

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: August 10, 2010

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robin Hall, Barbara Hedlund, Robert Lewis, Patricia Sammann, Cheryl Hayden, Geoffrey Bant

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ilona Matkovszki, Sarah Ross, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Aaron Ammons, Megan Wolf, Zach May

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 4:36 p.m. by Chair Robin Hall. Anna Hochhalter took roll and a quorum was declared present.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA

Katy Vizdal was not able to present to the Commission as originally planned. There was a request to allow Aaron Ammons to present first.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the July 13, 2010 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Mr. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Sammann 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: Aaron Ammons**

Ms. Hochhalter introduced Aaron Ammons, whose project, entitled “As I Travel My Creation” was funded in part by a 2009 grant from the Urbana Arts Grant Program. Mr. Ammons thanked the Commission for its support of his project and gave a brief report on the same. During the course of his report, Mr. Ammons read a poem from his collection entitled “Environ-Mental.” At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **2009 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: 40 North | 88 West**

Ms. Hochhalter introduced Megan Wolf, Director of Resource Development for 40 North | 88 West. Ms. Wolf gave a brief report explaining how the Urbana Arts Grant Program provided support for the 2010 Boneyard Arts Festival. Ms. Wolf thanked the Commission for its support and, at the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **2010 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Wide World of Urbana Community Concert**

Ms. Hochhalter introduced Zach May. Mr. May gave a brief report to the Commission on his project, entitled “Wide World of Urbana Community Concert”, which had been funded in part by a grant from the 2010 Urbana Arts Grant Program. Mr. May provided information on the three part interactive, educational concert. At the conclusion of the report questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

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

Ms. Hochhalter presented the City staff’s monthly progress report to the Commission, outlining projects in process, recent requests and recommendations from the public, staff activities, and upcoming events.

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

- The Gallery District Incentive Program was receiving continuing inquiries and that Art Coop, Inc. in Lincoln Square was now open.
- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, All but two of the 2009 Projects were completed. Final Reports were being received and reviewed by staff. Reports from 40 North | 88 West, USD Elementary Fine Arts, and the IMC Children’s Arts Fest were presented to the Commission. She also noted that agreements are being finalized with 2010 grantees.
- With regards to the Art at the Market program, Ms. Hochhalter reported that the third art workshop of the season took place on July 31st. Traci Pines led a “Plastic Fantastic:

Earth Friendly Printmaking” workshop. The next workshop will be led by Justine Bursoni on August 28th.

- With regards to the City Building Exhibit Space, Ms. Hochhalter reported that The new Artist of the Corridor exhibit began on August 2nd, featuring photographic works by Alexei Lyosha Svinarski. The exhibit, entitled “InFocus: Urbana, Illinois” will be on display August 2nd – September 30th. An opening reception was scheduled for Tuesday, August 10th from 3:30 – 4:30pm.
- With regards to the *Art Now!* UPTV Arts Program, Ms. Hochhalter reported that the program continues to run on UPTV each Monday from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.
- With regards to fundraising, Ms. Hochhalter reported that staff had continued to research potential policies. She presented a policy which was developed for the City of Champaign regarding its fundraising activities related to its 150th Anniversary.
- With regards to marketing, Ms. Hochhalter reported that City staff had been regularly updating the Public Arts Program’s *Facebook* page, which as of this meeting had 293 fans. Ms. Hochhalter also reported that the *News-Gazette* featured the Public Arts Program on July 18, 2010.
- With regards to staffing, Ms. Hochhalter reported that applications for the Public Arts Coordinator position were being accepted until August 29th.
- For projects with partners, Ms. Hochhalter reported briefly on her recent activities with the Public Art League, the 40 North | 88 West Board of Directors and Committees, and the Urbana Business Association.
- For upcoming events, Ms. Hochhalter reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for September 14, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.

6. OLD BUSINESS

• Discussion of Urbana Arts Grant Guidelines

Ms. Hochhalter introduced this agenda item. Ms. Hochhalter discussed the recommendations from the Arts Grant subcommittee for the 2011 Arts Grant program. These recommendations included modifications to the *Here and Now* category, future eligibility requirements starting in 2013, and requiring additional budget information related to the *Creative Mix* and *Festival* categories. The Commission discussed changes for the 2001 grant cycle. There was consensus to make the changes as recommended by the subcommittee.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Hochhalter announced that 40 North | 88 West’s 6th Annual Ace Awards was coming up on Wednesday, October 13.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lewis made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Sammann seconded the motion. With no further business, Mr. Hall declared the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Submitted,

Anna Hochhalter, Public Arts Coordinator