



**The Town of Hilton Head Island
Regular Culture and Arts Advisory
Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, October 31, 2018

9:30 AM

Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

Committee Members Present: Terry Herron, Omar Perez, Linda Piekut, Kathy Reynolds, Bill Schmitt,
Chairperson Jane Joseph, Vice Chair Carol Nelson, Andrea Murray
Members Absent: Miho Kinnas, Dan Shapiro, Tayloe Cook
Town Staff Present: Jennifer McEwen, Director of Cultural Affairs

1. Call to Order

Ms. Joseph called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

2. Freedom of Information Act Compliance

Ms. McEwen confirmed that public notification of this meeting has been published and posted in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment

4. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Joseph requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2018 meeting. Ms. Reynolds moved to approve. Ms. Piekut seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Presentation from Community Organization

Ms. Joseph introduced Cinda Seamon, Board Chair for the Main Street Youth Theatre. Ms. Seamon reported that the mission of MSYT is to put young actors in the spotlight. The cast sizes are approximately 35 young people per production and they have approximately 50-60 young people audition for each show. The organization's biggest challenge is that no one is paid, it is an all-volunteer run organization from background checks and royalties to concessions and box office on the night of the show. They are most proud that kids that don't fit in elsewhere find their place on stage and in rehearsals at MSYT. The kids nurture each other and build a community.

Ms. Joseph asked what the biggest challenge for the organization is and Ms. Seamon replied that it is getting all the work done with all volunteers. Ms. Joseph asked how many people are on their board and Ms. Seamon answered eight. Ms. McEwen asked if there is a give/get requirement for the board and Ms. Seamon replied that there is not. Ms. Reynolds asked how large their endowment is and Ms. Seamon replied that it sits at \$800,000. That MSYT offers scholarships to kids who can't afford to participate and no kid will ever be turned away. Ms. Seamon also expressed that venue limitations and costs associated with the venues are a challenge. Ms. Joseph asked if they had the ability to build a theatre what size would it be and Ms. Seamon said 350-400 seats. Ms. Nelson asked Ms. Seamon if they sell sponsorships and advertising and Ms. Seamon confirmed that they do. Ms. Piekut asked if they have a grant writer and Ms. Seamon responded that they do not have any volunteers with those skills

and therefore do not apply for grants.

6. Old Business

a. Review and discussion of Cultural Trail markings

The Cultural Trail map is popular and many places cannot keep them stocked. Ms. McEwen asked the committee to take maps and hand them out in the community. Review of the sample mock ups of signage for the trail were discussed. The committee consensus is a preference for an oval sign with two posts similar to the Rotary Club pathway signs. The committee asked to review font and colors to make the signs easier to read. Ms. Reynolds asked to see a prototype and Mr. Schmitt volunteered to work up some examples in different colors.

b. Review of turtle project proposal and next steps

Jane shared the painted beach box project idea as an alternative to the turtle project idea. The proposed idea would be that 501c3 arts and culture orgs would raise the money to sponsor a box and the OCA would hire an artist to pair with the org and manage the DRB aspects of getting the design approved and executed. The committee discussed budgeting for the project and Ms. Nelson volunteered to draft an initial budget including artist’s costs, signage, vandalism, and other potential expenses. Mr. Herron expressed concern about not knowing who to market to and messing with the current natural aesthetic of the beach by introducing art. Mr. Schmitt suggested that since all the boxes are at the beach that the turtle project could still be done around other locations on the island. Ms. Joseph noted that this does not preclude other projects. Mr. Perez volunteered to discuss the possibility of a wrap instead of painting to better withstand the elements with his sign printer and bring back estimates. Possible goal deadline for this project would be May 2020.

c. Updates on other projects

Team Leadership: Mr. Shapiro and Ms. Joseph will be facilitating a professional development session on leadership for HHIHS teacher-leaders and Arts Leaders on 12/4. This is the pilot to future professional development seminars/education series.

Arts District: Ms. Joseph is working with the Hilton Head Institute on a maker’s space. If anyone would like to volunteer to work with them she’d welcome help.

Shell Ring Proposal: Ms. McEwen asked for the committee’s input on the shell ring excavation proposal from Dr. Matt Sanger. Ms. Piekut shared much insight on how excavations work. Ms. McEwen shared that this is the only know interlocking shell ring in the world and the great PR opportunities. The committee decided that Ms. Joseph and Ms. McEwen should speak with Mr. Riley, Town Manager, about procedure and precedent with town land with requests such as these. Ms. McEwen will set the meeting and Ms. Joseph will report back.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Joseph requested a motion to adjourn. Ms. Piekut motioned to adjourn. Mr. Perez seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

November 14, 2018

Jennifer McEwen

Jane Joseph

Director of Culture & Arts

Committee Chair