



Article: 7

Warrant Article Title:

BYLAW AMENDMENT / ARLINGTON COMMISSION FOR ARTS AND CULTURE ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Warrant Article Text:

To see if the Town will vote to amend Title II, Article 8 of the Town Bylaws to make administrative updates, including to membership processes and procedures, for the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture; or take any action related thereto.

Requested By:

the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture and the Department of Planning and Community Development Select Board 2026 Article Hearings - right click to view in new tab

Report Excerpt:

Vote and comment to Town Meeting - Favorable Action (5-0)

Through this article, the proponents seek to amend the Town Bylaws to allow for the appointment of non-residents to committees of the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture (ACAC). In addition, the proponents request a change in the appointing authority of one of the Core Committee member appointments from the Cultural District Managing Partnership, which no longer exists as a stand-alone entity, to an additional at-large member recommended by the Town Manager and appointed by the Select Board. The Board supports both proposed changes.

The Board agrees with the proponents that in some cases, it may be appropriate to appoint a non-resident of Arlington to an ACAC

Committee. Specifically, although there are members of the Arlington business community or non-profit arts community who are Arlington residents and are willing to serve, there are also willing and capable non-residents of those communities who are invested in the Town's arts and cultural scene who could make valuable contributions to the Commission.

Vote Language:

That the Town does and hereby amend Title II, Article 8, Sections 2 and 3 of the Town's Bylaws, or take any action related thereto, so that the new Sections read:

Section 2. Core Committee Membership, Quorum, Administration & Organization

- A. The Core Committee shall consist of up to 13 voting members appointed pursuant to subsection (1) below and a liaison from the Dept. of Planning and Community Development. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the current voting Core Committee Members, and all actions shall be made pursuant to a majority vote of members in attendance. The Committee shall organize for the conduct of its affairs and shall elect its own officers. Members of the Core Committee may be non-residents of the Town of Arlington.

1. Core Committee Appointments and Membership

- a. Core Committee members shall be sourced from, or appointed by the following:
 - i. One (1) at-large member appointed by the Arlington School Committee for an initial three-year term;
 - ii. ~~One (1) member of the Cultural District Managing Partnership or their designee;~~

- iii. ~~ii.~~ One member of the Grants Committee set forth in section 3 below;
 - iv. ~~iii.~~ One member of up to four (4) action committees set forth in section 3 below;
 - v. ~~iv.~~ ~~Three~~ **Four** (~~3~~)(**4**) at-large members recommended by the Town Manager and appointed by the Select Board, one of which shall serve an initial one-year term, one to serve an initial two-year term, and one of which to serve an initial three-year term;
 - vi. ~~v.~~ One (1) representative of the Town of Arlington business community for an initial one-year term appointed by the Town Manager;
 - vii. ~~vi.~~ One (1) representative of the Town of Arlington's non-profit arts community for an initial two-year term appointed by the Town Manager;
 - viii. ~~vii.~~ One (1) representative of the local community of working artists for an initial three-year term appointed by the Town Manager;
 - ix. ~~viii.~~ The Director of Planning and Community Development, or their designee shall serve as a Department liaison to the Core Committee.
- b. All appointed Core Committee members shall be eligible for reappointment for a three-year term.
- c. Members may be removed by the appointing authority upon request of a majority of the Commission for three or more unexcused absences from Commission meetings in any calendar year.

- d. A vacancy of an appointed Core Committee seat shall be filled by the Select Board, School Committee, or Manager consistent with the foregoing.

Section 3. Grants Committee, Other Action Committees & Ad Hoc Committees

- A. Grants Committee. The Arlington Cultural Council shall hereafter operate as the Grants Committee of the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture.
 1. The Grants Committee shall identify arts and culture grant opportunities for the Town and its communities, apply for such grants, and where appropriate, distribute such funds.
 2. The Grants Committee shall also serve as the Local Cultural Council for the purposes of G.L. c. 10 § 58.
 3. The Grants Committee shall be organized, appointed, and administered consistent with the requirements of c. 10 § 58.
 4. All members of the Arlington Cultural Council serving at the time of passage of this bylaw shall continue the remainder of their appointed terms.
 5. Members of the Grants Committee may be non-residents of the Town of Arlington.

B. Action Committees

The Core Committee may establish and/or disband up to four (4) additional action committees in the areas of operations listed below to be composed and organized as directed by the Core Committee, including the number of members and such

members' terms of service. Members of action committees may be non-residents of the Town of Arlington.

1. Public Art
2. Programs and Festivals
3. Marketing and Evaluation
4. Resource Development

C. Core Committee Representation

As set forth in section 2, one member of the Grants Committee and one member of each other active action committee shall serve on the Core Committee.

D. The Core Committee may also establish or disband any necessary ad hoc committees and advisory groups as needed, but such groups shall not be represented on the Core Committee. Members of the adhoc committees may be non-residents of the Town of Arlington.

[Select Board Report](#)