

City of Lawrence
Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission (LCAC)
Monthly Meeting, February 11, 2015
City Commission Room, City Hall, 6 E. 6th Street

Members present: Chair: Katherine Simmons, John Hachmeister, Patrick Kelly, Jerry Johnson, Mike Maude, Kathy Porsch, Sean Reardon

Members absent: Christie Dobson, Michel Loomis, Richard Renner

Also present: Diane Stoddard, City Liaison; and muralists Nicholas Ward, Amber Hansen, and K. T. Walsh.

MINUTES

Chair Katherine Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Lawrence City Council Chambers at Lawrence City Hall, 6 E. 6th Street.

Action Items:

- The January 18, 2015 minutes were accepted as submitted.
- Katherine Simmons made the following motion, which was seconded by Mike Maude and approved unanimously by the LCAC members present:

The Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission recommends that the Lawrence City Commission adopt revisions intended to bring RESOLUTION NO. 6773, which establishes LCAC membership, into alignment with current practice (see attached draft).

- Patrick Kelly made the following motion, which was seconded by Kathy Porsch and approved unanimously by the LCAC members present:

The Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission recommends that the City of Lawrence provide financial support for the 2015 Busker Festival.

- Kathy Porsch made the following motion, which was seconded by Mike Maude and approved unanimously by the LCAC members present:

The Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission recommends that the Lawrence City Commission appoint Katherine Simmons, Chair of the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission, to serve as a member of the Ninth St. Corridor ArtPlace Project Citizen Advisory Committee.

New Business:

1. Busker Festival Request. Diane reported that Richard Renner, Busker Festival director, had submitted a request for the LCAC to endorse his request to the City Commission for \$10,000 to support and enhance the Busker Festival, similar to the request that the Lawrence Arts Center made for its Free State Festival. Mike asked what specifically the infusion of funds would accomplish. Patrick said it is hard to evaluate these types of requests since we don't have a process to do so. Katherine said it is a very similar request to those the LCAC has been supportive of this in the past. John asked if it would be possible to approve the request contingent on the city receiving a more detailed report on what the infusion of funds will do for the festival. Jerry agreed and said the LCAC should then work with the new City Arts and Culture Director to develop a standard process to handle such requests in the future.

Diane said there already is a standard process -- the budget process. Patrick said the point he was trying to make is that LCAC keeps receiving requests like this outside of the budget process. Mike said he was completely supportive of the request and that his question was aimed at strengthening the request rather than challenging it. Katherine suggested that the LCAC treat this request in the same way that it did the Lawrence Arts Center's similar request. Patrick then made a motion to recommend approval of the request for Busker Festival financial support. Kathy seconded, and the members present voted in favor of the motion.

2. Appoint LCAC member to serve on the Ninth St. Corridor ArtPlace Project Citizen Advisory Committee. Katherine called for volunteers to serve on the committee. Mike asked about the duration of the committee and the time commitment. Diane said it was anticipated that the group will meet the last Wednesday of the month starting in the late afternoon or evening from March through October and the City is asking for a commitment to attend 75% of meetings. Jerry asked if there would be a period of more intense activity and, if so, when. There may be other associated meetings, with the bulk of additional meetings being in April and a calendar will soon be published with all the meetings on it, Diane said. After further discussion of the time commitment, and indications by the members present that they would find attendance difficult through the spring and summer, Katherine Simmons said she is the LCAC representative on the Culture Plan Committee, which is anticipated to be highly active during the same timeframe, and asked Diane if any of the meetings would conflict. Diane said they should not and Katherine said she would serve, noting that although the meeting schedule would be rigorous there could be some advantages in having the same LCAC member serving on both committees. K. T. Walsh said there was great appreciation for Katherine's commitment, but warned there may be some concern over an LCAC member who also is a city employee serving on these committees. Katherine said she is always very clear that she is participating as the Chair of the LCAC and not as a city employee, and will continue to emphasize this. Subsequently, Kathy made a motion to appoint Katherine Simmons as the LCAC's representative on the Committee, Mike Maude seconded and the members presented voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

