

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: March 8, 2011

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

PLACE: 2nd Floor Conference Room, Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Geoffrey Bant, Cheryl Hayden, Barbara Hedlund, Robert Lewis, Sarah Ross, Patricia Sammann, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robin Hall, Ilona Matkovszki

STAFF PRESENT: Elizabeth Tyler, Community Development Director; Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator; Sukiya J. Robinson, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Brenda Koenig

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Ms. Sammann. Christina McClelland took roll and a quorum was declared present.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA

Ms. McClelland stated that the New Business item, Discussion and Approval of Urbana Arts Grant 2011 Recipients, would be moved up first under the Old Business section of the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the February 8, 2011 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Mr. Lewis 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

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

Ms. McClelland 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:

- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, Ms. McClelland reported that the 2009 and 2010 projects were being completed and reported. She stated that the Urbana Business Association had approved three projects for Business Backs the Arts funding. Final 2011 Urbana Arts Grants recommendations would be brought to the Commission later in that meeting.
- With regards to the City Building Exhibit Space, Ms. McClelland reported that the current Artist of the Corridor exhibit began on February 2, featuring the work of Hua Nian and would be on display until March 31st. Ms. McClelland stated that a closing would be held for Ms. Nian on Tuesday, March 22nd from 12:00-1:00 PM. She also reported that photographer Cheryl Manrique would be the Artist of the Corridor for April and May 2011.
- With regards to *Art Now!* UPTV Arts Program, Ms. McClelland reported that the program has continued to run on UPTV each Monday from 6:30pm-7:00pm. She stated that Commission members Sarah Ross and Pat Sammann had interviewed Artists Kate Kuper, Don Lake, Toni Putnam, and Heather Ault for 2011 and videos of the interviews could be viewed on-line at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- With regards to marketing, Ms. McClelland reported that City staff had been regularly updating the Public Arts Program's *Facebook* page, which as of this meeting had 339 fans and averaged 88 page visits a month. She also stated she had started an Urbana Public Arts Twitter account, which could be followed @urbanapublicart, and as of this meeting had 12 followers. Ms. McClelland reported that she had started using Mail Chimp, a free service, to streamline the e-mail newsletter. She also stated that she and Ms. Hochhalter had made a presentation that day to University professors Jimmy Luu and Jennifer Gunji-Ballsrud's class concerning the graphic design collaboration project and that the class would have things to present by April 8th.
- Ms. McClelland reported that Staff had submitted a Statement of Interest for a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant to fund a mosaic or pathway project for the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project. She stated that following review of statements, the NEA would notify selected organizations that they have been invited to submit a formal application by March 25, 2011.
- Ms. McClelland also reported that the Illinois Arts Council had awarded the Urbana Public Arts Program a Public Art Program operating support grant of \$1,750. She stated that the award had to be used by August 31, 2011.
- For upcoming events, Ms. McClelland reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for April 12, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. She stated that the

Boneyard Creek Improvements Project Public Meeting was scheduled for March 15, 2011 from 6-8 pm at the Urbana Civic Center. Ms. McClelland also stated that the Public Arts Commission would invite public input on opportunities for art in the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project at the Public Art Public Meeting scheduled for March 15, 2011 from 8-10pm also at the Urbana Civic Center.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion and Approval of Urbana Arts Grant 2011 Recipients**

Ms. McClelland provided an introduction to this discussion. The Commission briefly reviewed each recommendation for recipients of 2011 Arts Grants. Commission comments and questions followed. The Commission heard comments from Ms. Winkelmes who served on the selection jury for Arts Grant recipients. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the list of proposed 2011 Arts Grant recipients as presented. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Ms. Samman called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

- **Discussion on Fundraising**

Ms. McClelland introduced this agenda item. She gave a brief summary on the ordinance regarding appropriate procedures and guidelines for fundraising. A discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and Staff ensued.

- **Discussion of FY 11-12 Program Plan**

Ms. McClelland facilitated this discussion. The members of the Commission participated in an exercise wherein proposed projects for FY 11-12 were written out on large sheets of paper and placed on the wall. Each member of the Commission present at this meeting shared thoughts on which projects should remain, be removed, and/or added to the plan along with suggested amounts for the budget. Following further discussion of the proposed projects, Ms. Sammann requested that City staff process the information gained from the aforementioned exercise and report back to the Commission at the next meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Lewis announced that there was a Malawi Mixer taking place Wednesday, March 9, 2011 from 5:00 PM- 7:30PM at the Urbana Civic Center.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lewis made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Winkelmes seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted,

Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator