

LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
May 11, 2023
6:00 p.m. Admin Conference Room

Present: Garrett Brown, Greg Duncan, Molly Hon, Shane Immelt, Brian Kelley, Katie McDonald, Karly Schieder, Bill Stilfield, Nathan Wyman

Absent: Anna Knackstedt

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chairwoman McDonald.

Commissioner Duncan made a motion to approve the April, 2023 meeting summary as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kelley. Stilfield abstained. The motion passed 8-0-1.

Current Business

- Chairwoman McDonald said that a Letter to the Editor raised a concern that our sculptures were not in compliance with the city historic district codes. There is no violation.
- McDonald said in her opinion, she doesn't think that this is something that we as a Commission needs to reply to.
- Commissioner Schieder commented that she agrees to not responding. But this may be an opportunity to get more information out about the Arts Commission, possibly through reels or videos.
- Commissioner Stilfield commented that art is subjective and that any sculptures placed in the City have to have the LAC Commission's approval.
- Commissioner Kelley said he is fine with not responding. But there is so much mis-information these days. He agreed this is an opportunity to educate the public.
- Commissioner Hon agreed that this is an opportunity for the Commission to look at how things are marketed.
- Commissioner Brown said there may be an educational piece in this. We are the experts in this, we want to be able to tell the story of the Commission and our work. It's okay to build into the conversation that some people like the art and some don't.
- Commissioner Wyman said he likes the ideas of the Commission being a part of educational and commentary video.
- Commissioner Immelt asked if our sculptures are in a historic district.

- Staff said that yes, all of the rotating sculptures are in the Liberty Square historic district and added that all incoming new sculptures are presented to the HDRC prior to installation as a courtesy.
- Commissioner Duncan said there is nothing in writing that says “this works and this doesn’t”, but that is the function of this Commission. He added that in the Letter to the Editor, the intent and words of don’t match. There are people that express opinions as facts. He added that he loves the conversation of how we elevate it.
- Commissioner Duncan reminded the group that on the same day as Art on the Side, June 3, there is an art walk tour.
- Commissioner Stilfield commented that maybe Kelley Houx with the local newspaper could do an article on the Arts Commission, with the new logo and telling our story. This is another opportunity to educate people.
- Staff will follow up with Ms. Houx at the newspaper.
- Commissioner Duncan commented that a series of videos would be cool. Have each Commission member talk about what their favorite sculpture is.

Utility Box Artwork

- Commissioner Hon reminded the group that the unveiling will be Wednesday May 17 at 4:30 pm.

New Logo and Branding Update

- Commissioner Brown said that the logo and branding have been finalized. The brand guidelines will be coming soon.

Rotating Sculptures Update

- Purchase Piece Placement locations- Staff asked that between now and the next meeting that people look for walls within the community that might be good for placing C’est La Vie.
- Alternate Sculptures and proposed placements- Staff presented the sculptures that have been confirmed for September 2023 installation.
- The commission directed staff to contact Steve Bundo about the availability “Means of the Builder V” to be placed at Kansas & Prairie, since the “Snowy Owl” withdrew their application.

Marketing /Communications Subcommittee Update

- Commissioner Schieder didn’t have additional information to share with the group.

Make Music Day (MMD) Update

- Commissioner Stilfield reported that as of today the MMD Committee have 15 performers registered, 14 venues. Confirmed performances for 9 and pending performance for 9. Last year we had 53 performances. He is confident that we will have at least 40 performances. We are on the agenda for June 12th.

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation- No Report

Library- Katie said at the Withers Branch – Ron Thiewes is the artist featured.

William Jewell- Commissioner Wyman reported the Liberty Public Schools show on campus comes down tomorrow, then they are closed for the summer.

Corbin Theatre- Commissioner Stilfield reported that tonight is ‘Suite Surrender’ at the Corbin. Grace Fisher will be performing June 9th. June 10th Charlie Grime and Bellamy Brockman. Emily Coleman will be performing later this summer. They got all new lights and they upgraded their electrical, they will be installing a screen soon.

Liberty Public Schools- Commissioner Brown reported that things are wrapping up for the year.

Other Business-

Art on the Side – Please let Staff know if you can fill timeslots. Commissioner Wyman will set up and Commissioner Kelley will take down the LAC Booth.

Commissioner Hon will bring cookies to the next meeting.

Staff will order t-shirts for the commission member with the new logo.

The next LAC meeting- June 8, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Immelt to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wyman.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:06 p.m.