

**ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**August 25, 2020**  
**City Hall, Conference Room #6**

**Attendees in Person:** Jennifer Drake, Amy Ferguson, Troy Tymesen, Pricilla Bell, Stephanie Padilla, John Bruning, Mary Lee Ryba

**Attendees via ZOOM:** Teresa Runge, David Groth, Mag Behrman, Ali Shute, Zoey Hart, Derek Kahler, Teresa Runge

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Drake called the meeting to order.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION:** There were none.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were none.

**REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Motion by Commissioner Bruning, seconded by Commissioner Ryba, to approve the July 28, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

**REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Ms. Padilla said that final payment for the Suffragist statue was made, and the donations are still coming in so there is about \$1,400 left over in the account. Her suggestion was to put the extra money received into the maintenance account for future upkeep.

**MOTION by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to move the remaining donated funds into the maintenance account. Motion carried.**

Mr. Tymesen said that within a day after the technician came out and worked on the “Under the Rainbow” arch, the controller went out again. The chip to repair the controller came in yesterday afternoon and the electrician is optimistic that it will be repaired. Mr. Tymesen noted that the lights are in good shape and the repairs have been on the software.

**MOTION:** Motion by Commissioner Shute, seconded by Commissioner Groth, to approve the July, 2020 Financial Report. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS:** Commissioner Shute said that artist studio tours are happening this Sunday and masks are required. It is a self-guided tour, and the map can be obtained online or at the Chamber. They have 18 artists and eight different studios and it is a great opportunity to engage with artists while they are working in their creative environment and learn about their medium.

#### **SUFFRAGIST STATUE DEDICATION DEBRIEF:**

Mr. Tymesen commended Chairman Drake as master of ceremonies for the event and noted that the weather was great and the turnout was spectacular. Chairman Drake commented that it was easily the best turnout she has seen for a dedication. Commissioner Ryba said that she appreciated the statue model being present. Chairman Drake said that the reception from the community has been fantastic and she has heard nothing but good things. Commissioner Groth commented that he thought the historical perspective was great. Commissioner Ryba also commented that it was great that so many community members contributed to the project.

#### **4 CORNERS RFQ UPDATE:**

Commissioner Bruning said that the subcommittee is putting together the selection committee, and it still needs a councilmember and a staff member from the City. Ms. Padilla volunteered to serve as the staff member on the selection committee. Ms. Ferguson updated the commission on the submissions that have been received so far. Commissioner Bell suggested Tyler Sea for the “citizen” spot on the selection committee and noted that he runs the NIC podcast on diversity, is African-American and is very engaged.

#### **PERFORMING ART GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE:**

Ms. Ferguson said that one qualifying application has been received. She also noted that she has been receiving phone calls from interested organizations. The deadline for submissions is August 31<sup>st</sup> and the first meeting of the selection committee is scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **DECISION RE: MAYOR’S WARDS IN THE ARTS EVENT:**

Commissioner Shute said that as of today’s date, only one eligible nomination for the Mayor’s Awards in the Arts has been received. Due to COVID-19 considerations, she recommended that the awards be canceled this year. She commented that there is no reason to spend the money and try to force nominations to come in. She has been in contact with several other organizations that do a similar nomination process, and nobody is getting nominations this year. She suggested that any nominations received this year be automatically considered next year so that the nominator doesn’t have to resubmit the nomination. She also noted that the subcommittee members agree with the cancellation recommendation. Ms. Ferguson said that she spoke to the Mayor and he is in support of whatever decision the commission makes.

Commissioner Groth commented that it has been close to six months with very little arts activity going on in the community, which is a huge factor. Commissioner Shute said that she would not want to do something that is not up to the level of excellence of the last few years.

**MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Ryba, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to cancel this year’s Mayor’s Awards in the Arts event and bring it back again in 2021. Motion carried.**

Commissioner Bell asked about the “lifetime award.” Commissioner Shute said that it has been given once and something that they would only do for someone very special. She noted that Steve Gibbs was the recipient and she doesn’t know what another appropriate situation would be. Chairman Drake suggested a discussion about a lifetime award next year.

**UPDATE ON “INSPIRED” PUBLIC ART SCULPTURE:**

Mr. Tymesen said that he has unable to speak with the artist since the last meeting.

**SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Utility Box Beautification:

Ms. Ferguson said that all of the artwork has been sent to CartWraps and is in production. She does not have a timeline for completion of the boxes but will keep the commission updated.

ArtCurrents:

Ms. Ferguson noted that all of the artists have agreed to a one-year extension and she will be sending out the extension agreements around the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.

Ped/Bike Brochure:

Commissioner Moss was unable to attend the meeting, but provided a written update:

“[T]he Art in Motion brochure is being worked on and we hope to do the new design with updates in November, with a goal of having the brochure ready in January of 2021.”

Storm Drain Art:

Commissioner Groth said that he is starting to get in touch with teachers to see if they are willing to do the project right now in light of COVID restrictions.

Budget:

Mr. Tymesen said that the 2020/21 budget will be approved by Council a week from today [September 1].

Private Art in the Public View:

Commissioner Behrman said that she has been taking some pictures with her phone, and asked the commissioners to email her if they see something that she should know about. Ms. Ferguson confirmed that the owner of the artwork would need to give their permission for the artwork to be displayed on the City’s website, and she would also like to post background information about the artwork, including the artist name.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Commissioner Bruning, seconded by Commissioner Ryba, to adjourn. Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Ferguson  
Executive Assistant