

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: March 9, 2010

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Geoffrey Bant, Cheryl Hayden, Robin Hall, Ilona Matkovszki, Sarah Ross, Patricia Sammann

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Lewis, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Seth Fein, Brenda Koenig, Dennis Roberts

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Robin Hall. Anna Hochhalter took roll and a quorum was declared present.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the February 9, 2010 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Ms. Sammann made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Hedlund seconded the motion. All Commission members present were in favor of approval and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was none.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- **2009 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Pygmalion Music Festival**

Ms. Hochhalter introduced Seth Fein, producer of the annual Pygmalion Music Festival. Mr. Fein gave a brief report to the Commission on the manner in which the funds given in the Arts Grant Program grant for the Festival were disbursed. He stated that for the most part, the grant funds were spent on artists' fees; he noted that the Festival now has a six-figure budget and that the grant funds helped a great deal. Upon request by Mr. Hall, Mr. Fein gave a brief overview and history of the Festival.

- **Presentation by Staff: Monthly Progress Report**

Ms. Hochhalter presented the City staff's monthly progress report to the Commission, outlining current projects, projects with partners and upcoming events.

For an update on current projects, she reported the following:

- The Gallery District Incentive Program was receiving continuing inquiries and business participation. Ms. Hochhalter also noted that she had recently assisted in a *Niche* magazine feature article with the Urbana Business Association.
- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, the 2009 projects were reported as being underway. Ms. Hochhalter reported that final reports will begin to be submitted in March 2010.
- With regards to the Urbana Sculpture Project, Ms. Hochhalter reported that the sculpture entitled *Fanfare* by Shawn Morin had been installed outside the Iron Post on Elm Street. She also reported that City staff was finalizing the agreements and installation processes with the remaining three artists for the Philo Road and Iron Post installations.
- With regards to the Storefront Arts Series, City staff had met with the Commission subcommittee to refine the program, and an overview of the program as currently conceived was presented.
- With regards to fundraising, City staff was working with the City Legal Division to clarify the process by which the Commission can raise funds. Ms. Hochhalter reported that initial research had been conducted and would be presented at this meeting.
- With regards to the City Building Exhibition Space, the Artist of the Corridor Spring 2010 exhibit had been installed, featuring the works of Michael Fuerst. Ms. Hochhalter noted that the work would be on display for the quarter (March through May) and that other artists interested in exhibiting in the City Building should submit a letter of interest, résumé, and digital images of artwork to her.
- With regards to the UPTV Arts Program, the Commission subcommittee and City staff had prepared a program plan – presented at this meeting – for the current fiscal year. The name *Art Now!* was recommended for the series.
- With regards to program grants, City staff is working on registration with the Illinois Cultural Data Project and is considering projects for an Illinois Arts Council Program

grant. Ms. Hochhalter noted that the deadline for the aforementioned grant had been extended to April 20, 2010.

- With regards to marketing, Ms. Hochhalter reported that she was regularly updating the Public Arts Program's Facebook page, which as of this meeting had 174 fans. Additionally, she noted that *SmilePolitely.com* had published a feature on the Urbana Sculpture Project and that the Public Arts Program was participating in the Design an Ad program by the Champaign-Urbana *News-Gazette*; the ad, she stated, would appear in the March 30th publication of the same.

For projects with partners, Ms. Hochhalter reported the following:

- Activities as a member of the 40 North | 88 West Board of Directors & Committees
- Activities as a member of the 40 North | 88 West Urbana Boneyard Arts Festival Committee
- The status of the Art in the Park installation by John David Mooney
- The status of the planning for the King Park Martin Luther King, Jr. public art project with the Urbana Park District
- Activities as a member of the Urbana Business Association's Downtown Committee

For upcoming events, Ms. Hochhalter reported the following:

- That the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for April 13, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.
- That the 8th Annual Boneyard Arts Festival would take place April 15th through the 18th.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion and Approval of the Urbana Arts Grant 2010 Recipients**

Ms. Hochhalter provided an introduction to this discussion. The Commission briefly reviewed each recommendation for recipients of 2010 Arts Grants. The Commission heard comments from Ms. Sammann and Ms. Ross, both of whom served on the selection jury for Arts Grant recipients. General Commission comments and questions followed, after which Mr. Bant made a motion to approve the list of proposed 2010 Arts Grant recipients as presented. Ms. Hayden seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Mr. Hall called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

- **Discussion and Approval of Arts Lecture Series Program**

Ms. Hochhalter provided an introduction to this discussion, following which Commission comments and questions were addressed. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the Arts Lecture Series Program as presented. Ms. Hedlund seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Mr. Hall called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

- **Discussion and Approval of FY 10-11 Program Plan**

Ms. Hochhalter provided an introduction to this discussion. The Commission briefly discussed each part of the proposed Program Plan for fiscal year 2010-11, referring some items to subcommittee. Questions and comments from the Commission were addressed, following which Mr. Bant made a motion to approve the program plan and budget for fiscal year 2010-11. Ms. Sammann seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Mr. Hall called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were made by Ms. Hochhalter and Mr. Carrino.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There was no motion or second thereto for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Hall at 8:54 p.m.

Submitted,

Anna Hochhalter, Public Arts Coordinator