

Alexandria Commission for the Arts - Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Lee Center Activity Room, 1st Floor
1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, VA 22314

MEETING NOTES

- I. Call to Order. Chair Brian Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. For the meeting agenda, see [Attachment 1](#).
- II. Roll Call. For the Attendance Sign-In Sheet, see [Attachment 2](#). Note: New Commissioner Marcee Craighill took the City Oath and is eligible to vote.
- III. Public Comment. No public comment.
- IV. Approval of Minutes/Record
 - a. February 15, 2022, Regular Meeting. The February minutes were approved without edits.
- V. Chair Report. Brian gave the Chair Report, see [Attachment 3](#).
- VI. Committee, Liaison, and Task Force Updates
 - a. Grants Committee. No report.
 - b. ARTReach Committee
 - a. Meeting with Meagan Carrick of ACPS Arts. Brian Kelley shared details of his meeting with Meagan Carrick, the art outreach coordinator of the Alexandria City Public Schools. Arts Commissioners considered compiling an artist directory for schools.
 - c. Inclusivity Committee. No report.
 - d. Waterfront Commission Liaison. Judy Heiser shared details from the Waterfront Commissions last meeting.
 - e. Alexandria Arts Alliance Liaison. Gayle Converse gave a report on issues discussed at the last Arts Alliance meeting.
 - f. Council Coffee with John Chapman. Gayle Converse and Chris Kurowski shared details of their conversation with City Councilman John Chapman.
- VII. Old Town North Stormwater Covers Task Force
 - a. Approving the Concept. Gayle Converse reported that the Task Force is still reviewing artist Matt Long's concept designs.
- VIII. Annual Workplan Task Force
 - a. Appointing Two Community Stakeholders. Diane Ruggiero, Office of the Arts, said that staff is still seeking arts professionals to be on the Task Force. Arts Commissioners are encouraged to make recommendations.
- IX. Torpedo Factory Art Center Door Public Art Task Force
 - a. Appointing Community Stakeholders. Staff is still seeking community stakeholders with a design background to be on the Task Force. Arts Commissioners are encouraged to make recommendations.

X. ACA "Mini" Orientation/Review

a. Grants Orientation. Diane Ruggiero and Brian Kelley gave an overview of the arts Commission's role in evaluating applications and awarding the City's art grants program.

XI. Office of the Arts Division Update. Diane Ruggiero gave a summary of Office of the Arts recent activities. There is no written report.

XII. New Business Good of the Order and Announcements. For a list of events taking place during the month of April to celebrate poetry, see [Attachments 4](#).

XIII. Adjournment. Brian Kelley adjourned the meeting at 9:36 pm.

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7:00 p.m.

Lee Center

Activity Room, 1st Floor

1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, VA 22314

I. Call to Order (7:00 pm)

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment

IV. Approval of Minutes/Record

a. February 15, 2022 Regular Meeting

V. Chair Report

VI. Committee, Liaison, and Task Force Updates

a. Grants Committee

b. ARTReach Committee

a. Meeting with Meagan Carrick of ACPS Arts (Brian Kelley)

c. Inclusivity Committee

d. Waterfront Commission Liaison

e. Alexandria Arts Alliance Liaison

f. Council Coffee with John Chapman (Gayle Converse and Chris Kurowski)

VII. Old Town North Stormwater Covers Task Force

a. Approving the Concept

VIII. Annual Workplan Task Force

a. Appointing Two Community Stakeholders

IX. Torpedo Factory Art Center Door Public Art Task Force

a. Appointing Community Stakeholders

X. ACA “Mini” Orientation/Review

a. Grants Orientation (Diane Ruggiero and Brian Kelley)

