

City of Lawrence
Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission (LCAC)
Monthly Meeting, March 8, 2017
City Commission Room, City Hall, 6 E. 6th Street

Members present: Chair: Katherine Simmons, Kate Dinneen, Joshua Falleaf, Michel Loomis, Mike Maude, Sean Reardon, Richard Renner, Kristina Walker, John Hachmeister, Jerry Johnson, (Patrick Kelly arrived late)

Members absent: None

Also present: Porter Arneill, Arts and Culture Director; Michael Davidson, Sarah Bishop, Stuart Boley, Katy Clagett, Alicia Kelly, Jancita Warrington, Susan Earle, Arch Naramore, Cindy Suenram

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: February 8, 2017 minutes – moved to approve by John Hachmeister/Sean Reardon 2nd -
Approved unanimously

New Business:

1. Art Place Grant update

Sarah Bishop from the Lawrence Arts Center submitted a letter to the commission requesting advice and input for the remaining funds in the ArtPlace Grant awarded for artistic elements in the East Ninth Project. The basic problem they have is that the funds need to be spent on artistic creations quickly or they risk losing the money. They have requested an extension from the ArtPlace Foundation until December 31, 2018.

Discussion followed regarding the commission's role in helping the LAC. Katherine Simmons suggested that the City Commission should hear the concerns of the LAC and pointed out that the LCAC can only recommend and refer to the commissioners. Joshua Falleaf expressed his opinion that the LCAC should take more of a leadership role. He suggested we collect and provide public input to the city commission. Katherine replied saying we can be advocates and leaders once the commission takes the next step in approving or changing the East Ninth Project.

Sean Reardon questioned if the money has to be tied to 9th street or if it can go to artistic creations in the Arts District. Sarah Bishop answered that they could keep that in mind but would have to still keep some money for the original art work in the design should it be approved. Porter Arneill asked if the art work has to be streetscape related. Sarah replied saying other projects were being considered that may not be streetscape related.

Porter noted that the updated Public Works basic engineering plan will be presented as part of a study session at the next City Commission meeting on March 14th. Katherine asked if there would be an opportunity to submit letters and public input then and Porter affirmed that and added that there is also an opportunity for the community to submit capital improvement proposals that are over \$100,000 to the Finance Department.

2. Intersection Repair Project update

Katy Clagett and Alicia Kelly presented a report on the condition of the Intersection Mural in East Lawrence. They report the paint is deteriorating quicker than expected due to the condition of the road surface. They had determined there are three choices to make – 1) paint again, 2) do nothing 3) paint another mural. They chose to paint another mural and have 2 locations along the Burroughs walk/bike trail selected. The sites are both cul-de-sacs that can be seen from the trail. They chose the site in the Brook Creek neighborhood after finding out about future construction at the other site. They have gotten the permission and support from both the Brook Creek Neighborhood and East Lawrence Neighborhood associations. The design is similar to the first but will be modified to reflect the surrounding neighborhood. The City Dept. of Traffic Safety has approved the project with installation scheduled on June 3rd. They will be using better paint and on a better surface with the hope of it lasting longer. John Hachmeister asked if the city was in charge of maintaining. Alicia answered saying that they, the project directors, were in charge of maintenance.

Porter expressed his high recommendation for the project, Joshua asked that they share their process and materials list for future projects.

Action: A motion to approve a letter of recommendation from the LCAC was made by Joshua Falleaf, seconded by Kate Dinneen. **Approved unanimously**

3. Strategic Plan process update

Porter Arneill reported that the Strategic Plan was received and accepted by the City Commission. A handout was provided to the commissioners with the points of the SP. Discussion followed regarding the Arts and Culture fitting into the Strategic Plan.

Kate Dinneen reported that at the Arts Roundtable meeting a letter was presented from the LCAC Coffee & Culture committee that calls for a petition to be formed to stress the importance of Arts and Culture in attaining the goals lined out by the Strategic Plan. Comments were made about how hard the cultural resources are to qualify and the importance of keeping them in the forefront of the commissioners as they proceed on the SP. Other remarks discussed the fact that the budget is tight and we need to look for ways to integrate the Cultural Plan and the Strategic Plan without spending the city's money. It was agreed that we need to start and maintain an ongoing dialogue with the city commissioners showing that the Arts and Culture and the Strategic Plan goals are integrated.

4. Budget request

Porter presented the budget the LCAC will be submitting to the city for approval. It contains \$49,000 for Arts and Culture Programs and \$79,000 for eligible Capital Improvement Project Art Projects. Based on the Percent for Art resolution.

Action: Joshua Falleaf made a motion to accept the budget as presented, Sean Reardon seconded. **Approved unanimously**

4. Community Arts Grants

Commissioners were presented a preliminary score-sheet of the 7 applications for the Community Arts Grant. Commissioners Renner, Falleaf and Walker recused themselves and sat in the public audience area.

The grants were scored by the eligible commissioners individually prior to the meeting and it was noted that the scores in some columns did not comply with the scoring system. Some commissioners said they may not have understood the scoring system and a discussion about it followed.

The issue of who should be recused was brought up by Joshua Falleaf. He had recused himself because his employer, Haskell University, was associated with the Haskell Cultural Center however he noted he

was paid by the US Government and the Cultural Center was a separate organization paid by the USDA. It was determined through discussion with Porter that he did not need to recuse himself.

Action: John Hachmeister made a motion to bring him back in for the Grant approval. Mike Maude seconded it. The motion was approved by a majority of the commissioners.

Action: Katherine Simmons made a motion to table the grant approvals until we can settle the issue of recusal and correct the scoring system. John Hachmeister seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

It was agreed that the commission would meet at 6:45 am on Tuesday at the City Commission room to select and approve the Community Arts Grant applications. Porter stressed that the commissioners were not to talk about the grants to other members of the LCAC until the next meeting.

Old Business

1. Library Board Commission

Katherine reported she met with this board at their most recent meeting

2. Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 update

Porter reported that the funding has been approved to allow him to travel the AEP5 conference this June. He will be going early to attend the free AEP5 workshop on June 15th.

3 Urban Ag/Food Policy

No report at this time.

4. RFP from the KDHE

No report this month

Committee Updates

1. Phoenix Awards

Michelle Loomis and Porter Arneill met to look over the timeline. Marlo has been asked to produce the video for \$500.

2. Final Fridays

Michael Davidson, director of eXplore Lawrence, reported that they use Geo Fencing marketing to Topeka and Kansas City with the result of tracking 37 verified visitors from the marketing at Final Fridays in Lawrence.

3. Public Art – ODSE

Porter reported that Grace Peterson has finished the juried art selection and the Parks and Recreation Department was consulted. Working with the Parks & Recreation department, 2 designs were rejected due to installation and maintenance concerns within the parameters of the \$1200 budget for each artwork.

4. Coffee and Culture committee

Katherine Simmons presented results of the first 2 meetings of this group. The committee is now focusing on the first steps to implementing the Cultural Plan.

Action: Kate Dinneen moved to adjourn, John Hachmeister seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Commission adjourned at 8:32 p.m.