

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
Minutes
March 13, 2019

Members Present:

Karen Askin
Therese Capal
Gary Gill
Patricia Dubroof
Mary Baltimore
Liliane Blom
George McHugh
Alicia Martin

Members Absent: Tim Nixon, Jesse Marciniak

Councilmember: Mark Pierzchala

Staff Present: Betty Wisda, Andy Lett, Laura Creech

Karen Askin called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the Blossom Room at the Rockville Senior Center.

Re: Approval of the Minutes

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the February 13, 2019 meeting.

Re: Chairperson's Report

No Chairperson Report

Re: Councilmember Report

Mark is sorry to have missed the last meeting. He said he attended the VLOC performance of "The Gondoliers" opera and said it was a great show and very well done. Their next show is "Princess Ida" in June. The first budget session starts Monday, March 18.

Re: Staff Report

Staff reported the following items.

- Staff met with Cynthia Stewart, REDI Executive Director, to discuss the Underpass at Park Road Art Project on March 7.
- Under the direction of Dr. Juan Gallastegui, the Rockville Concert Band performed a "Spring Potpourri" concert at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 10 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.
- Under the direction of Eleanor Simpson, the Rockville Civic Ballet will present "Don Quixote" at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 16 and 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 17 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

- The opening reception for the 2019 Rockville Student Juried Art Show featuring 2-D artwork by students in grades 6 through 12 who live or attend school within the corporate limits of Rockville will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 31 at the Rockville Senior Center.
- Staff is scheduling interviews and discussion groups with the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, the Deputy City Manager, the Cultural Arts Commissioners and the stakeholders with Martin Cohen, The Cultural Planning Group Partner, from April 1 through April 3 regarding the Arts and Culture Study.
- City Staff is working with the Cultural Planning Group to set up initial interviews and meetings with the consultant.

Re: Task Force/Committee Updates

Art in Public Places

- Urban Edge Properties is selling the planned site for Greetings From Rockville mural. A new place needs to be located for the mural. Betty will be searching for a new location due to the legal challenges of the new ownership not having to follow the previous owners mural agreement.
- Alicia announced she would like to join the AIPP sub-committee. George invited her to attend the next meeting once it is scheduled. A motion was approved for Alicia to join sub-committee.
- Public Artwork Condition Assessment: Betty Wisda is preparing pertinent information from the assessment to provide to seven artists regarding the condition of the works of art and treatment recommendations. She will request the artists to submit a cost estimate and a suggested completion date.
- The fiscal Year 2020 Art in Public Architecture Art Projects: The one percent amount yielded from construction costs for renovations to the Outdoor Bathhouse, the South Pool and the Locker Room is \$106,488 for the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Art Project. The one percent amount yielded for the construction costs for the Skate Park is \$13,980.

Culture and Arts Organization Committee

- Upcoming presentation:
 - April 10 – Ballet, Chorus, and Band
 - May 8 – VisArts, Chamber of Commerce, City of Rockville
 - June 12 – summary of presentations
- Victorian Lyric Opera company is requesting more storage space from the City.

Re: Old Business

- The gallery position was eliminated. Councilmember Pierzchala mentioned that many city positions had been swapped or eliminated.
- Cultural Arts Commission members need to attend the hearings if they want to advocate for the position.

- To advocate for arts Councilmember Pierzchala suggested to write a letter and as an organization ask for time to express viewpoint at next budget hearing.
- City staff has been asked to explore how to maintain the gallery either with a contractor, part-time staff or with an existing position.
- Karen Askin provided an update on the Rockville Arts Festival. The event will be held on May 4th and 5th from 11 - 5 pm. Karen Askin is organizing. She is working to inject local artists and arts organizations into it and make it a real cultural arts celebration.
- Meetings are scheduled with Cultural Planning Group and to be held April 1st -3rd. The Cultural Arts Commission will meet with the consultant on Tuesday, April 2nd at 7- 8:30 pm.

Re: New Business

- Rockville Art League has a showing at The Universities at Shady Grove Priddy Library thanks to location suggestions made after their presentation in November.
- The VLOC would like to use space that Parks uses behind the mansion. Karen is forwarding their email requesting the area.
- Peerless Rockville is opening a retail store with money from REDI, “Made in Rockville” will be the focus of the store to be housed in the Red Brick Courthouse. Peerless is looking for volunteers to do live demos.
- Alicia Martin offers her insights for Culture in the City of Rockville. She googled Rockville culture and saw arts-related things, not food or culture related activities. She has heard a lot about the arts in CAC but not much related to Culture. Feels there should be a CAC presence at events related to culture and not just the arts.
- Alicia asked how the CAC could be more noticeable at events. Mark suggested making name tags for the commissioners to wear when we go to events.

Re: Community Group Presentations

Leon Seemann, Managing Director and Michael Bobbitt, Artistic Director gave a presentation on Adventure Theater and ATMTC Academy.

Re: Next Meeting

The next meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 in the Blossom Room at the Rockville Senior Center.

Re: Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Alicia and second by Patricia. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.