XI. Office of the Arts Division Update

XII. New Business

Alexandria Commission for the Arts – Meeting Agenda

XIII. Good of the Order and Announcements

XIV. Adjournment (9:30 p.m.)

ATTENDANCE SIGN-IN SHEET

ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Meeting: Regular

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Meeting Place: Lee Center

COMMISSION MEMBERS:	(Please Sign Name)
Brian Kelley, Chair	<i>Brian Kelley</i>
Allison Heck, 1 st Vice Chair	<i>Allison Heck</i>
Christina Calloway, 2 nd Vice Chair	<i>Christina Calloway</i>
Gayle Converse, Secretary	<i>PLEASE IN</i>
Sumrien Ali	
Ryan Belmore	
Marcee Craighill	<i>Marcee Craighill</i>
Judy Heiser	<i>Judy Heiser</i>
Chris Kurowski	<i>PLEASE IN.</i>
Allison Nance	<i>Allison Nance</i>
Paul Painter	<i>Paul Painter</i>
David Pritzker	<i>David Pritzker</i>
Dawn Rogala	<i>Dawn Rogala</i>
Sheryl Sims	<i>Sheryl Sims</i>
Roger Yoerges	
CITY STAFF	
James Spengler, Director, RP&CA	
Diane Ruggiero, Deputy Director, Cultural Arts	<i>Diane Ruggiero</i>
Cheryl Anne Colton, Program Director	
Brett Johnson, TFAC Director	
Matthew Harwood, Public Art Manager	<i>Matthew Harwood</i>

NO GUESTS.

Chair Report

March 2022

Commissioners,

The last time the Commission for the Arts met in person was at the Lee Center in February 2020. Two years later we will finally return. I look forward to finally seeing you again/meeting you! So much has happened over these last two years. I took over as chair during the fall of 2020, which means this will be my first time running the meeting in person. You may not know this, but I'm usually writing copious notes on yellow legal pad through all of our meetings. This is happening off-camera, somewhere in the blank void/green screen of my home office. I also sometimes draw people's heads, a practice that is far more fun in person than through Zoom.

Our agenda for this month includes approving the concept for the Old Town North Public Art Task Force, appointing community stakeholders for the Annual Workplan and TFAC Public Art Task Force, and a "Mini" orientation on grants. Additionally, Gayle Converse and Chris Kurowski met with Councilmember John Chapman and I met with the head of ACPS Arts, Meagan Carrick, so the updates section of the meeting will be longer than usual.

If this is your first time going to the Lee Center, and you are in good company, I want to help you with directions. The Lee Center is located at 1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Give yourself extra time to arrive, as rush hour traffic on Duke and South Patrick can significantly slow things down. The Lee Center is in the southwest quadrant of Old Town. If the Old Town grid is notorious for having a handful of gateways that can bottleneck, the southwest is that same issue in miniature. If you are coming from the west, take Duke and turn right onto South Patrick and then South Henry. If you are coming from the north or south, turn east onto Gibbon. If you are coming from the Waterfront in the east take Gibbon, as well.

