

Arts Commission  
March 23, 2022  
Community Development Conference Room  
City Hall  
Meeting Minutes

### **Meeting Attendees**

- Voting Members: Sue Kraus, Allison Robbins, Steve Carter, Sarah Chamberlin (on Zoom), Cindy Bechtol (on Zoom)
- Absent: Jay Lindhart, Hannah Clark
- Ex-Officio: Marcella McCoy
- Guests: Madison Day and Jamie DeBacker

### **Call to Order, Roll Call, Establish Quorum**

- Meeting called to order at 4:03 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

### **Approval of Agenda (Motion/Discussion)**

- Sue moved to approve the agenda, Steve seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes (Motion/Discussion)**

- Sue moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting, Sarah seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Introduction of guests/visitors**

- Madison Day, an Art Major at State Fair College, attended the meeting to observe and to inquire about finding an artist to interview for a class assignment.
- Jamie DeBacker from Warrensburg Main Street attended on Zoom in order to present a public art project for City approval.

### **Updates from the City**

- Marcella confirmed that the new Arts Commissioner Hannah Beatrix was on the group email list. Allison will reach out to Hannah to welcome her to the commission and confirm she knows when and where meetings are.
- Marcella noted that the City had received the first set of photos for cover of the City budget book. The Arts Commission will help select the finalists at the May meeting.

### **Art in Public Places**

- The Commission considered Warrensburg Main Street's proposal for the Old Drum Color Shadows Project. Jamie gave a brief overview of the project; Commissioners had already received a description of the project before the meeting. Steve asked about the materials used and how Main Street would maintain the art over the next five years. Sarah motioned to approve the project, Sue seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Allison will add the art project to the list of art maintenance, with Main Street as the responsible party. Allison will work with Marcella to ensure the project proposal was on the next City Council agenda.
- The Commission discussed 'cleaning' and maintenance for two existing public art pieces, Hard Moon Rising and Downtown Vibrations. Both pieces fall under the purview of the

Commission, according to existing records. The Commission looked at image of the current condition of the two pieces.

- Sue confirmed that the concrete circles on Downtown Vibrations needed a refresh, given how faded they are. Cindy noted that the Commission had received a quote to refresh the art in the past and that it had been expensive. **Allison** will get a quote from the company who installed the work, and **Steve** will look into cost-efficient options for re-painting the concrete circles.
- Steve noted that for Hard Moon Rising, it might be a good idea to power wash the sculpture if it had any mildew, and to look for corrosion and rust that might be removed with a stiff bristle. After the meeting, Steve and Allison looked more closely at the sculpture. Before power washing, they decided it would be a good idea to see if the current look of the granite was intentional. There are also a few areas where the silver paint needs a touch-up.
- The Commission will work to get both maintenance projects moving in time for Main Street's Spring Clean the Burg. Jamie explained that the Commission should share their efforts on social media with #lovewhatlocal and other hashtags associated with the event.
- As for the other needed art maintenance, Allison will reach out to Christian Schoolcraft at Parks and Rec to discuss other Warrensburg public art that might need a refresh.

### **Third Wednesday Art Walks**

- Jamie provided an update on the Art Walks. There are currently 18 artists signed up, and there is quite a bit of variety. There will also be a few food trucks and a pop-up farmers market.
- Allison will sign up the Arts Commission for all of the Art Walk dates, including April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, and September 21. Commissioners agreed that between everyone, they could likely staff the table throughout the summer.
- The Commission discussed what to have at the commission table. Allison mentioned the items listed on the agenda. Sue asked if the Commission could feature a different local artist each month. Steve mentioned the possibility of featuring the art of local high school students. Sarah asked if the Commission could also invite high school students to perform music, and Cindy noted that many high school ensembles will have just completed competitions. Allison noted that it would be difficult to put together a plan for the April 20 date, but that all future dates could be planned at the next meeting. A list of possible artists and/or school performing groups would be a good starting place.
  - Steve will look into establishing contact with art teachers at local schools. Sue suggested asking Christian Cutler for a list, given that the UCM Art Gallery recently hosted a high school show.

### **Project Budgeting for FY23**

Allison summarized some of the current projects under discussion and how to budget for them in the upcoming year. Commissioners gave updates on the projects below, and Allison asked that they bring any projected costs to the April meeting so that an accurate budget request can be drafted for FY23.

- *Rack Card:* Sarah described a planned collaboration with the Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Arts Commission will design a trifold that highlights the arts in Warrensburg. WCVB will print and distribute the trifold, and it will be used by the Commission as well.

This project will be completed at no cost to the Arts Commission. Sue noted that she has pictures from the Burg Dogs project that would likely be good for the brochure.

- *Coloring Book*: Allison noted that she took the Warrensburg coloring book idea proposed by Cindy to the WCVB as well. A past city manager had been interested in this very idea, and the WCVB is interested in collaborating. This project would take place during FY23, with WCVB providing funding for printing. It would be the Commission's responsibility to design the book.
- *Paint with Dog*: Allison noted that the Commission could do this event at Old Drum Day. Sarah confirmed that Old Drum Day was scheduled for June 11 this year. Costs would include pet-safe paint and materials to paint on.
- *Mule Project*: Sue provided an update on the mule project. She has contacted All Pro Electric, who could potentially create a metal mule figure for the project. Her contact was not returning calls, so she did not have a quote at this time.
- *Flower Boxes and Stain Glass Project*: Steve noted that the stain glass project he was thinking of would likely cost about \$750-1,000 per piece.
- *Paper Airplanes*: Steve noted he would like to pair with UCM Aviation or Skyhaven Airport for this project. Sue noted there was a person in town who was known for making giant paper airplanes. Marcella mentioned Whiteman Airforce Base might be another potential collaborator.
- *Grain Elevator*: Sue noted that previous commissioners had apparently thought about projecting images onto the grain elevator as an arts project.

### **Community Theater Update**

Cindy and her contacts in community theater discussed how running a show through the Arts Commission was quite difficult, considering the City administrative and budgeting process. More separation between the Commission and Community Theater would allow the theater group to be more effective. They wondered if a sponsorship would be possible moving forward. Allison wondered if the Community Theater group might apply for arts grants, which was a suggestion made in the 2020-2021 strategic plan. Cindy noted that grants would likely not cover the costs for rights to a show. Allison noted that in the past she believed that community theater funding had been listed as a "community partnership" in the budget requests. They can explore this idea next month during the budget discussion.

### **Strategic Planning**

At the last meeting, Steve had mentioned the need for strategic planning. Allison reported that the Arts Commission had, in the past, completed strategic planning in January of every year. Marcella noted that the City regularly adopts a 5-year strategic plan as part of its planning process. The last one was completed in 2017. The next one is for 2023. If the Arts Commission did strategic planning in January, their ideas could be incorporated into the broader City goals.

### **Next Meeting – April date**

- Commission members agreed on April 27, 4:00-5:30pm, for the next meeting. In-person attendees will meet in the CD Conference Room at City Hall. A Zoom option will also be available.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.