



**LIBERTY ARTS
COMMISSION**

**LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
September 11, 2025
6:00 p.m. City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room**

Present: Garrett Brown, Greg Duncan, Molly Hon, Brian Kelley, Anna Knackstedt, Kelley Wrenn-Pozel, Katie McDonald, Karly Schieder, Christian Vetter, Nathan Wyman

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairwoman McDonald.

Approval of Meeting Summary Commissioner Duncan made a motion to approve the August, 2025 meeting summary as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed 7-0-3.

Current Business

Resignation and recognition of Bill Stilfield from the LAC.

- Chairwoman McDonald recognized Commissioner Stilfield for 12 years of service on the Liberty Arts Commission, commenting that he had his hands in many projects including Make Music Day and the afterhours.
- The Commission expressed appreciation for all that he has built.
- The Jazz night at the LPAT was a special project that Bill was involved with. He is not just an art advocate but he is an artist that shares his talent. Also, as an art partner, he has championed the Corbin. He was also the chairman of this commission.
- Commissioner Duncan said one of his memories was anytime a guest would be here Bill would always say his name then comment about his relationship to Shane Immelt.
- Commissioner Wrenn Pozel thanked him starting Make Music Day.
- Commissioner Stilfield thanked those that came to his birthday party at Johnnies. He thinks this is the best commission we've had since he has been involved. He enjoyed his time on the Commission.
- Chairwoman McDonald presented him with a thank you award.

TGT Budget update

- Commissioner Brown gave an update on the branding materials that will be ordered.
- Most of the branding efforts are for Fall Festival. The cards are on track and will be printed next week. The t-shirts will also be ready early next week. We will have black shirts so the sculpture icons will stand out. They will be passing out LAC stickers, baseball cards of the permanent sculptures, rotating sculpture brochures, and film fest save the date flyers
- Commissioner Kelley said he has access to a variety of trucks
- Chairwoman McDonald will provide the trailer. They will work out the details.
- Commissioner Vetter said he would like to be on the float. He also has a truck for an emergency back-up.
- On parade day, the group will meet at Heritage School on Kansas.
- Staff will reach out to the Chamber for a summary of rules, logistics.
- Staff will pick up hard candy for them to hand out.

Commissioned Sculpture Update

- Commissioner Duncan reported that his presentation to the City Council was well received, with a unanimous vote of approval to approve the contract for “Stop and Smell the Roses” commissioned sculpture. There were lots of follow up comments and posts on social media, mostly positive. In the next month or so we will receive a refined concept from the artist, Aimee Jacobsen. We are still on track for the installation next summer.
- Commissioner Schieder suggested we do a unique unveiling.
- Commissioner Duncan said that the Mayor offered his space at Franklin & Main to host an arts event.
- Commissioner Wrenn Pozel said that the Mayor said he will share who the great American will be in advance next time.

Film Fest Update

- Commissioner Schieder reported that the meeting with B&B will be next week.
- They will have an America 250 Film Fest meeting next weeks with the Mayor.

Parade of Hearts location suggestions

- Corbin Mill
- Rotary Park

Other Business:

- KC Symphony’s Mobile Music Box will be at Stocksdale Park on Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 6 pm and they will play for one hour.

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation

- They are meeting on Tuesday.

Library

- Chairwoman McDonald reported that Godfrey Doro exhibit of his world travels is at the Withers Branch. He is a photographer with amazing photos and artifacts.

William Jewell

- Commissioner Wyman reported they did cast their fall play “Two Rooms” that will be in November.
- They had convocation last week.
- Next Friday 5-7:30 is an opening of the Steinkamp’s family art collection. It will be there until the end of the year. Bob is a former Mayor and is chair of the LAF.

Corbin Theatre

- Commissioner Stilfield reported that “Drinking Habits #2” will be at the Corbin. Oct 6-8 pm they will have Jazz at the Garrison.
- KC Sax Pack from 6-8 pm. These are some of the best players in Kansas City. No charge.
- On November 11 Liberty Ukuladies will play for acoustic Tuesday. No charge.

Liberty Public Schools

- Commissioner Brown reported that Phantom of the Opera is at Liberty High Nov 20-22nd the other show is Mean Girls the musical Nov 20-22nd.

Misc Matters of the Commission

- Commissioner Vetter said that he is glad to see that the Garrison Art Gallery is being considered as a gallery that the City might include as a partner gallery
- It was suggested that staff look for the MOU with William Jewell Gallery.
- Commissioner Duncan suggested that Garrison provide us with more details and the hours that the gallery would be open. Consideration of the gallery hours, public access, and rotating exhibits are important. Ideally, someone on this Commission would a connection to the gallery.
- Commissioner Kelley offered to send thank you notes to the rotating sculpture artists that were here for the past year. Staff will send him their mailing addresses.
- Commissioner Kelley reported that the cell tower that looked like a giant pencil had to come down. Staff confirmed that the owner of the tower applied for a demolition permit and it was approved.
- Commissioner Vetter said they are making another Hallmark movie in the KC area. It is great for our state and we have a great backdrop. He asked if we could market our community as a film location. Staff suggested he do some research on what that might entail.
- Commissioner Duncan said he thinks that is a City thing and with incentives. We could be supportive of it but staff would have to figure out how that might look. Staff might have to talk to Tourism if it is a priority.

A motion was made by Commissioner Knackstedt to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wrenn Pozel.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:22 p.m.