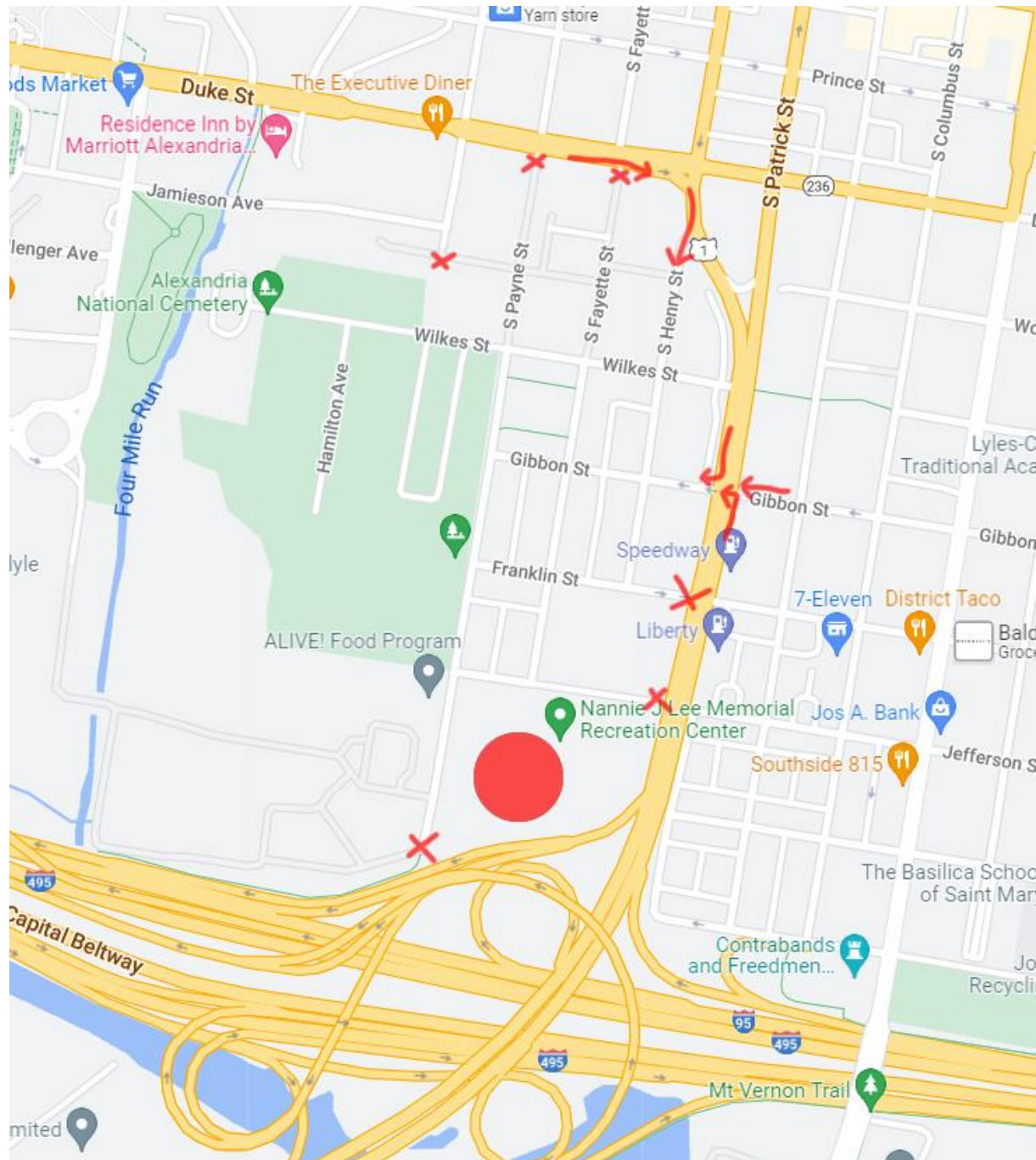


Figure 1 - Map of Southwest Old Town

There is free parking by the Lee Center. Look for the parking on Jefferson Street. The front entrance, by the flagpoles is next to this parking. Once you enter, look for the reception desk and they will help you find the Activity Room. Also, Alexandria city facilities are now mask optional.

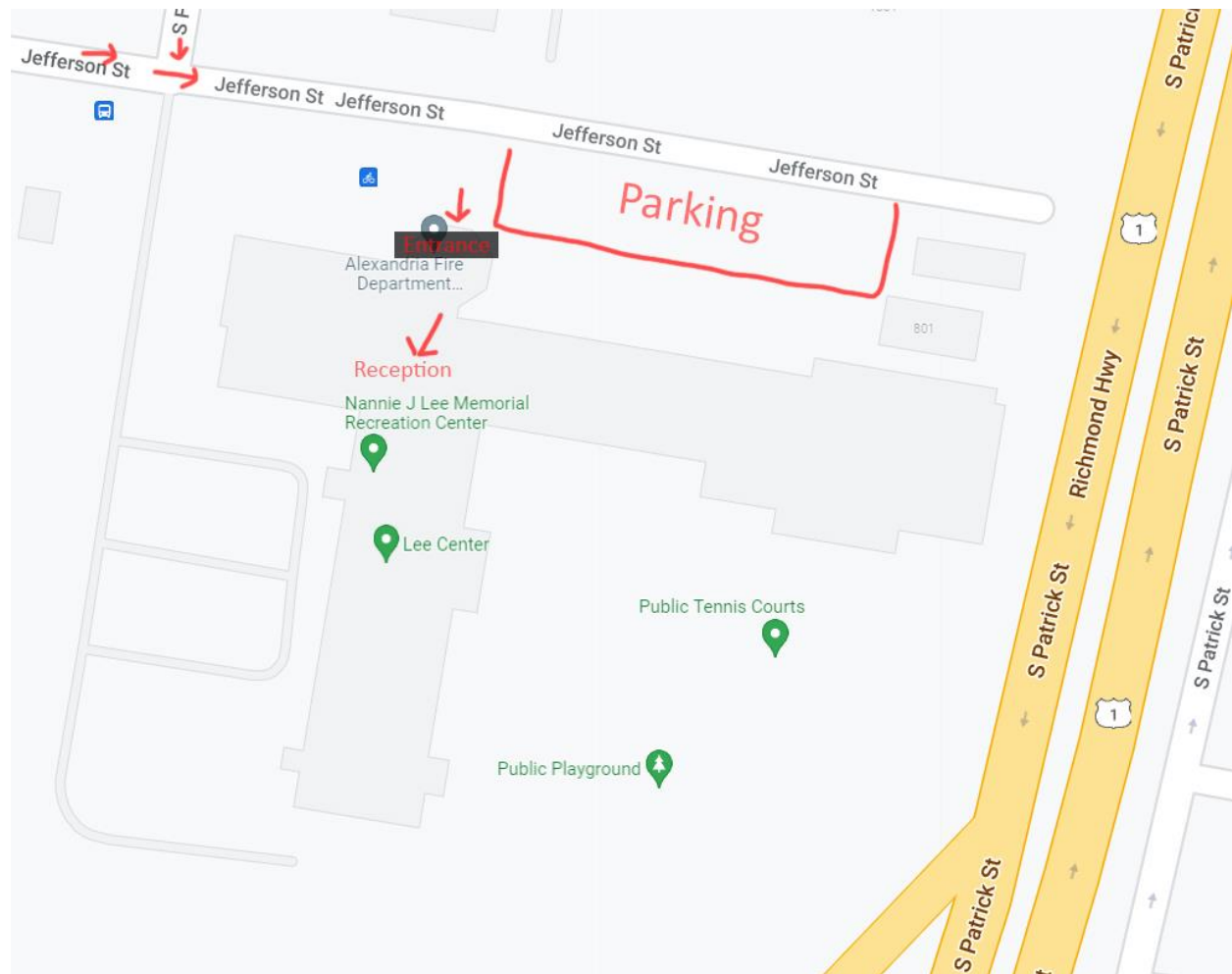


Figure 2 - Map of Lee Center

The Commission does have an Electronic Participation Policy. This policy was made prior to other Covid-era emergency protocols. Commissioners can attend remotely with permission from the chair prior to the meeting. In the past, this was done by telephone, but it may be possible to connect over Zoom, provided the arrangements are made with enough advanced notice. Importantly, such remote attendance does not count towards the meeting quorum, which means we still need to make quorum with in-person Commissioners. I am also hearing a rumor or two that there might be light refreshments.

Sincerely,

Brian Kelley

Chair, Alexandria Commission for the Arts

You are Cordially Invited to Celebrate
The Appointment of Alexandria's Poet Laureate

A Welcome Reception for
Zeina Azzam, Poet Laureate
City of Alexandria, Virginia



Photo by Jeff Norman

Saturday, April 9, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Formal Program Begins at 11 a.m.
Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Light breakfast will be available
RSVP to poet@alexandriava.gov by April 1, 2022

The reception is collaborative project between the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association and the Office of the Arts, a division of the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. For additional information visit: alexandriava.gov/Arts or email Cheryl Anne Colton at cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov
For information about the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association visit: <https://www.nvfaa.org/>



National Poetry Month Activities

- Tuesday, April 5, 7 p.m. City Council meeting, held in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street. At this meeting, KaNikki Jakarta, current Poet Laureate will be receiving a proclamation of appreciation from the Mayor and City Council. Additionally, Zeina Azzam will be introduced formally to the Mayor, City Council, and the community (as the meeting is recorded). You are welcome to be in the audience and cheer on KaNikki and Zeina!!
- Saturday, April 9, 10:30 a.m.-12 noon, Welcome Reception for Zeina Azzam as the new Poet Laureate for the City of Alexandria, see attached invitation. Members of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts are invited to attend. There will be limited access to the reception, so RSVPs are requested.
- Thursday April 28, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in celebration of National Poem in Your Pocket Day. Poets from around Alexandria are invited to read poetry. At this point, we are anticipating having the event in-person at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA. If you wish to participate, send your RSVP via email to arts@alexandriava.gov
- And finally, hop on a DASH bus or trolley and see the 2022 DASHing Words in Motion poetry!