

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Cultural Arts Commission

Minutes

April 14, 2021

Members Present: Karen Askin, Helen Aberger, Francis Bevington, Liliane Blom, Therese Capal, Patricia Dubroof, Howie Jung, Melissa Law, Connor Lee, Robert Summers-Berger

Members Absent: None

Councilmember: Mark Pierzchala

Staff Present: Andy Lett, Betty Wisda, Laura Creech

Guests Present: None

Karen Askin called the virtual online meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Re: Approval of the Minutes

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously approved the minutes as written for the March 10, 2021 meeting.

Re: Councilmember Report

The Mayor and Council amended budget for funding for the Swim and Fitness Center Art Project and presentation of the proposal for the art project will be held on Monday, May 10.

Re: Chairperson's Report

- No report

Re: Staff Report

- Mayor and Council came to a decision at last meeting to replace the Hometown Holidays and Memorial Day parade with a video event. They are looking into possibly holding smaller events this summer at RedGate Park.
- There are concerns the 17-year cicadas disrupting outdoor events in May-June.
- Staff are working on a brochure for City run organization to get information out about Rockville Civic Ballet, Chorus and Concert Band.
- Staff working on application for the Bloomberg Asphalt Art Project – using grant monies to create artwork at street corners to enhance pedestrian safety and traffic calming. Starting with smaller working group to get decisions made and

then grow in members. Grant application is due April 30, 2021

- At March 22 meeting Mayor and Council elected to amend the budget to include funding for the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Art Project.
- Presentation for the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Art Project is scheduled for May 10.
- Motion made by Karen Askin to have Lillian Blom and Patricia Dubroof present the Swim and Fitness Center art project proposal at the Mayor and Council meeting on May 10.
- Speak at Community Forum: Mayor and Council meetings include a community forum as part of the agenda. This time is set aside to hear from any community member who wishes to address the Mayor and Council. Speakers are asked to keep their remarks to three minutes. Priority will be given to speakers who have signed up in advance by calling the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting and those who are speaking on an agenda item.
- The Rockville Art League sponsored a virtual art exhibit with 43 entries related to Glenview Mansion.
- RedGate Park survey sent out asking community what they would like to do with the 131-acre park. Andy encourages everyone to complete the survey. In early phases of public input on the project. Survey will gauge what kind of park City residents want and assist with development and planning.
- Budget hearing last night, April 16 is the close of the budget public record. Budget work session April 19. Adoption of FY22 budget May 3.

Re: Arts in Public Places

- Signed contract with Craig Kraft to repair the Crossroads sculpture in Town Center.
- Preparing contracts for conservation work on the Spirit of Rockville and Untitled art pieces with work to begin in the fall using grant monies.
- City Forester, Paul Perez to designate a tree for tree carving next year. Considering a tree near the new skate park.
- Skate Park art project to start in FY22.
- Underpass Project - shop drawings allowing attachments to their concrete walls denied by CSX. Need to go back with other options. AIPP need to discuss.
- Gateway Project – no further actions on this project.

Re: Cultural Arts Organizations and Creatives Summit Planning Task Force

- Met March 30, and plan to hold monthly sub-committee meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., two weeks before the monthly CAC meetings.
- Plan to invite the organizations that have met with before and have them come back for a 15-minute update. Sub-committee will be sending out new questions for organizations on their status before they attend meeting. Also, prior to the group presentations, everyone will be supplied with information on the groups

and what they presented before.

- Plan to watch the virtual International Night on April 23 at 8 p.m. for potential organizations to add to the list.

Re: Human Rights Commission

- No report

Re: Old Business

- Robert reached out to Rockville high schools to see what they are doing with their arts programs during pandemic and reported that they hope to begin doing in-person performances and art shows with limited capacity in the fall. They also sounded interested in a CAC student ambassador program. Frances and Connor will take the lead on the ambassador program next fall.

Re: New Business

- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre now has some spaces available for reservations with limited capacity. No live audiences and face coverings required.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival to be held virtually again this year with plans moving along in the right direction. This year's honoree will be author, John Edgar Wideman. Karen has potential F. Scott Fitzgerald student scholars – schools recommend a student to be a scholar and they are honored at the festival.
- Annual meeting and presentation May 20.
- Rockville Arts Festival still scheduled for Labor Day weekend.

Re: Announcements

None

Re: Next Meeting

The next meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12, 2021.

Re: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

