



**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**August 12, 2021**  
**11:30 a.m. via Zoom**

Attendance via Zoom: Garrette Brown, Greg Duncan, Shane Immelt, Heather Jones, Katie McDonald, Anna Knackstedt, Bill Stilfield, Nathan Wyman

Absent: Aaron Money, Amy Steinbeck

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Chairman Immelt.

**Approval of the June 10, 2021 Meeting Summary:** Commissioner Stilfield made a motion to approve the June 2021 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wyman. The motion passed 8-0-0. (The July 8, 2021 meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.)

**Current Business:**

**Donation of *Feral Giraffe* sculptures to the City**

- Staff reported that John Canuteson and his wife have commissioned Joe Sackett to create three *Feral Giraffes* and plan to donate them to the City in honor of their son who passed away. They would like the sculptures to be placed in Ruth Moore Park. A concept design was presented to the Commission. This design and proposed location was recently approved by the Park Board.
- Commissioner Wyman asked about the location in Ruth Moore Park. He asked if locating it closer to a corner of the park might be considered.
- The site selection is referenced in section four of the Art Policy. Councilman Duncan said that is part of the decision making process.
- Commissioner Wyman said that one of the only places for play might be obstructed with the placement in the proposed north end of the park. If the Commission has concern about the location we should express that. Commissioner Wyman said he thinks it is appropriate.
- Commissioner Jones asked where it is in relation to the dog park and if the Park board should consider locating it in an area where it doesn't encourage kids to play on it.
- Chairman Immelt said he wonders if it wasn't intended to be a play structure.
- Councilman Duncan said we should share the Commission's concerns of potential damage to the art work by kids climbing on it or the possibility of someone being hurt by what appears to be nubs of steel in the design of the sculptures, near the belly of the giraffes.
- Councilman Duncan said he isn't sure how much of the proposed area is a play area, adding that it doesn't seem to be an active area of the park.

- Commissioner Brown said he goes to the park quite often and it is proposed for an area where kids don't generally play.
- Councilman Duncan commented that no matter how far it is from the play equipment maybe there should be signage to say stay off the artwork.
- Commissioner Stilfield said there is concern no matter where it is located in that park. Ideally any concerns should be resolved before it goes to the City Council.
- Chairman Immelt said the donation via the Foundation is not finalized. Councilman Duncan said for the Arts Commission, this doesn't matter.
- There are some concerns about the location and safety. Commissioner McDonald said we should also consider expense of maintenance.
- Staff said at an internal meeting this week, City Staff discussed how maintenance responsibilities and expenses would be handled. It was discussed that any sculptures acquired with the Transient Guest Tax funds would be maintained with those funds. Any others, such as donated sculptures, would be maintained with the General Fund.
- Councilman Duncan asked that the Park board to respond to the two concerns related to kids getting hurt: sharp edges on the sculpture as seen in the photo provided and the possibility of children climbing on the art work, resulting in the sculptures getting damaged from kids interacting on it, especially with the proposed location - both City liabilities.

Commissioner Jones made a motion that the City accepts the pieces with the location to be determined. The motion was seconded by Councilman Duncan. The motion passed 8-0-0.

#### **Installation of new Rotating Sculptures**

Ms. Thill reported that she has been in contact with all of the selected artists for the Rotating Sculpture Program and is scheduling all installations and de-installations for the first few weeks of September.

#### **Chalk Art Event with HDLI, July 24**

Commissioner Wyman said the turnout at the event was low because it was so hot that morning. He thought HDLI might do it again during a cooler time of the year.

#### **Make Music Day Summary**

Commissioner Stilfield reported that there were 47 individual performances, with 40 performers and 10 venues. He commented that he felt that was good compared to the previous year.

#### **Art Partner Reports:**

Liberty Arts Foundation - Commissioner Jones said that they are working on the agreement and the changes regarding the copyrights issue, specifically that the City would retain all of the rights. They will continue to reach out to the artist, Jaci Willis, and work toward the purchase of *Tangerine Daydream*.

Library - No Report

William Jewell -

- Commissioner Wyman reported that the department of Performing Arts has a September 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> performance - they are doing a staged reading of *The Only Plane in the Sky*. That is the

only thing planned for September currently. The opera, *Elizabeth Cree*, a Jack the Ripper type of story will be on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- Also, Rachel Mindrup has 37 paintings, at the Stocksdale Gallery, of patients that have NF. The exhibit will be there through 8am-6pm M-F or on the weekends by appointment.
- September 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a reception at William Jewell.

#### Corbin Theatre -

- Commissioner Stilfield reported that they continue to make improvements at the Theatre.
- They can now seat over 100 people and they have new lighting.
- They are booking through the end of the year. A play, *The Nerd*, will be on September 16<sup>th</sup>.
- They are doing auditions for upcoming performances.
- There are several musical events coming up, most of which are local performers. On September 25<sup>th</sup> they are having David Brandon and his quintet. He has performed with some great musicians.

Liberty Public Schools - No Report

#### Other Business:

##### **Filling the vacant seat on the Arts Commission**

- Ms. Thill reminded the group that there is a vacant seat on the Commission and if they know if anyone that would be interested they should fill out an interest form on the city's website.
- Commissioner Jones asked if the Commission has brainstormed areas of interest or specialty that would be complementary to the Arts Commission.
- Chairman Immelt and Councilman Duncan said they don't think they have discussed that.
- Councilman Duncan has someone in mind that is an opera singer and is in her late 20's adding to the diversity on the Commission. He will follow up with her.

##### **Fall Festival Booth**

- Ms. Thill said she will work the Arts Commission booth on Friday afternoon but we will need volunteers for Saturday.
- Commissioners Stilfield and Wyman said they will help. Heather said if she is in town she can help.

##### **Aramjoo Request for Mural**

- Ms. Thill reported that Paymon Aramjoo, a downtown business and building owner, contacted her about putting a mural on a retaining wall near his building on West Kansas Street, asking if he needs permission from anyone at the city for the artwork.
- Staff said as long as it doesn't meet the definition of a sign then the city wouldn't regulate it.
- Commissioner Jones said ownership and other city ordinances would need to be complied with.
- Staff will follow up. As long as he complies with ordinances we probably don't have any jurisdiction nor should we make a public comment.
- Ms. Thill said Mr. Aramjoo welcomed someone from the Arts Commission to work with him on the design, if anyone was interested. It was clarified that they would be volunteering as a citizen of Liberty, not as a Commission member. Commissioner Brown volunteered and said he will work with Mr. Aramjoo.

### **November 2021**

- Ms. Thill said the second Thursday of November is Veterans' Day so we need to reschedule our monthly meeting and asked for availability of the Commission members.
- Commissioner Wyman said he is not available on that Wednesday or Friday at 11:30 a.m. Thursdays work well. Either the first or third Thursday of November, the 4<sup>th</sup> or the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> evening only works for some.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Stilfield. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wyman. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.