



**LIBERTY ARTS
COMMISSION**

**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
April 11, 2024
6:00 p.m. City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room**

Present: Greg Duncan, Molly Hon, Shane Immelt, Brian Kelley, Anna Knackstedt, Katie McDonald, Karly Schieder, Bill Stilfield

Absent: Garrett Brown, Kelley Wrenn Pozel, Nathan Wyman

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

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

Approval of Meeting Summary- Commissioner Kelley made a motion to approve the March 7, 2024 meeting summary as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hon. The motion passed 7-0-1. Chair McDonald Abstained.

Current Business

Recognition Committee

- Commissioner Kelley reported that he mailed a card to Eileen McCoy who had her artwork at the Community Center and Stephen Wise, Drake Zion, Tessa McMillen who had shows at the Library. He also gave cards to the Parks crew that installs the sculptures and delivered cookies too. The group also will recognize the student artist. The Commission thanked him for all this great work.

Make Music Day

- Commissioner Stilfield said notices were sent out to past performers and venues to encourage them to sign up. Eleven venues and twelve musician registrations are signed up. We are having after hours parties at places that have music at their venues. We may pay a few of the musicians. There will be a hymn sing at Second Baptist Church this year. They are trying to get Johnnie's to be a venue. When someone registers Commissioner Stilfield sends a thank you note.

Film Festival

- Commissioner Schieder reported they are in the process of picking the films. We have three of the four finalized. Our Neo films will be Kiss Kiss Bang Bang and Brick. And the Big Sleep and the final one hasn't been decided. "Reel Liberty" will be the name for this year and future.

Public Art Panel

- Motion made by Commissioner Duncan that the arts commission purchase Champion pending a recommendation from the Public Art Panel. The motion was seconded was by Vic Chair Knackstedt. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Transient Guest Tax Report- No report

Marketing

- Commissioner Schieder and Commissioner Hon reported that they met with Claire about improvements that we'd like to be made to the websites. We hope to add the current sculpture purchase pieces on the website. Also, we discussed correcting some formatting. There are some things that can't change. They will be updating the calendar to add other events, especially those that were awarded grant money to them. Those will be featured on the website. She said it will take a few weeks to make the updates.

Grants

- Commissioner Stilfield wanted to clarify some things about the Corbin grant that was denied by LAC last month. He said that he didn't want to overturn the decision, but wanted to share some things and clarify. The Corbin is 25 years old and is a 501c3 and it depends on grants, sponsors and donations. The reasons that the Commission outlined in the motion for why it was declined was the largest of the events isn't closed to the public. The person who did the application didn't have this correct, it will be open to the public.
- Commissioner Duncan said there were flaws in the application, if they wanted to resubmit the grant application, then that could be voted on.
- Commissioner Stilfield added that Maime Parris is a celebrity on Broadway and well respected this event would allow anyone to come to see her at the Masters Classes. The other reason stated was that the revenue would exceed the amount of the contract. It used to be that the performances were free to the public, and the Commission voted to change that requirement many years ago to state that it must be open to the public. This will be open to the public.
- Commissioner Stilfield said the other thing that was of concern is that if the contract is exceeded by the revenues. Applicants would never know for sure what their ticket sales/revenues might be. If LAC is going to continue that way, they need to make it part of the grant guidelines. There are other expenses such as they need to hire an accompanist. The Corbin is willing to run it at a loss.
- Commissioner Immelt said there should be an estimate of the production for any event in grant applications.
- Vice Chair Knackstedt pointed out that the grant application from the Corbin specifically said they were not open to the public. Also, there was concern that only 12 students that could participate.
- Commissioner Duncan said there are two categories: There was an application with mistakes. No action can be taken by this group at this meeting because we don't have a revised grant application. The mistakes in the application need to be clarified. The second part is if we have an accurate application that is for 24 people (2 events for 12 people) and they are going to pay

weather or not they get a grant. It's not going to benefit the participants because they are paying. Adding that he has a hard time with it because it is such a limited group, who would benefit. We are spending a lot of public money on a very small group.

- Vice Chair Knackstedt said the Tourism Grant review is different, but they consider if a grant would be for to start a new event or give additional funds to make something bigger and better. The but for test – if it passed the but for test then it might be a good use of public money.
- Commissioner Stilfield asked if they resubmit it if it would be supported.
- Commissioner Duncan said he doesn't know if a new application could change the public benefit.
- Commissioner Schieder agreed with Commissioner Duncan but he liked the idea of a concert by Maime that is open to the public.
- Commissioner Immelt said he would need to know specifically where the money is going to be used otherwise it would be just a donation to the Corbin. The question still remains what's the benefit.
- Vice Chair Knackstedt suggested applying for grant that appeals to the larger public.
- Chairwoman McDonald said the public benefit is the part that she had an issue with.
- Commissioner Duncan said the event is cool and she is great, it's a matter that it doesn't meet the terms required to give money.

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation- They have a meeting scheduled for the 16th. They are still working on the reorganization.

Library- No report

William Jewell- Commissioner Wyman submitted the following in writing prior to the meeting:

Jewell Theatre Company

Head Over Heels

Thursday April 11-Saturday April 13 at 7pm, and Sunday April 14 at 2pm

Peters Theater, \$12 General Admission, \$10 Senior Citizens, LHS and LNHS students free with ID

Bel Canto Scenes, Artist Diploma in Voice, Gano Chapel

Sunday April 14 at 7:30pm, FREE

Wind Ensemble Concert

Saturday April 20 at 3:00pm, Gano Chapel, FREE

Senior Theatre Capstone Performances:

Andrew Ivy's original play *Multi-Therapy*

Bethany Holst performance of comedy musical *The Trail to Oregon*

Saturday April 20 at 7pm, Peters Theater, Pay what you wish

Concert Choir and Youth Chorus of Kansas City

Sunday April 21, 3pm Gano Chapel, FREE

Chamber Music Concert

Thursday April 25 at 7pm, Gano Chapel, FREE

Jazz Band Concert

Thursday, May 2 at 7pm, Peters Theater, FREE

Liberty Symphony Orchestra

Broadway Bound

Friday May 3, 7:30pm, 2nd Baptist Church

Spring Cabaret, Artist Diploma in Voice

Friday May 3, 7:30pm, Peters Theater, FREE

Cardinal Voices and KC Civic Orchestra Concert

Beethoven's "Symphony No. 9"

3:30 p.m., Helzberg Hall, Kauffman Center, Tickets TBD

Corbin Theatre- Commissioner Stilfield reported that there will be a talent showcase on April 20th that is free to the public. The second Tuesday of every month is acoustic night, free and Jazz at the Garrison on the first Monday of every month, free. Auditions for Willy Wonka are coming up.

LAC presence in the Community

- Chairwoman McDonald said we can start dipping our toe in working events. Art on the Side is an all-day commitment. Parks & Rec might be willing to share a booth.
- Staff will call them to see if we can cover the hours of 8-5pm. We could consider having a booth at the Disc Golf event, Saturday July 13.
- Vice Chair Knackstedt suggested that if there are old discs that people could decorate. Also Fall Fest might be an event we want to have a booth.
- Commissioner Duncan said doing something that people can interact with at a booth would be good.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kelley.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:18 p.m.