

CULTURAL COMMISSION BOARD MINUTES

AUGUST 18, 2022

Attendees: Mark Halx, Melissa Libert, Angelique Racki, Shweta Shukla | Staff: Anthony Nelson, Samantha Mlot Ramirez | No Public Walk Ins

Mission Statement:

The Bloomington Cultural Commission, through advocacy, education and support, is dedicated to inspiring accessible and diverse artistic and cultural experiences, thus enhancing the value of the community's creative and economic life.

Next Meeting Sept 15, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.

General Discussion:

- June, and August minutes will be approved when there is a quorum. July meeting was canceled.
- Cultural Commission has 5 active members out of the 11 appointed. They continue efforts to fill vacancies. The committee will remain active with the City of Bloomington instead of merging with the CVB.
- Negotiations continue for the Arts and Entertainment Director.
- The mural at Miller Park has been received well within the community and has led to diverse conversations about culturally safe spaces. Illinois Art Station will have a follow up meeting for the mural's future sites.
- The commission seeks to be the Cultural Art's ambassador and requests updates on upcoming events and shows held by the Downtown Association, BCPA, and Arena.
- The Downtown Association pursues ways to increase community engagement on First Fridays by offering opportunities to shop, browse, eat and or engage in free activities. As the Downtown Association transitions with the City of Bloomington, they are focused on cultivating new partnerships as well as maintaining their partnership with WBRP and Veggie Oasis. The goal is to provide a safe place for all to enjoy their community.
- Downtown Association asked for ideas for the upcoming Holiday Tree Lighting event. The Commission recommends the event organizer should be a person who is culturally competent in hopes all cultures are represented, especially Kwanzaa and Diwali.
- Downtown Association reminds the commission, anyone who is interested in hosting an event downtown, can submit an online Special Event Permit Application at no cost.