

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION**

APPROVED

DATE: September 24, 2008

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Council Chambers, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Geoffrey Bant, Robin Hall, Barbara Hedlund, Robert Lewis, Michelle Plante, Sarah Ross, Patricia Samman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Katherine Lamb

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Carrino, Economic Development Division Manager; Anna Hochhalter, Public Arts Coordinator; Tony Weck, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Laurel Prussing, Rodney George Peacock, David Gehrig, Frédéric Beaugeard, Susan Toalson

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by acting Chair Robin Hall. Roll was not officially taken.

2. WELCOME BY MAYOR PRUSSING

Mayor Laurel Prussing addressed the Commission briefly. She welcomed the members to the Commission and thanked them for devoting time to their duties as commissioners.

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA

Mr. Hall suggested that the members of the Commission and City staff introduce themselves and then provide time for public input. There was no objection to this change. After the introductions by commissioners and staff, Mr. Hall invited the members of the audience to introduce themselves.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

David Gehrig, City Council member for Ward 2, introduced himself and expressed his support for the Commission and its efforts. Frédéric Beaugeard also addressed the Commission, inquiring about the newspaper rack project to be located at the Champaign

County Courthouse. Anna Hochhalter, Public Arts Coordinator, informed the Commission of the history and status of the project. Susan Toalson, Executive Director of the Urbana Business Association, next addressed the Commission. She expressed her support for the Commission and its activities. Rodney Peacock then addressed the Commission; he spoke regarding his accomplishments as a musician and composer and expressed his support for the Commission and its activities.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- **Select Vice-Chair**

The selection of the Commission's Vice-Chair was postponed until a later date.

- **Review of Duties and Background**

Ms. Hochhalter reviewed with the Commission its duties as defined by the ordinance establishing the same. She also reviewed with the Commission five City Council goals as they relate to the duties of the Commission. There was a discussion regarding the Public Arts Program budget and it was requested by the Commission that there be a review of the Program's budget, the status of the City's Philo Road projects, and the City's TIF Districts at the next meeting.

- **Establish Meeting Schedule**

After brief discussion, it was established by the Commission that it would regularly meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. It was announced that the next meeting would therefore take place on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, at the aforementioned time.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Hochhalter announced that the City of Urbana had been designated as an Illinois Arts-Friendly Community by the Illinois Arts Alliance and the Illinois Municipal League. She also announced that on October 11th, the Public Arts Program would have a booth at the Market at the Square. Mask-making and promotion of the Program would be featured at the booth and Ms. Hochhalter encouraged all Commissioners to be in attendance if possible. Further, Ms. Hochhalter announced that October is National Humanities Month and that the mask-making activities at the Public Arts booth at Market at the Square is one project tying into the celebration. She encouraged other ideas from the Commission.

A question was posed regarding the appointment of a permanent Commission chair. Ms. Hochhalter responded that Mayor Prussing was in the process of reviewing applications to the post and would be appointing someone in the near future.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hall asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lewis moved to adjourn. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Submitted,

Anna Hochhalter, Public Arts Coordinator