

THE RAYMORE **ARTS COMMISSION** MET IN REGULAR SESSION TUESDAY, **FEBRUARY 9, 2016** IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL AT 100 MUNICIPAL CIRCLE, RAYMORE, MISSOURI. COMMISSIONERS PRESENT WERE: PARYS, GAMBRELL, LAWRENCE, MARTIN, BERRY, CANOVIC AND SETSER. ALSO PRESENT WERE: ASST. CITY MANAGER HAUCK, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER EKEY AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SEITTER.

**1. Call to Order** - Chair Parys called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call** - Adm. Asst. Seitter called roll and a quorum was present.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Public Comments** - None

**5. Staff Report**

A. FY 2015-2016 Budget Update

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted that items in italics had not been approved, but if all were approved tonight, there would be a remaining budget balance of \$11,680.00.

B. Upcoming Meeting/City Event Dates

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted the following meeting dates:

- Feb. 15th, 7:00 p.m. - joint work session with the City Council
- Feb. 16th - second Strategic Planning meeting at Eagle Glen with the doors opening at 6:00 p.m., program starting at 6:45 p.m., and ending by 9:00 p.m. Refreshments and free childcare provided.
- February 29th - third and final Strategic Planning meeting at Eagle Glen with the same time frame, refreshments and free childcare.
- March 3rd - Public Art Committee meeting
- March 8th - Arts Commission meeting

C. City Council Art Exhibit Update

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted that the Chamber Art Exhibit had been hung. She also noted that Chair Parys recognized several of the student artists at the Feb. 8th City Council meeting. A Call for Artists for the next exhibit will be advertised

later this week. Exhibit applications will be due to Adm. Asst. Seitter by March 1st; the Public Art Committee by March 3rd, and the Arts Commission by March 8th. She also mentioned that a suggestion had been made to purchase one piece of art from each exhibit to display in City buildings. This will be put on the Public Art Committee agenda for discussion.

D. Summer Scene Update

Communications Manager Ekey stated that the Summer Scene committee had been putting together applications for vendors and the juried art exhibit. He also noted the committee had not met this month, but they had been talking with the City Clerk and County Health officials to make sure all necessary paperwork was in place and that proper fees were charged. He also noted that since there has been discussion of a juried art exhibit with works to be sold, the committee was making sure to comply with all sales tax regulations and city licensing requirements. These artists fall under the state/city exception of vocational rather than occupational licensing, but there are still some requirements that need to be worked out.

Commissioner Gambrell asked for more info on the juried art exhibit.

Communications Manager Ekey stated that local and regional artists were being invited to submit up to three pieces of art and the committee will be making the final selections. They will also be inviting a couple of individuals who will work as the jury members. There will be four categories of artwork: 2D, 3D, photography, and jewelry with each having placings, as well as an overall category placing.

Commissioner Gambrell asked where the artwork would be displayed.

Communications Manager Ekey stated the artwork would be displayed in the Depot, with the festival taking place in the surrounding grassy area and the stage along the tree line.

E. Joint Arts Commission/City Council Meeting Presentation

Asst. City Manager Hauck shared a presentation on the upcoming City Council joint work session. She noted that she, Jill Grotzinger, and Chair Parys had been working on the presentation that will be presented to the City Council on Feb. 15th. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. and she invited the Commissioners to attend.

Chair Parys asked if the presentation would start at 7:00 p.m.

Asst. City Manager Hauck stated yes; and that Councilmembers and the Commissioners would be seated at u-shaped tables and the Commissioners would be invited to join in the conversation with the Council.

Communications Manager Ekey handed out a copy of the City Council work session presentation for the Commissioner's review.

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted that Chair Parys will be presenting the opening, introducing the Arts Commissioners, and explaining the charge given by the City Code when first formed. She will then cover the timeline and provide a sneak peek of projects planned in 2016. The presentation will then transition to the Community Stakeholder meetings. Jill Grotzinger will then transition into her findings, her final report, branding, and marketing. Asst. City Manager Hauck will outline the three structure options and any topics for discussion.

Commissioner Gambrell asked about school partnerships.

Chair Parys noted that school partnerships would be discussed; and indicated she was hoping for an interactive discussion with the Mayor and Councilmembers and encouraged Commissioners to ask questions.

Commissioner Lawrence asked about the three structure options noted in the presentation.

Asst. City Manager Hauck stated that ideally the outcome would be that the City Council would be able to identify how they want the Arts Commission to operate, using either Option 1, 2, or 3.

Chair Parys mentioned the possibility of setting up a not-for-profit entity or partnering with the Parks & Rec department.

Commissioner Berry asked if the Arts Commission's role should be revisited every few years.

Chair Parys was in agreement that their role should be revisited.

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted that the Arts Commission would have an annual work session with the City Council and that their role could be revisited regularly.

Commissioner Lawrence noted she had missed the first Strategic Planning meeting and asked if any additional information had been gleaned from the first Strategic Planning session?

Chair Parys stated that several Commissioners had attended the Strategic Planning meeting; and that attendees were very focused on community connections, and it seemed that art could be a part of that. She noted it wasn't specific to art, but sculpture along walking paths, enhancing the park areas with entertainment, etc. Her hope is that this will become more focused in the the second and third meetings.

Asst. City Manager Hauck stated that the second meeting would contain discussions of culture and art.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that she noticed the need for a downtown or central area was mentioned in the Strategic Planning meeting, and for her that was a big issue -- how to define and create.

## **6. Committee Updates**

- Public Art Committee

The next meeting is Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

**7. Consent Agenda** - Chair Parys asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda - Minutes of the January 12th, 2016 Arts Commission meeting.

Commissioner Setser made a motion to approve the January 12th, 2016 minutes as presented. Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 7-0.

## **8. Old Business**

- A. Ray-Pec Band Sponsorship Opportunity - \$300

Asst. City Manager Hauck thanked Commissioner Setser for reaching out and connecting with the Ray-Pec Band Dept. The sponsorship opportunity they have presented to the Commission is to sponsoring the 7th & 8th grade band in a series of Spring performances (travel cost and preparation). The Arts Commission will be listed as a sponsor.

Chair Parys asked for a motion to approve the \$300.00 Ray-Pec Band sponsorship.

Commissioner Setser made a motion to approve the \$300.00 Ray-Pec Band sponsorship. Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 7-0.

## **9. New Business**

### **A. Public Art Project: Adirondack Chairs**

Asst. City Manager Hauck indicated she was initially going to present a budget amount for approval. However, the Public Art Committee would like to meet one more time to discuss this project and present at the next Arts Commission meeting for full approval and then on to the City Council.

Asst. City Manager Hauck gave an overview of this project and noted that artists would decorate adirondack chairs and have them displayed throughout the community in the Summer of 2016. She noted that participants would purchase the chairs, (the committee is hoping to get sponsorship funds to help cover these costs), artists would decorate the chairs, and then display them at the Summer Scene event on June 11th. Following Summer Scene, the chairs would be placed at various locations throughout the community and thus become a public art exhibit throughout the summer.

Asst. City Manager Hauck indicated the Committee is discussing additional components of the project such as: Spring decorating workshops, building and decorating a large scale chair for display in a public space, a community treasure hunt incorporating social media, a photo contest of displayed chairs, and an auction/fund raising opportunity. The Public Art Committee wants to finalize these components before presenting to the full Commission. She noted the proposed budget for this project is approximately \$1,000, but this needs to be firmed up.

Asst. City Manager Hauck also went over the proposed draft timeline shown in the presentation.

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted the Public Art Committee was looking for direction from the Arts Commission to continue moving forward with this project, with the understanding that a more detailed plan would be brought forth in March.

Chair Parys asked about the composition of the chairs (wood or plastic) and Asst. City Manager Hauck indicated the Committee was comparing the cost of plastic vs. wood chairs and determining which was easiest to decorate, while keeping in mind a good price point in order to encourage participation.

Asst. City Manager Hauck noted it would be great to hold the kick off for this project at the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Memorial Park on Saturday, March 26th, especially due to the large number in attendance. The Commission could set up a pop-up tent and display decorated chairs and have marketing materials on hand.

Commissioner Martin asked if the Committee had considered a grant process for those who couldn't afford the chairs.

Asst. City Manager Hauck stated the Committee was looking at sponsors to help cover the cost of the chairs, but that she would add the grant component for the next meeting.

Chair Parys asked for a motion for the Public Art Committee to move forward with this project.

Commissioner Martin made a motion for the Public Art Committee to move forward on this project. Commissioner Canovic seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous with a vote of 7-0.

