

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

**URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION**

**APPROVED**

**DATE:** July 12, 2011

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m.

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

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Geoffrey Bant, Barbara Hedlund, Ilona Matkovszki, Patricia Sammann, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Robert Lewis

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Carrino, Economic Development Division Manager; Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator; Sukiya J. Robinson, Recording Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Betty Allen, Rusty Clevenger, Michael Fuerst, Brian Hagy, Dennis Roberts, May Xiong

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Ms. Sammann. Christina McClelland took roll and a quorum was declared present.

**2. CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Ms. McClelland stated that the order of the presentations under Communications would be different and that an additional presentation, Urbana Pops Orchestra would be added last.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the June 14, 2011 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Mr. Bant 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 2010 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Pygmalion Music Festival**

Ms. McClelland introduced Seth Fein, director of the Pygmalion Music Festival. He thanked the Commission for the grant received. Mr. Fein gave a brief background on what the grant funds were used for and suggestions about funding for festivals in the future. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2010 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

Ms. McClelland introduced May Xiong, Director of the Asian-American Cultural Center at the University of Illinois. Ms. Xiong thanked the Commission for the grant received. She gave a brief report on her project which allowed them to integrate arts into the community. Ms. Xiong gave a slide show presentation of the celebration, which consisted of 11 different performances, 60 performers and had 400-450 attendees. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2011 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient: The Prompting Theatre**

Ms. McClelland introduced Brian Hagy, Director of the Prompting Theatre. Mr. Hagy gave a background on his local theatre company which is comprised of adult actors with developmental disabilities. He also gave a report on the project for which the grant was used. Mr. Hagy thanked the Commission for its support and at the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission and Staff were heard.

- **Presentation by 2010 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient: USD #116 Art in Space**

Ms. McClelland introduced Betty Allen, Elementary Fine Arts Coordinator and Rusty Clevenger, Visual Art teacher for USD #116. They thanked the Commission for the grant and gave a slide-show presentation on their project in which they took students on a tour of the Wandell Sculpture Garden. Ms. Allen also expressed interest in collaborating with the Public Arts Commission to keep arts projects/field trips alive in the schools. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission and Staff were heard.

- **Presentation by 200? Urbana Arts Grant Recipient: Urbana Pops Orchestra**

Ms. McClelland introduced Debra Levey Larson, Board President of the Urbana Pops Orchestra. Ms. Larson thanked the Commission for the grant and gave a brief background on the Urbana Pops Orchestra. She stated that the Urbana Pops Orchestra is one year old and shared the three goals of the orchestra, which are to play popular orchestral music, to provide concerts in a family friendly setting for free or low ticket price, and to develop unique mentor relationships between professional musicians and talented junior high and

high school students. She also gave a presentation on the performances given by the Orchestra. At the conclusion of the report, comments from the Commission were heard.

- **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 projects had been completed and reported, 2010 project final reports were being submitted, and 2011 projects were in progress. She also stated that for the 2012 cycle application materials had been updated, and Staff was working with City Information Services to create an online submission process.
- With regards to the Downtown/Royer subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that the subcommittee met on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and updates would be provided during the Old Business portion of the meeting.
- With regards to Arts in the Schools, Ms. McClelland reported that the subcommittee met on July 7<sup>th</sup> and that Staff would be working on more research regarding this meeting.
- With regards to Fundraising, Ms. McClelland reported that the subcommittee met on July 11<sup>th</sup> and that more research was also being done. She also stated that the subcommittee had a recommendation to incorporate long range planning in the fall as opposed to the spring.
- With regards to the Public Art League Artist Selection Process, Ms. McClelland reported that Commissioner Geoff Bant served on the jury for selection sculptures from the Public Art League's most recent Call for Artists. She also stated that the Public Art League would be hosting an event on Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm at Buvon's Wine Bar to give updates and a preview of some of the sculptures.
- With regards to Boneyard Creek Public Art, Ms. McClelland reported that 39 applications were received for the Boneyard Creek Request for Qualifications. A jury of the Boneyard Art subcommittee, City Staff, Foth and Wenk consultants, and local artist Christiane Martens met to select an artist on July 8<sup>th</sup>. She stated that more updates would be provided during the New Business portion of the meeting.
- With regards to Art at the Market, Ms. McClelland reported that the second 2011 Art at the Market workshop, "Recycled Papermaking," was held on June 25<sup>th</sup> with about 100 participants. She stated that the next one would be "Get the I.D.E.A.!" with the I.D.E.A. Store's Education Team, from 8am-12pm on July 30<sup>th</sup> with a demo on WCIA at 8:20am on Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- With regards to *Art Now*, Ms. McClelland reported that July's new episode was an interview with local artist, Rosalind Faiman Weinberg.
- With regards to the City Building Exhibit Space, Ms. McClelland reported that the paintings of the current Artist of the Corridor, Kathryn Fitzgerald would be on display

