



**LIBERTY ARTS
COMMISSION**

**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
May 9, 2024
6:00 p.m. City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room**

Present: Greg Duncan, Brian Kelley, Katie McDonald, Bill Stilfield, Kelley Wrenn-Pozel

Absent: Garrett Brown, Molly Hon, Shane Immelt, Anna Knackstedt, Karly Schieder

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

Guest: David Gale

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 April, 2024 meeting summary as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wyman. The motion passed 4-0-1. Wrenn-Pozel abstained.

- Chairwoman McDonald shared with the group that Shane Immelt has resigned from the Commission due to family commitments. The group discussed the important contributions that Shane has made to the Arts in Liberty, and that he is one of the original LAC Commissioners, having served around 15 years.
- Commissioner Duncan said Cameron Brenton may be interested in a position on the Commission, he teaches art.
- Commissioner Wyman suggested that we keep in mind diversity on the Commission.
- Commissioner Kelley asked what this group might want to do to recognize Shane, as he is an original member. Perhaps a plaque and something at the City Council level.
- Chairwoman McDonald said that Steven Weis who works at the Library might be interested, he is an artist and has a lot of connections within the arts.
- Ms. Thill will let the Commission know the term left to fill.

Current Business

- David Gale introduced himself to the group, he is the developer of Montage Liberty. They have developed several developments and plan to start the Montage Liberty project in September.
- Commissioner Duncan said that the arts were not in the plan initially but after he suggested it, they are very responsive.
- MontageLiberty.com is the website. It will be a mixed-use project, it's over 1000 acres of commercial, residential etc. There will be 10,000 people living there and there will be public art in the development.

Public Art Panel (PAP)

- Commissioner Duncan reported that The Public Art Panel met and would like to move forward with the purchase of the sculpture "Champion". It received the most votes for the People's Choice sculpture. We are working on a permanent location for the sculpture in the Flintlock roundabout the group feels it should be positioned off center in the roundabout, as you are coming into town and should be on a pedestal.
- The remaining \$4,000 in the purchase piece budget could be for purchasing a Parade of Hearts, however those aren't auctioned off until September.
- For the rotating sculptures, to be installed in the fall, 63 Submissions were received and the PAP scored all of them. The Top 12 were presented to the Commission, with proposed placement locations.
- Commissioner Wyman asked if the stained glass one should be at the Kansas Street entrance.
- Commissioner Duncan said the PAP is recommending that we consider commissioning a piece for the Kansas Street entrance, something that becomes iconic for the city. Not necessarily a theme.
- Claire Rodgers was at the last PAP meeting and was very receptive to the group asking for funding to issue an RFP for a commissioned piece. They discussed asking for \$25,000 from next years' budget to issue the RFP and pay other expenses that might be involved in securing proposals or stipends to the finalists, then request \$75,000 in 2026 for the remaining funds to pay for the commissioned piece. We will split it into a two year ask.
- Claire gave the PAP very good direction on how that ask looks. PAP will draft language for that ask.
- Staff will do research.
- The PAP will meet on June 6 at 6pm to discuss further.

Recognition Committee

- Commissioner Kelley recognized Commissioner Wyman for his work to make the City Hall atrium exhibit happen.
- Commissioner Kelley said he attended the unveiling of the utility wraps and was able to thank those involved. He also reported that Commissioner Schieder will get more signatures on cards to thank artists participating in Art on the Side.

Make Music Day

- Commissioner Stilfield reported that there are 20 performances confirmed and 14 venues. Musicians tend to sign up last minute. Last year we had 94 performances.
- Three Halves will have open mic from 10 am- 8 pm, he will try to get them registered. They are planning an After Hours event this year
- 2nd Baptist Church is doing a hymn sing all local churches are invited, there will be music directors taking turns leading it.
- Corbin Theatre is hoping to have a two-hour performance by Tom's Town at the Corbin and Vine Street Rumble, known for music from the 20s to the 50s. They hope to get Danny Cox as a vocalist who sang at Kansas City and All that Jazz. He's recorded for a lot of labels.
- There are 6 Cities in Missouri that now do Make Music Day.
- Jazz at the Garrison is the first Monday of the month.

Film Festival

- Councilwoman Wrenn-Pozel reported that the name of the film festival will be "Reel Liberty" and each year there will be a different tag line. This year we are doing "Shadows and Secrets. B&B Theatres has been a great partner in this event, the committee will be meeting with them in June to discuss marketing strategies.

The Transient Guest Tax Report

- Chairwoman McDonald reported Anna sent in a report, there will Banners on Mill Street from I 35 on Kansas Street to Jewell. There will be an art and a music banner, also the Open Heart sculpture is featured on one.

Other Business:

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation- Commissioner Duncan reported that the Foundation is looking for additional board members. The foundation board is considering a spot at the Farmers Market to be more visible. Staff will ask HDLI about the idea of having an art market theme in September or October.

Library- The Northland Art League has a great variety of work on exhibit in the community programming room.

William Jewell- Commissioner Wyman reported that tomorrow is the last day of finals. Graduation will be Saturday morning the band and choir will be performing. There will be fundraising Gala on May 17 and tickets are available, the gala will be at 6 pm at St. Mary's Episcopal church.

Commissioner Wyman is trying to pull together a juried fall exhibit at Stocksdale Gallery for the full semester open to alumni. Sherri Whetstone McCall a fiber artist will be participating.

Corbin Theatre- Commissioner Stilfield reported that Jazz at the Garrison and acoustic night at the Garrison both are free and at 6-8 pm in both cases. There won't be any more plays until September. There will be four evenings of performances one being "Twelve Angry Jurors" and then there will be the "Outsiders" will be in November. Maime Parris will be October 4 & 5. They received a \$2,500 grant from the Tourism Committee.

Liberty Public Schools- No report.

Roundtable –

Commissioner Kelley shared that "Open Heart" has the new sign up as well as Plumb Twisted. This is part of the branding efforts and has the LAC logo on the signs. Also, the Orange Easel recently had an event at Belvoir that was very well attended. We may want to consider partnering with them.

Commissioner Duncan reminded the group that there is an art tour at 10am June 1st. Staff thanked him for volunteering to lead that tour.

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:58 p.m.