staley will work on discussions that have taken place on policy and procedure and report at the next meeting.

Walter introduced the subject of member status. There is currently a vacancy from the resignation of Catherine Holdorf. Further, as of June several members are planning to go off the Coalition board as their terms are concluding:

- Walter Frankel, Joe Malango, Court Smith will leave the Board.
- Susan Johnson, Kathryn Burton, Rick Wallace and Diane Tarter are undecided.
- Ilona Haines will remain

There will be a minimum of four seats available.

A list of twenty people was presented, which was narrowed down to approximately five for initial phone calls to investigate interest and availability.

Meghan Caughy suggested that a high school or LBCC student be considered for a 2-year position to get this important young perspective considered. Sara Swanberg will present this opportunity at a Youth Service Community Meeting on May 6, Main Meeting Room of the Library, 7-9 p.m.

The next Coalition meeting will be Tuesday June 10 at 4 p.m. at the Benton County Museum.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Sara Swanberg, filling in for Kathryn Burton