



Austin-Rosewood Community Development Corporation (ARCDC)

Response and Recommendations

Summary

The ARCDC is a City of Austin (COA) Local Government Corporation established to govern the Millennium Entertainment Youth Complex (MYEC) per the ARCDC governing by-laws and current structure set forth in the COA internal audit report. The ARCDC has a new all community board of professionals who are appointed by the COA council and composed of business owners, non-profit directors, CEOs, lawyers and community activists.

The current board acknowledges that although there are parts of the audit report that are founded, a significant number of details do not portray an accurate picture of the last several years. The majority of the new board that was appointed in the fall of 2019, do not have firsthand knowledge and are eager to turn a page in the ARCDC and MYEC's history and want to move forward and provide the best possible service to the MYEC. With this energy and effort, we believe that we forge a positive path for the MYEC.

Therefore, recommendations provided below are to allow the current board, the COA, the MYEC, the community and all stakeholders to move towards revitalizing this east Austin treasure.

Findings

Finding 1

In order to break down barriers and build trust among the various MYEC Stakeholders, ARCDC recommends:

1. The board continues to improve communication between the COA, ARCDC and various MYEC stakeholders. Currently, it is open and consistent with all parties in the contract and we will need to require periodic reviews to ensure full compliance. Most of the findings originated from the lack of communication between the parties. As a result, the ARCDC has made a commitment to clearly define a path where all parties are advised to focus on their respective obligations and responsibilities.
2. All parties must be committed to the mission of the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.
3. Within the next year, as we work on our responsibilities and obligations of the ARCDC to properly manage the MYEC, the ARCDC will present a resolution to the COA Council to outline how the ARCDC, Mayor and COA Manager will work with the ARCDC to provide adequate funding for the MYEC.

Finding 2

To ensure that the MYEC meets its mission and operates effectively the ARCDC recommends:

The ARCDC will continue to be the responsible reporting entity to the City of Austin and to the Community of the MYEC facility and has formed four ARCDC Sub committees to accomplish this task;

1. Finance Committee (Board Chair, Board Treasurer, COA Budget Officer, Facility Manager)
 - a. Receives and Reviews Facility Reports and Requests for Budgets and Capital Improvements
2. Contract Compliance Committee – 2 Board Members
 - a. Receives and Reviews monthly Operation Reports and Requests and terms of the facility manager and ARCDC contract (1 ARCDC Board attorney will serve on this committee)
3. Activity, Creative Space Use and Fundraising Committee - 2 Board Members, COA ACM (EDD)
 - a. Receives and Reviews monthly activity and attendance reports, MYEC
4. Community and Stakeholder Committee
 - a. Submits reports on community concerns and communicates
 - i. *The ARCDC currently has an active MYEC Community Advisory Board*

Finding 3

To ensure adequate oversight:



1. The all community board is currently acting in a way to remedy many of the issues defined in the COA audit. In less than a year, this current board has:
 - a. an agreed upon COA agreement
 - b. consistently held board meetings
 - c. determined working subcommittees
 - d. working hand in hand with the General Manager to learn the current state of the MYEC and provide recommendations on how to improve services and community support
 - e. Received, reviewed and acted on facility Operations financial reports, maintenance analysis and recommendation reports and COA funding history

Finding 4

To ensure the MYEC ADA and maintenance issues are timely addressed, the ARCDC recommends:

Take necessary action to facilitate and finalize equitable funding for the MYEC by the COA:

1. Secure a strong communication with final COA decision makers to ensure equitable funding
2. ARCDC board relationship, under the current plan of action, will be directly with the Mayor and COA City Manager
3. The ARCDC MYEC Operating Budget be moved to a City Manager Office Budget line item

Finding 5

In order to ensure that the MYEC is accessible to the community, the ARCDC recommends:

Take necessary action to facilitate and finalize equitable funding for the MYEC by the COA:

1. and agrees with the audit report that there needs to be an evaluation of the fees. ASM currently does a fee evaluation yearly (the ASM Global annual Entertainment Fee Analysis Report) annually prior to COA Budget submission deadline, and ARCDC needs to work alongside ASM to determine what changes or adjustments are needed and if additional funding is needed to provide equitable access to the community while also allowing the Millennium to be a properly functioning facility financially.
 - We will then present any changes of fees to the City
2. As equitable funding is achieved, the MYEC plans to hire an FTE that will assist in seeking out and cultivating community partnerships in our immediate area and around the city
3. This board will authorize the use of incoming MYEC facility activity revenue to fund additional recreational community use activities

Questions?