1. Revision of RESOLUTION NO. 6773, which establishes LCAC membership. Katherine asked if everyone had a chance to read the second draft revision of the resolution and when indications were yes, asked if anyone had any further suggestions for revisions. When no one did, she made a motion that the Lawrence City Commission adopt revisions intended to bring RESOLUTION NO. 6773 into alignment with current practice. Mike Maude seconded the motion and the members present approved it unanimously.
2. Percent for Art. Katherine reported that she and Kathy attended City Commissioner Jeremy Farmer's Listening Session at the North Lawrence Train Depot immediately prior to the LCAC meeting and made an argument that Percent for Art should be an up-front consideration in all capital improvement projects rather than the afterthought it seems to have become. In 2014 the LCAC revised Resolution No. 7070, which establishes the Percent for Art program, to streamline and clarify the process. Nevertheless, projects such as the west Lawrence sports pavilion, which fell outside the City's regular budgetary process, and the wastewater treatment plant, which was approved before the current fiscal year and thus was not captured in the list of projects Diane provided in September 2014 as Percent for Art eligible. The new Percent for Art process begins with that report, which the LCAC will use as the basis for its Percent for Art request for Fiscal Year 2016. However, this leaves a gap between the old process where, the LCAC had to try to insert Percent for Art after projects were already put up for bid, as in the case of the Library renovations, and the new process, which is designed to alleviate that late notice problem. In the case of the wastewater treatment plant, for example, the LCAC has asked Diane to place a request before the City Commission to include Percent for Art at the bid stage so there are no surprises for contractors. Katherine

said she felt strongly that each new City Commission would need to be educated about Percent for Art and other issues related to arts and culture in Lawrence, which is why she favors an annual listening session with them focused specifically on arts and culture.

K. T. Walsh said she has gone to the Public Art Network and seen that one of the things other cities do is to require Percent for Art on all City infrastructure. Every time a contractor or developer contacts these cities about a possible project, they are given a link and information on how the Percent for Art process works on the front end, she said.

Katherine responded that this is exactly what the LCAC is trying to achieve, to place Percent for Art on the front end rather than as an afterthought. We have reconstructed how it works to make it easier for the LCAC to know what capital projects are coming along, but we still must be proactive in keeping it in front of the City staff and City Commission, she said. It would be helpful if LCAC members attended the City Commission Meeting when the commissioners consider the request to include Percent for Art, she added. Diane said she had prepared the memo, and the request may be considered as early as Tuesday, Feb. 17.

3. Listening Session with City Commissioners. Katherine reported that she asked Mayor Mike Amyx to consider the idea of the LCAC holding a listening session with the LCAC and also mentioned the idea to Jeremy Farmer at the listening session. John said he thought it was a great idea and asked Diane if it is very common. Diane said it is perfectly appropriate to request such a session, but listening sessions of this sort are not often held, they tend to be more project related and budget focused. Katherine said the City Commissioners have a lot of arts and culture-related items coming before them right now and a listening session would provide two-way communication where the LCAC could gain a feel for what their thinking is and communicate to them what we're thinking about these things. Sometimes City Commissioners may not have a background in art or cultural planning and may welcome input from someone with a cultural, arts, or planning background, She added. Mike asked how this would fit into development of an arts and culture plan. Katherine said it fits closely and noted that one of the key points is that the consultants hired to manage the culture plan development should involve the entire community, including advisory boards such as the LCAC. Ideally, the City's Arts and Culture Director will be the champion for all these things, she said. When in place, that individual can provide a springboard, but the LCAC has a diverse membership that represents the entire community and can help bring diverse viewpoints to the discussion.

3. Mural Review Criteria. Katherine said there was some confusion about what the LCAC is trying to accomplish in seeking to revise the existing mural review criteria document. We are not at this time changing any resolutions or ordinances, she said, but looking at the document we have and trying to reconcile it with the language in the signs ordinance and better define ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the artwork. Tonight we're looking at the revisions.

Patrick asked if the City's Legal had looked at the language and, if so, whether there is enough in there to define lifetime of a work and ownership. Diane said City Legal has not looked at it. She asked if there has to be a signed agreement. Katherine said yes, the intent is to define ownership and responsibility at the beginning. Diane said requiring a signed agreement is a step beyond what the City has required in the past and legal will have to look at it. Katherine noted that the sign ordinance does have a signature line and asked if following that example would be okay. Diane said a business or artist may not have an agreement template to use for this sort of thing, which may make the application process more burdensome. Mike said he thinks it is important to force the discussion between the artist and the property owner. In the world of commercial art that is just taken for granted, he said. These murals tend to be more community-oriented projects and so those discussions never enter anyone's mind--and then something happens in the future and everyone is unhappy. Diane suggested having something on the sign application specifically related to murals, an additional attachment that is set up to require both the artist and the property owner

to sign. Kathy passed around documents provided by Dave Lowenstein showing the murals ordinance and agreement forms from LA as examples of how this could be set up to be a fairly simple process with check boxes and signature lines already in place. She suggested that Lawrence could adopt something similar, based on what other cities are doing rather than recreating the wheel. Nicolas Ward indicated that the City of Chicago has processes for ownership and maintenance for public art that might be worth considering as well.

