

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: August 14, 2012

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gregory Chew, Robert Lewis, John Morrison, Patricia Sammann, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Barbara Hedlund, Ilona Matkovszki, Virginia Waaler

STAFF PRESENT: Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator; Sukiya J. Robinson, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Betty Allen, Grant Bowen, Janelle Pleasure

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 there were initially not enough Commissioners to make a quorum. However, as the meeting progressed, two more Commissioners arrived and a quorum was met.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA

Ms. McClelland announced that the Approval of Minutes agenda item would be moved after Communications since a quorum was not present at that time.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

There was none.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- **Presentation by 2011 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Urbana School District #116**

Ms. Sammann introduced Betty Allen, Elementary Fine Arts Coordinator in Urbana School District #116. Ms. Allen gave a brief slideshow presentation on their project, in which the classroom and visual art teachers gave a tour of the Wandell Sculpture Garden to third grade

classes. She thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2012 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Grant Bowen**

Ms. Sammann introduced Grant Bowen, University of Illinois MFA Candidate in Theatre. Mr. Bowen reported on his project, titled *REsonance Touch here. Listen*. The project was an installation exploring the act of listening through sculpture, sound, light and performance. It took place on April 21st and May 5th at Meadowbrook Park Garden Pavilion with 120 people total in attendance. Mr. Bowen thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2012 Urbana Arts Grants Recipient Report: Ja Nelle Pleasure**

Ms. Sammann introduced fashion designer and seamstress, Ja Nelle Pleasure. Ms. Pleasure gave a slideshow presentation on her project, titled *Summer Sew Fun Club*, which consisted of fun basic sewing classes for children ages 9-16. The classes ran from June 4th-July 2nd. Ms. Pleasure passed around some of the projects completed by the children. Ms. Pleasure thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2012 Urbana Arts Grants Recipient Report: Urbana Pops Orchestra**

Ms. Sammann introduced Debra Levy Larson, President of the Board of the Urbana Pops Orchestra. Ms. Larson gave a brief slideshow presentation of their project which consisted of four performances that took place at the Urbana Adult Education commencement, Vineyard Church, Lincoln Square, and Parkland College. Ms. Larson shared a small video clip of one of the performances given at the Vineyard. She thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and 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 Martin Luther King Jr. Park Project Subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that City Staff was negotiating a contract with the Urbana Park District on ownership and maintenance of the finished sculpture.
- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, Ms. McClelland reported that a recommendation for an online grants management system was attached.
- With regards to the Boneyard Creek Public Art, Ms. McClelland reported that Jack

Mackie was making slight redesigns to the sedge and springtail wall motifs to accommodate wall changes made to bring the project into budget.

- With regards to Downtown Arts Planning, Ms. McClelland reported that the Installation of the Murals on Glass graphics occurred on August 9th. She stated the Commission and the public were invited to an Installation Celebration on Monday, August 13th at 4:30 p.m. on the corner of Main St. and Broadway Ave in front of the parking deck.
- With regards to the Urbana Sculpture Project, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff was coordinating with Public Works and the Public Art League to schedule installation of the three selected sculptures. She stated that for the Main Street sculptures, *Fortitude IV* would be installed on August 15th or 16th and *The Wind in the Trees* would be installed on September 14th.
- With regards to Art in the Schools, Ms. McClelland reported that the subcommittee met on July 13th and discussed meeting with CUSF and the idea of a theatre props and scenery storage co-op.
- With regards to Joseph Royer Arts and Architecture District, Ms. McClelland reported that the Urbana High School Royer sign unveiling was very successful, with an ice cream social, barbershop quartet, and over 150 people in attendance.
- With regards to Fundraising, Ms. McClelland reported that a PayPal account to accept donations had been set up and was being added to the website, Facebook, and e-mail newsletter. She stated that the subcommittee was also creating a mailing campaign and calendar of *ArtNow!* artists' work.
- With regards to *Art Now!*, Ms. McClelland reported that the August episode featured an interview with artist Lisa Kesler.
- With regards to Arts Programming at the Market, Ms. McClelland reported that the July 28th Art and Performance at the Market events featured a Land/Arts Lab with Meredith Foster and performance by the Michael Fenoglio Trio. Over 75 people participated. She stated that a workshop by The I.D.E.A. Store and performance by the Aduro Trio would be held on August 25th.
- With regards to the Artist of the Corridor, Ms. McClelland reported that the current show, "Art in the Margins," featured photographs by Urbana Land Arts, and would be on display until October 31st. She stated that a reception would be held from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on August 29th.
- With regards to the Illinois Arts Council Individual Artist Grants Workshop, Ms. McClelland reported that the Urbana Public Arts Program was invited to host an individual Artist Grant Workshop by the Illinois Arts Council which would take place on Wednesday, August 29th at 5:30 p.m. following the Artist of the Corridor reception in the Council Chambers.
- 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 483 fans. She also stated that the Urbana Public Arts Twitter account, which could be followed @urbanapublicart, as of this meeting had 333 followers. Ms. McClelland reported that a monthly e-mail newsletter had been sent to 474 subscribers on July 17th and August 8th.
- For upcoming events, Ms. McClelland reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for September 11, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Council

Chambers.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the July 10, 2012 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Ms. Winkelmes made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. All Commission members present were in favor of approval and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion of King Park Public Art Design Services Agreement**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland briefly discussed this agreement that would contract selected artist, Douglas Kornfeld to develop a design for King Park. She stated that the Staff recommendation was for the Commission to approve this agreement and upon approval it would go City Council the following Monday for their approval. A brief discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and Staff ensued. Following discussion, Mr. Lewis made a motion to approve the King Park Public Art Design Services Agreement. Ms. Winkelmes seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Ms. Sammann called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- **Discussion of Urbana Arts Grants Online Management System**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland gave some background information on this system called *Review Room* that would help to streamline the application process for the Urbana Arts Grants program by allowing applicants to apply online. She stated that the Staff recommendation was to try out the service for a year and see how it works. A brief discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and Staff ensued. Following discussion, Mr. Chew made a motion to approve using Review Room for a year as recommended. Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Ms. Sammann called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lewis made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Chew seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

August 14, 2012

Submitted,
Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator