



**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
February 11, 2021
11:30 am**

Zoom Video Conference or at City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room

Attendance via Zoom: Garrette Brown, Greg Duncan, Shane Immelt, Katie McDonald, Anna Knackstedt, Heather Jones, Amy Steinbeck, Nathan Wyman, Phil Young
Absent: Aaron Money, Bill Stilfield

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill and Mike Peterman as moderator.

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 am by Chairman Immelt.

Commissioner Wyman said there is a page missing from the meeting summary in the packet. Ms. Thill sent out the meeting summary to the Commission.

Commissioner Wyman made a motion to approve the January 2021 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Young. The motion passed 9-1-0. Councilman Duncan abstained because he was absent.

Transient Guest Tax Budget- Commissioner Knackstedt said they have not had a meeting.

Sculpture Program- Ms. Thill reported that she has not received an update from Christopher Knight on the status of replacing his damaged sculpture, Rusted Spire. She will follow up. Ms. Thill said that typically the Commission typically decides which sculpture to purchase in the Spring time of each year. In anticipation of that discussion in the coming months, staff asked Otocast to create a link for "People's Choice" voting.

Commissioner Jones asked if the purchase price for NeitherNorEitherOr could be under \$10,000 the budgeted amount for a purchase piece. Ms. Thill will reach out to the artist to ask. Chairman Immelt also asked that we clarify if the pedestal is included.

Councilman Duncan said he would like us to be very clear in our messaging to the public when asking for them to vote for the People's Choice sculpture suggesting that we state "Help the arts commission make their decision" and make it clear that many factors are considered by the Arts Commission. Make it clear that the LAC has the final decision on the piece to purchase. Also include in the messaging that sculptures are available to be purchased by the public.

Chairman Immelt sent everyone the Otocast people's choice link. The commission asked that all the photos show each sculpture at their locations in Liberty and to also include a description of where people can see the sculpture.

Commissioner Wyman asked about the budget and if we didn't spend all of the funds could we use it for other things. Ms. Thill said it is her understanding that the Commission has the flexibility to move funds among the arts line items, within reason. Councilman Duncan added that in the past that we may have used some remaining funds on lighting.

Commissioner Jones asked if we purchased a sculpture for less than \$10,000 then could we use those remaining funds for an additional temporary piece. Councilman Duncan said he doesn't think that would be a problem.

Vice Chair McDonald said we have talked about signage and maybe some remaining funds could be used for that. Commissioner Jones reminded the Commission that we negotiated down the fee from Otocast due to budget cuts, we could pay them the amount they originally quoted to preserve that relationship. Commissioner Knackstedt said that maintenance and cleaning of the sculptures might be a good way to spend any remaining the funds. Commissioner Jones said the China Slaughter needs some maintenance. Chairman Immelt said that he is working on coordinating repairs (representing the Arts Foundation) and that the work that needs to be done on the base cannot be done until it is 75 degrees out or warmer. This is something that Parks is responsible for.

Councilmember Duncan said that there have been the questions about maintenance in three areas

1. Artwork that the Arts Commission bought
2. Artwork that the City purchased
3. Artwork on City property that the City didn't purchase

The larger conversation is who is responsible for maintaining and that answer is unclear. China Slaughter has not had involvement from the Arts Commission.

The Commission discussed which sculptures are most desirable as a purchase piece.

Councilman Duncan said the two that he thinks would add the most to our Permanent Collection are Growing Wings and Tangerine Daydream. The latter is his first choice, which is a great piece for the asking price of \$8,000.

Chairman Immelt said his first choice is Oak Leaf Arch and second choice is Growing Wings.

Commissioner Jones said Tangerine Daydream is her first choice, second is Rusted Spire then Growing Wings

Commissioner Wyman said Oak Leaf Arch would be great as an entrance to a park. Tangerine Daydream would be his second choice then Rusted Spire.

Commissioner Steinbeck likes Tangerine Daydream, Out of the Woods and then Growing Wings.

Commissioner Brown's first choice is Rusted Spire, Growing Winds then Oak Leaf Arch.

Vice Chair McDonald's choices were Rusted Spire, Growing Wings and then Out of the Woods.

Commissioner Young said he doesn't have a ranking.

Commissioner Knackstedt said her favorite is Tangerine Daydream, she also likes Rusted Spire and then NeitherNorEitherOr.

Among the Commission Tangerine Daydream received five first choice votes. This will be on the agenda next month for further discussion and staff will have the results of the People Choice voting as that time.

Commissioner Wyman thought that we should put them all out on OtoCast for people to vote on for the "People's Choice" The Commission agreed. They would like all photos to be of the sculptures in their current locations with a description. Staff will make sure that is done.

Councilman Duncan asked if the Library is still considering purchasing Out of the Woods. Vice Chair McDonald said the last she heard they were not fundraising for art. She added that at one time they had the desire to purchase the sculpture but that changed since the pandemic. She thinks that letting it go may be more responsible for them.

2021 Art Grants- Vice Chair McDonald volunteered to chair a sub-committee to review the art grants that are submitted. Chairman Immelt and Commissioner Stilfield also volunteered. Commissioner Wyman said he will help if no one else can.

Vice Chair McDonald said that an application for a mini grant was received but the activity was deemed ineligible because the activity proposed was outside of Liberty's city limits. It was in unincorporated Liberty. The applicant (The Friends of Pharis Farm) wanted to hire an actor and hold an activity east of Liberty on Pharis Farm. Heather asked if they could do it inside Liberty if it is something that we are likely to fund it. After discussion it was determined that it likely would not drive tourism to Liberty, a requirement of the mini-grant which is funded by the Transient Guest Tax.

Commissioner Garrette said they have not had an unveiling event for the new performing arts center at the high school. Commissioner Steinbeck asked about the viability of such an event with the Covid numbers increasing. Garrett said if people cycle through with masks then on things could be done.

Other Business

Art Partner Reports: No Report

Liberty Arts Foundation- No Report

Library- Vice Chair McDonald said they do not have a report.

William Jewell – Commissioner Wyman said Jewell theatre just recoded their Masquerade and they are editing it. No one from off campus can attend but there will be a live streaming or something that can be broadcast later. It is still very difficult to do these things with the pandemic. They are using Stockdale Gallery a dance studio. There will be a new dance studio that will be opening soon.

Corbin Theatre – No Report

Norterre- Commissioner Steinbeck said they hope to open their gallery soon.

Liberty Public Schools- Commissioner Brown said there is a lot of pandemic fatigue at the schools.

New Business-

Shane asked if the Gallery Exhibits are coming along Thill said she is getting more of a response from artists expressing an interest in showing their work in our galleries.

Old Business-

Commissioner Steinbeck said she reached out to those that expressed interest in the Heart Project but she didn't receive a reply from them. She said she can't do it herself. Commissioner Wyman said it's okay to wait to do this project. Councilman Duncan said he would recommend that she reached out and follow up and give them a final opportunity.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Steinbeck to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Young. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:20 p.m.