#### B. Music Events General Discussion

Commissioner Setser handed out her presentation to the Commissioners. She noted that musical events and concerts were mentioned in the recent community focus group meetings and the Reimagine Raymore meeting, so it seemed to be on people's minds. She would like the Commission to help bring those interested in music events together to establish an entity, provide direction and financial assistance, and then let them operate on their own. She presented background info on music programs and events in various cities throughout the state.

Commissioner Setser would like to identify local businesses and patrons who are interested in starting such a music group. The Arts Commission could be a sponsor. She also discussed a timeline for implementation. She envisions smaller events at first, set up in local schools and churches, with the first event possibly in May/June 2017. She would like to have a viable group established and ready for a large performance in time for Raymore's 150-year old celebration in 2021. She

feels such a group would benefit residents both young and old by providing easy access to free concerts and a diversity of musical performances. Commissioner Setser also outlined various other benefits to the community through establishing such a music group.

Chair Parys thanked Commissioner Setser for her hard work on researching these other music programs. She noted it was a great idea and feels there is a lot of local talent available. She asked for comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Martin replied she was in agreement with Commissioner Setser and that the community had asked for music events. However, she was a little hesitant to go down this road right now as she was unsure of the Arts Commission's role right now. She felt the conversation with the City Council would help define their role and determine if the Arts Commission should put on a music series and fulfil that role or if they should fund a subgroup. She felt this was a great idea to keep in mind as the role of the Arts Commission was defined.

Chair Parys felt it was appropriate to bring this idea forward now due to the upcoming discussion with the City Council and the Strategic Planning meetings. This way a determination could be made as to whether the Arts Commission would drive this process or a separate group. She thanked Commissioner Setser for her work and felt it was certainly worth consideration.

Commissioner Gambrell noted that the Commissioners were chosen for their talents and skills and this presentation was a good example of that. She noted that whether or not the Commissioners pursued this project, it was important that Commissioners feel free to bring ideas forward. She felt this was a good idea and noted that people have specifically asked for these types of music events. It would also be nice to have others specifically working on this component, while freeing up the Commissioners to work on other projects.

Commissioner Lawrence would like to be able to identify those individuals who chose music as a high priority in order to get a better idea of the types of music desired. She would also like to utilize Commissioner Martin's professional association with the symphony.

Commissioner Gambrell noted that if the bond issue passes and funding is made available for the Hawk Ridge ampi-theatre, a music group needs to get formed now so they have time to get organized and in place by the time the facility becomes available.

Commissioner Canovic felt this was a great long term goal and long term project. She also noted that while residents have requested music events, the type of music and size of event is still unknown. She felt the need to try out various types of events before committing to one path and seeing what the City was receptive to.

Chair Parys noted she is hopeful that the Summer Scene event will provide some insight into the types of music people prefer, as several different types of musicians will be introduced.

Commissioner Berry felt that Commissioner Setser had made a very strong argument for Option 1 and Option 3, as shown in the presentation.

Chair Parys asked if there were any other comments.

## **10. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Canovic stated that she had recently attended an ArtsKC workshop on the topic of arts administration and whether or not a group's role should be based on policy or implementation. The ArtsKC panel noted that even if you are a policy based group it is very important to step up and implement projects, because too many groups have great thinkers who come up with ideas but they aren't willing to put forth the time and effort to bring projects to fruition. Groups who focus on policy, must find a great network in the community or their ideas will not go anywhere.

Commissioner Setser mentioned she recently attended a Music Alive event at Benton House of Raymore, where the facilitator introduced the audience to the positive effects of music therapy.

Chair Parys appreciated Commissioner Setser sharing this information and felt these types of connections and interactions would help the Arts Commission build their network of community contacts and ideas.

Commissioner Gambrell stated how pleased she was with the work the Arts Commission had done since forming such as the Chamber Art Exhibition, support of local artists, and their work with local schools. She's very excited and felt the Commission is coming up with good ideas.

Commissioner Canovic thanked Asst. City Manager Hauck, Communications Manager Ekey, and Adm. Asst. Seitter for their work in supporting the Arts Commission.



Chair Parys gave a special thanks to Adm. Asst. Seitter for hanging the first Chamber Art Exhibit. She noted that the Tri County Art League was anxiously awaiting the next Call for Artists and another venue for displaying artwork. She also thanked Asst. City Manager Hauck and Communications Manager Ekey for making this possible.

## **11. Adjournment**

Chair Parys stated if there were no further comments she would entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Seitter