



**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
May 8, 2025
6:00 p.m. City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room**

Present: Greg Duncan, Molly Hon, Brian Kelley, Anna Knackstedt, Kelley Wrenn Pozel, Karly Schieder, Christian Vetter

Absent: Garrett Brown, Katie McDonald, Bill Stilfield, Nathan Wyman

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Vice Chair Knackstedt.

Approval of Meeting Summary

Commissioner Duncan made a motion to approve the April, 2025 meeting summary as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kelley. The motion passed. 5-0-2. Commissioners Hon and Wrenn-Pozel abstained.

Current Business

Transient Guest Tax (TGT) Budget Update

- The TGT Committee met to finish allocating the grant money.
 - They approved a grant for Conrad's to have local artist to apply and design historic buildings or anything related to Liberty, it will be a series of 5 or 6.

- Consider purchasing a bench for C'est la Vie for \$1800.00
 - Commissioner Duncan said the Parks department does a lot for the Arts Commission they are generally helpful and we ask a lot of them. We needed a bench for C'est la Vie and they loaned one for us for the past few years. They are asking for reimbursement for that bench since we purchased the sculpture and plan to keep it on that bench going forward.

- The recommendation is that we buy the park bench from Parks for \$1,800.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to approve the purchase of the bench, reimbursing Parks for \$1800 then LAC will own it. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vetter. The motion passed 7-0-0.

LAC Branding Update

- Tabled until next month.

Public Art Panel (PAP)

- Commissioner Duncan said the Public Art Panel (PAP) has selected the five finalists for the City Hall Commissioned Sculpture.
 - All of the artists references were checked. The five finalists were thrilled delighted and eager to move forward.
 - They will virtually present their proposals in late June. We will pay them \$1500 each for their concept proposals. From there we will choose the final artist and design.
- Purchase Piece Recommendation & Location
 - The PAP is commending that LAC purchase Twist in Time, a bronze sculpture of a boy on a swing, for \$20,000.
 - The PAP and Staff are recommending that it be permanently be placed in City Park under a tree on a pedestal.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to purchase Twist in Time in the amount \$20,000 to be placed permanently in City Park. The motion was seconded by Brian Kelley. The motion passed 7-0-0.

- Due to the new police station construction, two of the existing rotating sculpture pad sites will be lost.
 - Staff is recommending that in the Fall of 2025 we install 9 or 10 sculptures instead of 12 sculptures. This will free up at least \$4,000 in artist honorariums, which can help pay for the purchase of the bench and the price of the pedestal for Twist in Time.
 - No one had concerns.
- The next round of voting by the PAP will be for the rotating sculptures.

Make Music Day Report

- Commissioner Stilfield submitted the following report:
 - As of May 7, we had 14 Confirmed performances & 2 pending performances and 27 Registered Performers with 21 Registered Venues.
 - They anticipate close to or more than 50 performances by June 21st.

- HDLI, is celebrating 20 Years of preservation and community and will sponsor a block party downtown on Main Street on June 21 from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.
- We will again be having after hours performances with the Heartland Men's Chorus & Quartet performing on the South Steps of the historic Clay County Court House and professional jazz pianist Bram Wijnands playing at the Corbin Theater. Bram is so in demand that he tours the U.S. and the world. Both performances will be from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and both are free to the public.

Recognition Committee

- Commissioner Kelley said that he and Councilwoman Wrenn-Pozel attended the utility wrap ceremony. He gave them a LAC tumbler and a thank you card to each of the artist.
- Nano Nore will have her exhibit at the library until Sunday, we will give her a LAC tumbler as a thank you.

Art on the Side (AOS) Update

- Commissioner Schieder said we need to sign 80 cards signed to include in the artists bags.
- Staff gave them stickers to include in the bags too.
- Staff and volunteers will be at the AOS event all day on June 7 to work the info booth.

Film Fest 2026

- Commissioner Schieder said the Film Fest committee has been meeting and will have the Alien theme movies determined soon.
- The committee has a meeting with B&B Theatres in June to discuss details of the January 2026 Film Fest.

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation

- Commissioner Duncan reported that they are working on their mailing data base to potential donors. They hope to have a mailing out by the end of the month.

Corbin Theatre-

- Commissioner Stilfield submitted the following report:
 - Theatrical performances are done until September but will again run in September & November
 - The Corbin Summer Theater Camp beginner (ages 6 to 12) will be June 16th to 26th with performances from June 27th to the 29th. What I call "New Jazz at the Garrison" will continue to run each month through November.
 - There are 3 professional Kansas City jazz groups (Bram Wijnands, KC Sax Pack,

& the Lynn Zimmerman Quartet) the that rotate the first Monday of each month and, again each performance is free to the public with performances from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

- Lastly, Acoustic Night at the Corbin will continue to run the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 pm - free to the public.

Other Business:

2026 America 250 Celebration Film Festival

- Councilwoman Wrenn-Pozel reported that the America 250 celebration started in Boston in April.
- There are discussions about a possible mini film festival to go along with this theme in the summer or fall of 2026.
- The Mayor wanted to do an Americana Theme. This is still in the discussion phase. It was suggested that maybe they could do one film on a Sunday afternoon or maybe four Sundays in a row.
- Commissioner Duncan said we might want to think about ways to engage or thank Parks employees, a way to engage parks department, so they feel connected to LAC.
- Staff will ask Garrett to think about marketing items.

Partner Galleries

- We might want to look at having Garrison School as a community partner.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm