

Arts Advisory Report

March 8, 2016

As previously discussed with the OMVB, I applied for a Howard County Arts Council ARTSites 2016 grant for the ROPE Arts Walk area in the OM Village Center. The ARTSites program is a means for communities with publicly accessible sites to host public sculpture for a temporary outdoor exhibit from August 2016–July 2017. Our application was denied because “the County is the entity which needs to apply for the ROPE Art Walk because they own the property”. This decision was a surprise to me because the County developed this area for our express use yet we have no authority over what goes there it appears. So, Sandy and I reached out to Randy Clay from DPZ who was the County lead on the ROPE project and he said that DPW would have to sign off on it and apply on our behalf and he didn’t think that could happen by the grant deadline of March 4 (this was around February 25). Randy suggested that we try to get CA to apply for the grant for us, but the sculpture would then have to be placed on CA property. There is a grassy area in front of the Teen Center that would be a good location for a sculpture so Sandy and I got busy trying to get permission from CA. In the end, they couldn’t get this through their chain of bureaucracy in time and so I gave up, on March 3rd. I plan to reapply for this grant again next year and now that I know what’s involved, I know who I have to go through and will do that from the start. Hopefully, I will avoid this runaround next year. With the new boards permission, I am happy to do this even though I won’t be serving on the board.