



**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION  
AMENDED MEETING AGENDA  
September 12, 2019**

**6:00 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, City Hall**

Attendance: Jane Boswell, Greg Duncan, Katie McDonald, Shane Immelt, Heather Jones, Anna Knackstedt, Aaron Money, Amy Steinbeck, Bill Stilfield, Nathan Wyman, Phil Young

- I. **Approval of Meeting Summary:** August 8, 2019
  
- II. **Current Business**
  - Sculptures-** City Staff
  - Bed Tax-** Anna
  - Public Art Update-** Nathan  
Exhibits, strategy, volunteers for 2020 and beyond
  
- III. **Other Business**
  - Art Partner Reports:
    - Liberty Arts Foundation Greg/Heather/Shane
    - William Jewell Nathan
    - Corbin Theatre Jane
    - Liberty Public Schools Aaron
  
  - New Business:**
    - Commission Contact Info Form/Manual Shane
    - Visiting Artist Welcome Packet Shane
    - Murals Shane
    - LAC Planning Committee Update Shane

**IV. Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: October 10, 2019 at City Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conf. Rm**

The Liberty Arts Commission is the arts advocacy agency for the City of Liberty. We serve as a catalyst – to support, sustain, and strengthen our community by increasing awareness, opportunities, and public involvement in local arts and cultural activities.

## Liberty Arts Commission Meeting Summary

**August 8, 2019**

**Present were Commissioners:** Jane Boswell, Greg Duncan, Shane Immelt, Heather Jones, Anna Knackstedt, Katie McDonald, Amy Steinbeck, Bill Stilfield and Phil Young

**Absent:** Nathan Wyman and Aaron Money

**Guest:** Sara Cooke, Communications Manager, City of Liberty

Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager represented City Staff.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Immelt.

Motion to approve the meeting summary from July 11, 2019 by Commissioner Boswell, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Young. The motion passed 9-0-0.

### **Guest Speaker- Social Media**

Ms. Cooke reminded the group that she talked to the Arts Commission about two years ago regarding a new content management system that Parks and Police have started to use for social media. It helps maintain a consistent voice between various departments of the City. The new system would still allow for a designated Commission member to submit content for posts on social media. It would be sent through the communications division for editing and then posted. There is a calendar that the designee can look at and see if other things are scheduled to be posted. Ms. Cooke shared the reports from Sprout that gives interesting matrix information. It shows top posts, user engagement and numbers reached. It is a way to manage content. Chairman Immelt said he hopes to establish a communications sub-committee that will help with suggesting content for posts. The designated person will submit content scheduled for just the Arts Commission page, not the City's page. For the best user experience, we will want to space posts. Chairman Immelt asked that the matrix data is shared quarterly. Ms. Cook said the system has been most beneficial in the scheduling and the ability to spread the posts out. The consensus of the commission was to move forward with this system for the Arts Commissions social media platforms.

### **Annual Grant – Jazz Performance Aug 23rd**

Ms. Thill reminded the group that the performance will be August 23 at the Liberty Performing Arts Center. Commissioner Stilfield said that the jazz exhibit is up at the community center and it is quite impressive. He reminded the group that if they are going to purchase tickets to the performance online that the Corbin Theatre will benefit if you enter their name when purchasing the tickets. He will send out a link to tickets and Staff asked that a limited number of tickets are available free to Commission members as part of the Annual Grant sponsorship benefits.

Commissioner Duncan asked if some of the marketing materials that don't have the LAC logo on them will be corrected. Staff said she spoke to Greg Carroll and he offered to reprint the posters but he wouldn't get them back from the printer until a few days before the event. Staff asked Mr. Carroll to have the logo on all other marketing materials.

## **Sculptures-**

Staff reported that Tim Adams was unable to come and uninstall the sculpture "The Other Extreme" and he offered to sell it to the City for \$500. The City Manager approved the purchase. The commission was asked to think about ideas for a permanent home outside of the downtown area where it can be placed. Vice Chair McDonald reported that MCPL is in negotiations Leslie Tharp for purchase of "Out of the Woods" (the bears) and they are discussing possibly commissioning a piece from her for another library location in the Liberty area. Staff added that a local resident contacted her for Christopher Thompson's information (creator of Spiral Blooms) and he ended up commissioning a piece for his private collection. Finally, the school district foundation plans to purchase Treble Clef, to be placed near the new performing arts building at the high school. It is currently in storage until fundraising is complete and the building is finished. Commissioner Duncan commented this is fantastic new and the story needs to be told. To have four out of our first six sculptures installed to stay in Liberty and another one or two commissioned, that is a great success story. The Commission suggested that LAC have a booth at Fall Fest to share information about LAC and the new sculptures that are being installed over the next month.

