

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
Minutes
July 14, 2021

Members Present: Karen Askin
Helen Aberger
Frances Bevington
Liliane Blom
Therese Capal
Connor Lee
Melissa Law
Robert Summers-Berger

Members Absent: Patricia Dubroof
Howard Jung

Councilmember Present: Mark Pierzchala

Staff Present: Andrew Lett., Betty Wisda

Other: Gabrielle Zwi

Karen Askin, Chairperson, called the virtual meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Re: Approval of the Minutes

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the June 9, 2021 meeting.

Re: Chairperson's Report

Karen Askin reported that Rockville Swing Band will perform at the Rockville Arts Festival in September.

Re: Councilmember Report

Councilmember Pierzchala reported on the following items.

- The Mayor and Council will vote on approval of the 2040 Master Plan at their meeting on August 2.
- The budget process will begin in November. If the Cultural Arts Commission is interested in specific items, proposals should be discussed and start preparation in September.
- The City will receive money from the Federal Government in the amount of \$8 to \$9 million dollars. The specific guidelines will be provided by the Finance Department for use of the funds in Fiscal Year 2022.

Re: Staff Report

- The Rockville Art League Juried Members' Exhibit will be on display at Glenview Mansion Art Gallery from July 15 through September 12.
- Eleanor Simpson, Rockville Civic Ballet Director, will work with the graduating teens to create a presentation of "Twelve Dancing Princesses" that will be filmed on July 23 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.
- Under the direction of Dr. Juan Gallestegui, the Rockville Concert Band will have indoor rehearsals in the Social Hall beginning July 27.
- Special Events Division presented Live at Redgate on June 23 through June 26.
- The City Clerk's Office sent an email regarding annual reports from Boards and Commissions for presentation to the Mayor and Council. The Commissioners will discuss this matter at a future meeting.
- The Mayor and Council will need to approve Brian Rogers as a Cultural Arts Commissioner at a future meeting.

Re: Task Force/Committee Updates

Art in Public Places

Betty Wisda reported the following items.

- Matthew Geller obtained dimensions and photographs of the main entrance of the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center on a site visit on June 19. She provided the requested drawings for his structural engineer.
- Betty submitted Notification to the State Highway Administration for Consideration of Site at Route 28 and W. Gude Drive for the Rockville Gateway Art Project on July 2.
- Craig Kraft and the Art Display Company completed the repair work for "Crossroads" on July 7.
- She will attend the meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board on July 22 to solicit a volunteer to serve on the Artist Nomination Committee for the Rockville Skate Park Art Project,
- Andy Lett and Betty will have a virtual meeting with Steven Sergelin and Laurent Odde from WMATA to discuss potential sites for gateway art projects at Twinbrook Metro Station on July 29.
- Betty has requested a quote from Debora Rodrigues of Past Matters, LLC for cleaning of "On Site" at Welsh Park.
- Debora Rodrigues will complete conservation work on "Untitled" and "Spirit of Rockville" from August 23 through September 12.
- The members of the Art in Public Places Committee agreed to meet on the first Wednesday for the month.

Culture and Arts Organizations Committee

- Helen Aberger will be stepping down as chairperson of this committee. A motion for Frances Bevington to become the chairperson was made and second. The motion passed unanimously.

- Frances Bevington presented a draft of a form to obtain information from arts groups for the Listening Session. Commissioners should review and submit comments to her by July 23.
- The Listening Session will take place at the meeting on October 13. A motion was made and second that Frances Bevington to work with the City's Public Information Office on behalf of the Cultural Arts Commission.
- The Commission discussed the possibility for the form be translated in Spanish and other languages.

Human Rights Commission

Gabrielle Zwi reported that the Human Rights Commission will have a new chairperson appointed by the Mayor and Council.

Re: Old Business

Andy Lett reported on the poll of commissioners regarding in-person meetings. The Commissioners agreed that the meeting on August 11 will be a virtual meeting.

Re: New Business

None.

Re: Next Meeting

The next meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 11.

Re: Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.