

Cultural Commission Minutes: August 29th, 2019

Call to Order: Kellie Williams called the meeting to order at 7:33 am

Roll Call: Kellie Williams, Ron Crick, Julia Cozad-Callighan, Meryl Brown (via phone), Melissa Libert (late 7:38am), Angelique Racki, Mark Halx, Jeff Pitzer

Staff Attendance: Jim Mack, Samantha Stills, Ann-Marie Dittmann

Minutes Approval: Minutes of August 15th, 2019 Meeting were approved as submitted.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Kellie: Introduced Jeff Pitzer; the new Cultural Commissioner, and asked the other commissioners to first introduce their selves to the group.

Jeff: Introduced himself to the group and gave his background.

Kellie: Attended the Illinois Art Council in Chicago last week.

- The Arts Council board is advisory, not a working board.
- The Arts Council distributed around \$10 million worth of grants in 2018, of which about \$100,000 went to various areas of Bloomington.
- Starting in 2019, the legislature approved 50 million dollars that the Illinois Art Council will coordinate and provide administrative processing – but the legislature will provide direction - largely focused on facilities and capital projects. The money is yet to be collected as it is part of the increased fuel (and other usage fees) taxes.
- Pam Thomas, the council's administrative assistant, will send Kellie the meeting materials which will include a list of those receiving grants in 2018 and into 2019.
- Jim: The creativity Center was able to get on the short list. Therefore, when the window opens, Jim will apply for any grants available.
- The BCPA was given more money than expected this year, so that was a very nice surprise to receive.

Kellie: Encouraged commissioners to RSVP for and attend the City of Bloomington's Board and Commissions Reception in October.

New Business:

Kellie: A name needs to be decided on for the Arts Conference. She asked the members if Bloomington, or Bloomington-Normal is needed in the name? Names were discussed and talked about and it was decided the name would be Vision 2025: A Cultural Arts Conversation. Start time was decided to be Noon with a low-key lunch.

A working agenda was suggested as:

Start time: Noon

- 12:00 or 12:30: Introductions and welcome

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- Intro to purpose of event
- Who and what commission is
 - Recap of recent accomplishments
- Identify commissioners
- Goals of commission
- Logistics of meeting
- Expected outcomes of the day
- 1:00 or 1:30: Invite Doug Johnson as representative of Illinois Arts Council to speak about the council and how it supports the arts in the state and on a local level

Kellie: will be sending Jim a document of information and attendees to get invites prepared and created.

Jim: Will have Brain Leach work on creating the invites and make 2 or 3 to show the group very quickly for save-the-dates.

Kellie: Broader is better but there needs to be a relation to the cultural arts.

Jim: Asked if the save-the-dates should be an invite sent out via email or if it should be a postcard?? And where does the RSVP go to?

It was decided that the Cultural Commission email needs to be placed on the Save-The-Dates.

Jim: By next Tuesday, save-the-date examples will be done and able to be decided on.

Jim, Kellie, and Melissa will meet next Friday at 9:00am at the Creativity Center to narrow down ideas, talk about save-the-dates, narrow down speakers and continue planning.

Jeff P: asked where new names for invites should be sent to ensure invites go to new people.

Kellie: told the group if there are new names or organizations that need an invite, to send her a list of the names as soon as possible.

Meeting Adjourned:
Adjourned at 8:30am

Next Meeting:
October 17th, 2019