## **Bed Tax-**

Commissioner Knackstedt reported that the budget projections were discussed at the last Tourism Committee meeting. Draft Budget requests are due Aug 14<sup>th</sup> and their next meeting is 9/5.

Ms. Thill said that in preparation of the budget request deadline, she received a bid from Zahner Metals on the City Owned sculptures as well as the Great Americans and had the bid itemized. The commission discussed the language in the ordinance and MOU between the City and the Great Americans and determined that the City should clarify who is responsible to maintain sculptures that are not owned by the City. For budget purposes the group decided that we should request funding just for those that are City owned. The Arts Commission is essentially curating and maintaining the City's public art collection. Commissioner Duncan commented that we don't want to assume that it is the Arts Commissions job to maintain the sculptures unless someone from the City deems LAC as responsible. Commissioner Jones said she is familiar with Zahner and they do have a good reputation. We may want to prioritize what needs to be done. The level of urgency and priorities should be considered. We can add up the ranges of prices and budget that amount. Commissioner Boswell asked if we could have volunteers do the cleaning of the sculptures. Staff said Chairman Immelt has been trying to schedule a cleaning of the China Slaughter Sculpture and has not received much commitment from volunteers. Commissioner Jones added up the estimates for the City owned pieces and suggested that our budget request should be "not to exceed \$7825." The group agreed. It is important to use the descriptor 'City Owned Public Art' in our budget request. Commissioner Duncan commented that we need to contain our request to the things we know we are accountable for.

Staff asked about the number of sculptures we should request in the budget for 2020. Commissioner Jones said as she recalls it was the vision of the community at large, city staff and the Mayor that we would install 6,9 then 12 sculptures consecutively. It was the consensus of the group to request funding to install twelve sculptures in 2020. Commissioner Knackstedt said we

might have issues asking for additional funds if we don't use all of our grant funds. Staff said there is only one mini grant that is unused. Staff will let her know what grants have been committed.

### **Public Art Update-**

Exhibits- Staff reported that she is booking into 2020. All is coming along well.

### **Other Business**

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation - They will be having a wax party of China Slaughter on the 24<sup>th</sup> if anyone is interested in volunteering please contact Commissioner Immelt.

William Jewell – Staff reported that Sue Ferguson will be installing her weaving exhibit at the beginning of September.

Corbin Theatre – Commissioner Boswell reported that Sordid Lives is the next event; Aug 16&17 and 23 & 24. On Sept 14<sup>th</sup> they will host Liberty Divas, featuring four women from Liberty. Commissioner Stilfield commented that the theatre has changed and it is worth the price of the ticket.

Liberty Public Schools- No Report

Commissioner Duncan commented that Johnnies Jazz Club at B&B might be considered as a new art partner. It is a trendy thing in Liberty that is drawing in a lot of people for the music and trivia nights. Commissioner Stilfield said that Awe Struck out of OP does the bookings. They typically book duos during the week and trios on the weekends for four hours. They now have Sunday brunch with music. Their trivia nights are well attended.

### **New Business:**

Commission Contact Info Form/Manual - Chairman Immelt reported that he is working a Commission Members manual with Commissioner McDonald and Staff. Commissioner Jones asked if we used the previous manual in developing this new one, Immelt confirmed they did. McDonald suggested an events calendar with this and maybe we could put a plan to the budget line item.

Visiting Artist Welcome Packet – Chairman Immelt suggested that we have a PDF or info on recommendations on where visiting artists can stay in Liberty, suggest camp grounds, places for hardware and maybe a discount or coupons that we can send in advance of them arriving to install. Maybe HDLI could assist. Commissioner Knackstedt suggested the local hotels in Liberty should be promoted.

Commissioner Jones suggested we should keep an archive from a historical perspective of all Arts Commission activities.

Murals - Chairman Immelt said he is still working on getting in contact with the Rail Road to see if a mural is possible at the Missouri Street RR bridge. Commissioner Jones said that Pontiac Ill. has amazing murals. Staff said there

have been some internal discussions about possible murals along the Kansas Street corridor on the new retaining wall.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Steinbeck, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Young. The meeting adjourned at approx. 8:00 pm.

Next Meeting: September 12, 2019 at City Hall.