K. T. Walsh said there is a lot that a subcommittee of commissioners and some of the 12 professional exterior muralists in Lawrence could accomplish if the LCAC would slow down the process and hold some study sessions. Kathy said there is no reason to proceed quickly. Katherine agreed and asked if they have received the mural resolution when going to the sign code office to apply in the past. K. T. said no.

Katherine said the LCAC had dealt with lack of information from artists on what is required to properly maintain City-owned artworks and now has put in place processes to collect this type of information at the point where the City purchases permanent artworks. Collecting it long after the fact has proven somewhat difficult. This is one of the reasons for trying to build into the mural review clear agreement on ownership and maintenance expectations, and information necessary to maintenance or restoration, such as type of paint and color numbers.

Jerry asked if Chicago addresses situations where old murals are needing to be updated or are on buildings that are going to be torn down. Nicholas said the City revisits the mural question in a contemporary context and determined if it is something that should be preserved or if something new would be more currently relevant. Mike asked What Chicago does when vandalism happens. Nicolas said it happens rarely. Amber Hansen said when it does happen communities have tended to come together to deal with it. K. T. added that muralists use a very costly clear coating that allows graffiti to be scrubbed off to finish their murals and often try to incorporate graffiti artists into the mural process so they feel ownership and respect for the art.

Kathy and Jerry Johnson said they would like to work with a study group of Lawrence muralists to develop a draft document aimed at addressing both the City's and the artists' concerns. Kathy asked Amber, Nicholas, and K. T. if they would be willing to participate. All three agreed. Given travel and work schedules, the five agreed to schedule their first meeting for the third week in March.

K. T. Walsh asked if anyone knows if Doug Compton signed the agreement with the Spencer Museum of Art to preserve the Pollinators mural. Diane said she did not know and members of the LCAC had no relevant information.

Committee and Liaison Reports:

Nominating Committee: Chair, Christi Dobson and member Michel Loomis were absent. Katherine proceeded to go through the committees to confirm membership or shifts in membership for 2015. Kathy noted that the committees were limited to four due to the Open Meetings Act. Diane said the Open Meeting rules have changed. Where previously sub committees had to be less than a majority of the quorum, now they are limited to being less than the quorum for the entire body. Since the LCAC requires six for a quorum, committees can have as many as five members. The new committee membership list is attached.

Lawrence Community Arts Grants Committee: Chair Kathy Porsch noted that the deadline is March 23, 2015 and briefly outlined how the process will work when the LCAC reviews the applications at its April 8th meeting. She asked Mike Maude if he would agree to fill the place vacated by Lois Greene on the

Grants Committee. He agreed to do so. Patrick volunteered to take over as Chair during Kathy's final year on the committee and she agreed to step down.

City Owned Art Maintenance Committee: Chair Katherine Simmons said development of the database for City-owned artworks, *Collective Access*, is still on the agenda, but is again postponed until the new Arts and Culture Director is hired. She indicated that the committee needs to do another complete tour of the art to update our inventory, preferably with the new Director of Arts and Culture.

In regards to the recommendation for repairs to "Synchronicity," two tile mosaic benches completed in 1997 at the East Lawrence Recreation Center, 1245 East 15th, that have suffered vandalism, Diane said action on the proposal for restoration that the LCAC recommended in November is on hold until City staff can meet with artist Dave Lowenstein about the changes he proposed. She said they want to ensure that, from a maintenance standpoint, the proposed restoration will last longer term.

In regards to the "Emergence" piece the LCAC recommended be removed more than a year ago, based on hazard and irreparability, Diane said the City Commission has approved removal, but a former LCAC member had suggested that the pieces of limestone might be carved into smaller pieces if someone was interested in receiving the broken sculpture. The City has not removed it because staff members are unsure whether to store the pieces in case someone could make use of them at some point. Patrick said he thought the City storing irreparably vandalized artworks on the chance that someone might make use of them was not a viable long-term solution. After further discussion, it was a consensus of the members present that City staff should move forward with removing and disposing of the remaining pieces of limestone.

Outdoor Sculpture Committee: Chair John Hachmeister and member Katherine indicated that the selection process is moving forward and a meeting with the juror will shortly be scheduled. Sean Reardon volunteered to serve on the committee.

Percent for Art Committee: Patrick Kelly agreed to continue serving as chair. Members are John Hachmeister, Katherine Simmons, and Jerry Johnson.

Phoenix Awards Committee: Chair Michel Loomis and member Richard Renner were absent. Member Jerry Johnson had nothing to report. Katherine indicated that she would remind Michel to follow up with former Chair Mandy Enfield about standard operating procedures.

Lawrence Arts Roundtable Liaison: Kathy reported that the speaker at the January 14th meeting was Peter Jasso, Director of the Kansas Creative Arts Industry Commission. He discussed the role that KCAIC seeks to play in supporting the role arts play in the community and in economic development and outlined agency's the grant programs. He indicated that KCAIC is working with the Kansas Alliance for Arts in Education to pilot an A+ arts integration framework in two Kansas schools <http://www.nationalaplussschools.org> . KCAIC also plans to expand the Kansas Artists Roster. At the Feb. 11th meeting, Sarah Bishop, Lawrence Arts Center Director of Grants and Special Projects, shared information on the Free State Festival and encouraged people to visit the website <http://lawrenceartscenter.org/free-state-festival/> to apply to any of the competitions for various types of performances, presentations, and art activities and stay up to date as events and opportunities to participate are added.

Lawrence Arts Center Liaison: Katherine Simmons reported that she met with Susan Tate to discuss the LCAC's initiatives and the Arts Center's current initiatives.

Commissioner Items:

1. Patrick reported on the plan that, he said, will not be called "Horizon 2020." He said arts and culture are now part of the discussion and the committee is trying to get its head around what arts and culture mean to land use. They will ask for the LCAC to write a paragraph on arts and culture to incorporate into the plan. Katherine said she would be glad to attend the meetings where this will be discussed or to be in close contact with Patrick since she is on the Cultural Plan Committee. Patrick said his expectation is that, as they work through the Ninth St. Project, much will be learned about how arts and culture interrelate. He said there is no need for another LCAC member to attend the Planning Commission meetings, and he will report to the LCAC on relevant activities, developments, or requests.

Liaison Items:

1 Update on search for Director of Arts and Culture. Diane said the committee is reviewing applications and there is a meeting scheduled on Feb. 18. John asked when an announcement can be expected. Diane said she was unsure because how much time the process takes will vary according to where the three or four interview candidates are coming from, and there are a lot of applications to consider. She said the committee will make three to four recommendations and then interviews need to be scheduled, then it will depend on the individual selected, where she or he is coming from, and what notice they have to give at their current job, and so on.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

**Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission
2015 Standard and Ad-Hoc Committees***

Executive Committee

Katherine Simmons, Chair (ksimmons@lawrenceks.org)
John Hachmeister, Vice Chair (hachmeister@ku.edu)
Kathy Porsch, Secretary (kporsch@sunflower.com)

Nominating Committee

Christie Dobson, Chair (christiedobson@hotmail.com)
Michel Loomis (loomis@sunflower.com)

Outdoor Sculpture Committee

John Hachmeister, Chair (hachmeister@ku.edu)
Katherine Simmons (ksimmons@lawrenceks.org)
Sean Reardon (sreardon@sabatiniarchitects.com)

City-Owned Art Maintenance Committee

Katherine Simmons, Chair and Art Maintenance Liaison with City Staff
(ksimmons@lawrenceks.org)
John Hachmeister (hachmeister@ku.edu)
Kathy Porsch (kporsch@sunflower.com)
Sean Reardon (sreardon@sabatiniarchitects.com)

Community Arts Grants Committee

Patrick Kelly, Chair (pkelly@usd497.org)
Mike Maude (mmaude@develop-net.com)
Kathy Porsch (kporsch@sunflower.com)

Percent for Art

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John Hachmeister (hachmeister@ku.edu)
Jerry Johnson (jerry@remedyrecords.com)
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Lawrence Arts Center Liaison

Katherine Simmons (ksimmons@lawrenceks.org)

Lawrence Arts Roundtable Liaison

Kathy Porsch (kporsch@sunflower.com)

**As of February 2015*