until July 29<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the Artist of the Corridor for August-September would be Bonnie Switzer.

- 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 372 fans. She also stated that the Urbana Public Arts Twitter account, which could be followed @urbanapublicart, as of this meeting had 75 followers. Ms. McClelland reported that a monthly e-mail newsletter had been sent to 313 subscribers on June 14<sup>th</sup>. She also stated that Staff was reviewing quote estimates from the Graphic Design Bid for producing new marketing materials for the Urbana Public Arts Program.
- With regards to UPAC New Commissioners, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff had been working with the Mayor to direct suitable candidates to apply to fill the three open seats on the Urbana Public Arts Commission. She requested that any recommendations from the Commission be sent to her.
- With regards to grants, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff had submitted an application for a Program Grant for General Operating Support from the Illinois Arts Council. She stated that the application had been reviewed and a response would hopefully be received soon.
- With regards to conferences, Ms. McClelland reported that she attended the 2011 Americans for the Arts Annual Convention in San Diego, CA from June 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. She stated that it was a very positive experience with interesting sessions and if anyone wanted more information on her trip they could call or email her.
- For upcoming events, Ms. McClelland reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for August 9, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- **Update on Boneyard Creek Beautification Artist Selection Process**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item, but Councilman Dennis Roberts requested that the Old Business agenda item be visited before New Business due to a prior commitment of his. His request was granted.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion of Royer Signage for Champaign County Courthouse**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland reported that the Downtown/Royer subcommittee met in June. Mr. Carrino gave a brief update on their progress regarding the installation of the Royer Signage for the Champaign County Courthouse. He stated that the item was scheduled to go before the County Board on July 21<sup>st</sup> to get approval to install the sign. Ms. McClelland reported that the subcommittee would recommend that the Public Arts Commission approve using some of the allotted funds to create the sign and that the Commission should vote to approve or deny this recommendation. A discussion of the matter by members of the Commission, Staff and Councilman Roberts ensued. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Ms. Sammann asked for a motion. Mr. Carrino stated a need for the Commission to choose

between the two sign designs presented and to reflect that in the motion. Ms. Matkovzski made a motion to accept design B (Royer emblem integrated and at the bottom of sign) and forward it to the Champaign County Board for approval and that Public Arts funds would be used for the costs involved. A vote was taken and with all members in favor, the recommendation was approved.

**8. NEW BUSINESS CON'T**

• **Update on Boneyard Creek Beautification Artist Selection Process**

Ms. McClelland reported that Artist Selection Jury met on Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup> and 39 applications were received for the Boneyard Creek Request for Qualifications. She stated that the jury which included City Staff, local artist Christiane Martens, Foth and Wenk consultants, and the Boneyard Art subcommittee chose 3 finalists from the group of applicants. She reported they were now working with the finalists to schedule interviews for the last week of July and that more updates would be available at the next meeting.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Bant asked a question regarding the “100 Most Significant Buildings in Urbana” list. Mr. Carrino gave a brief response regarding the matter.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Hedlund made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Matkovzski seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Submitted,

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Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator