

Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association Board Meeting

November 13th, 2024

12:09 PM.

MINUTES

Roll Call: The meeting called to order at 12:07 pm

- **Board Members:** Virginia Githiri, Kate Rosenberger, Heather Robinson, Michael Hover, Phil Amerson, Felisa Spinelli
- **Staff:** De de la Rosa - ESD, Aleks Pratt - Legal, Holly Warren - ESD
- **Additional participants:** Taylor Brown – OOTM, Don Weiler - The Kiln/grant applicant

➤ **Minutes:**

- Phil Amerson motioned to approve October minutes; Kate Rosenberger seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously

➤ **Unfinished Business**

- Kiln Collective Grant Proposal, Don Weiler
 - Kiln Collective showers brothers Kiln north of the mill into offices for the trades district.
 - Request a \$20,000 facade grant to maintain the historic brick facade.
 - The motion to approve the \$20,000 grant request, with \$10,000 in facade improvement grants and \$10,000 in building improvement grants by Michael Hover, seconded by Felisa Spinelli, passed unanimously.

➤ **New Business**

- Approval of Grant Transition Proposal
 - The need for existing grants has dramatically increased, and requiring them in a personal grant application proposal would be too limiting.
 - The Department of Economic and Sustainable Development is transitioning to Civiform for its grants, which allows applicants to see other grants in the city they are potentially eligible for more readily.
 - Heather Robinson recommended continuing the in-person requirement for grant applicants of over \$20,000.
 - Virginia Githiri recommended a 3-5 minute video for applicants to create that clarifies anything crucial beyond the standard application questions.
 - Kate Rosenberger highlighted the importance of not being able to see an applicant until after the grant is approved to avoid biases in approvals.
- First Reading of the 2025 BUEA Budget
 - \$100,000 request for Arts Incubator
 - Secretly Candian offered the city 10,000 sq ft to lease in a 100,000 sq ft building at a discount that is up for renewal in December 2026

- This space can house 20-30 artists in individual studio spaces with specialized equipment. The first cohort of artists will be invited in March 2025, with the intention of 10 local artists inhabiting the space. Those who participate in the space will engage in a year-round professional development program. In addition to the ten local artists, the program will target Indiana University MFA graduates to work there for a year.
- \$75,000 of the request is for construction, including an ADA-compliant entrance. \$25,000 is to support the professional development program.

➤ **Unfinished Business**

➤ **General Discussion**

➤ **Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:06 PM.**