

CITY OF SURPRISE
ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – Approved

March 7, 2022 / 6:00 PM

Community Room
16000 NORTH CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374

CALL TO ORDER:

A. Roll Call

Chair Rhiannon Miett, commission members, Susan deJong, Margaret Lieu, Jay Lickus, Jo Grant, Kathie Morgan. (1 Vacancy)

Staff: Danielle Osborne, HSCV Administrator, Karina Caraveo, HSCV Administrative Specialist.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events Reports

Commissioner Morgan shared that she and Chair Miett are continuing to work towards art at the Surprise Stadium. She visited several art festivals and reminded the commission of the next AZ Humanities Speaker Series on March 9th.

Commissioner Grant attended the Litchfield Park Art Festival and the Beauty and the Beast performance at Sunset Hills Elementary School.

Chair Miett visited the Dinosaur World show at The Vista Center for the Arts.

Commissioner Lieu visited WHAM where she enjoyed the Interpretations VII exhibit and the Poetry Slam; she invited the commission to attend. She added that she, along with other commissioners, helped with the Friends of the Surprise Library bookmark contest.

Commissioner deJong shared that Norma Cunningham was named the City of Goodyear's "Citizen of the Year;" the honor award reception is scheduled for March 7th. She visited the Litchfield Park Art Festival, Ground Floor Artists 3D exhibit opening, and the Arts HQ Native American Imprint exhibition. She also attended a Poetry Slam meeting, the Mayor Hall "Thank You" Boards and Commissions dinner, and a reception at the West Valley Art Museum.

Commissioner Lickus also assisted with judging the bookmark contest. He visited the Native American Imprint exhibit at Arts HQ, the Litchfield Park Art Festival, and visited several towns such as Cornville, Sedona and Jerome, Arizona.

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Osborne reported on the following items:

- Feb. 2022 event participation:

- 13 participants in the February 16th Public Art Bus Tour
- Cancellation of February 24th Lunchtime Theater performance due to COVID-19
- “Bloom Where You’re Planted” update
- West Valley Arts Council recruitment for new CEO

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – Consideration and action pertaining to the selection of a Vice-Chair for the Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission.

Chair Miett opened the floor to nominations for the position of a Vice-Chair.

Chair Miett nominated Kathie Morgan. Ms. Morgan accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Lieu nominated Jo Grant. Ms. Grant declined the nomination.

Seeing no other nominations, Chair Miett closed the nomination period. Commissioners submitted their votes. Kathie Morgan was selected as the Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission Vice-Chair with 5 votes and 1 Abstain (deJong) (1 vacancy). Motion carried.

Item 2 – Consideration and action pertaining to the February 7, 2022 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Grant moved to approve the February 7, 2022 Arts & Cultural Advisory commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Lickus 2nd. 6 Yes votes (1 vacancy). Motion Carried.

Item 3 – Discussion pertaining to an update on the FY2022 Arts & Culture Grant Program.

Ms. Osborne provided an update on current grant recipients.

Vice-Chair Morgan asked what the recipients’ deadline is to submit reimbursement requests; Ms. Osborne advised it is June 15, 2022.

Chair Miett asked if the West Valley Chorale shared the number of Surprise residents that attended their performance; Ms. Osborne responded that 52% is what was reported.

Commissioner Lieu asked if HeARTsy shared the number of Surprise residents that attended their program; Ms. Osborne could not recall this information but stated that she would look into it.

Commissioner Lieu suggested that during the recipients’ final report, they should be instructed to include the number of Surprise residents that attended, a description of how their program was successful, and photos of the event(s).

Commissioner Grant asked if a staff member attends the virtual presentations; Ms. Osborne responded that in the case of HeARTsy's programs, Parks & Recreation staff participate in the virtual presentations.

Chair Miett asked staff to obtain feedback from the Parks & Rec department pertaining to the HeARTsy program. Ms. Osborne responded that she would follow up on this request.

Item 4 – Discussion pertaining to the Commission's participation in the Dysart Festival of the Arts event.

Commissioner Lieu reminded the commission of her suggestion of a feature artist within the commission's booth at the event, and said that she would share the contact information with staff.

Chair Miett asked if there was still time to approve the expense for hiring an artist. Ms. Osborne asked for guidance on an acceptable artist fee. The commission agreed that \$500.00 was a reasonable budget.

Vice-Chair Morgan asked for staff to provide an email notification sign-up sheet for the event; registrants would be added to the Arts & Culture email notifications. She mentioned this could be an incentive for the raffle.

Commissioner Lieu suggested printing pictures of art pieces on decals to allow the public go around the tent and place them next to the art pieces that they have visited, as an additional interactive element. Ms. Osborne advised she would do some research on what can be created within the short time span.

Item 5 – Discussion pertaining to participation in the Mayor's State of the City event.

Ms. Osborne provided an overview of the current plan for the event. She shared that the commission's table will be placed near the History Wall. Upon asking who would be available to participate, all of the commissioners responded that they would be present.

Item 6 – Discussion and action pertaining to acquiring a permanent collection for the City Hall Gallery.

Commissioner Lieu shared that she, Commissioner deJong, and Vice-Chair Morgan met with an art professional to discuss a process for acquiring a permanent art collection for the City Hall gallery.

Vice-Chair Morgan stated that the working group has learned how to start when curating a permanent art collection; the selection of an artist is made, followed by selection of artwork. After considering the time and expense that would be necessary to acquire a permanent art collection, she recommended the commission reconsider the quarterly exhibitions at the City Hall Gallery. She also asked if City Council would need to be involved prior to the commission making a decision. Ms. Osborne advised that the working group would have to present any recommendations to the Commission to vote on, followed by approval from the City Council for budget authority.

Ms. Osborne suggested the working group review what other cities are currently doing. She said that if rotating the art exhibits is decided; staff can explore what the West Valley Arts Council is doing with other cities and bring it back to the commission, so that the service

agreement can be revisited. She also suggested that should the rotating exhibit initiative be continued, the commission can explore different operators to manage the gallery. Finally, she advised that if a permanent art collection become the consensus, the best course of action for the commission would be to procure the services of a curator, since they are well-versed in how to create a cohesive art collection.

Commissioner Lickus asked the commission to discuss the purpose of the art at City Hall and suggested that it could help inform the commission's decision. Commissioner deJong said that the commission was tasked by the Mayor and City Council to bring art to City Hall back in 2013.

Commissioner Lieu added that the rotation of the art exhibits brings some interest to City Hall, but she also pointed out that most of these pieces are exhibited at the local galleries as well. Vice-Chair Morgan responded that having the artwork rotate among the local galleries is not an issue because the community is not likely to visit all of the locations. She recommended having it rotate every six months, rather than every three months. Commissioner deJong expressed concerned about the artists agreeing to have their art on display for six months.

Commissioner Grant felt that the expense the commission would inherit through a permanent art collection would be very costly, and suggested that rotating the art exhibits is not a bad plan to continue. Commissioner Lickus felt that if the commission reached consensus on the permanent art collection, large pieces should be considered as well as original pieces with high regard, in order to help draw the community in to City Hall to view the art.

Commissioner Lieu asked if the commission could review the current contract for the rotating exhibition. Ms. Osborne said that she would bring some samples of written RFQs for a curator to the commission to review. She would also explore examples of similar rotating art exhibits in municipal buildings.

Item 7 – Discussion and action pertaining to promotional items for special events.

Ms. Osborne pointed out the quote attached to the agenda, asked for a motion to approve a re-order of bookmarks. Commissioner Lieu requested that the color be removed completely from the bookmarks to allow more coloring area. The commission agreed.

Commissioner Lickus moved to approve the purchase of the bookmarks at a cost not to exceed \$450.00. Commissioner deJong 2nd. 6 Yes votes (1 vacancy). Motion Carried.

Item 8 – Discussion pertaining to the Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission retreat.

Ms. Osborne asked the Commission for their availability to hold a half-day retreat. Commissioner Grant pointed out the current vacancy and suggested the commission wait to hold the retreat until this position was filled. Commissioner Lieu advised her availability are weeknights and weekends. Commissioner Morgan suggested holding it in early summer.

Ms. Osborne said that an online schedule will be sent out to the commission to settle on a date.

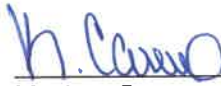
Other Business and Future Agenda Items:

City Hall Gallery Contract
RFQ Curator
Dysart Festival debrief
Maps
Stadium
Backdrop to Poetry Slam

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn 7:37 p.m. – Commissioner Lieu. Commissioner Grant 2nd. 6
Yes votes (1 vacancy). Motion carried.


Kathie Morgan, Vice-Chair

ATTEST:


Karina Caraveo, Administrative Specialist

CERTIFICATION:

I, Danielle Osborne, Human Service & Community Vitality Administrator for the City of Surprise Human Service & Community Vitality Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission meeting held on March 7, 2022.


Danielle Osborne, HSCV Administrator

