

CITY OF SURPRISE
ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – Approved

April 4, 2022 / 6:00 PM

Community Room
16000 NORTH CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374

CALL TO ORDER:

A. Roll Call

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

Staff: Danielle Osborne, HSCV Administrator, Hobie Wingard, Assistant City Attorney, Karina Caraveo, HSCV Administrative Specialist.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events Reports

Chair Miett asked the commission to put their cell phones away during their meeting to avoid distractions. She also stated that in an effort to save the commission some time, starting next month commissioners should only report on events that took place in Surprise.

Commissioner Lieu manned the arts booth at the Dysart Festival for the Arts and the State of the City event.

Commissioner Grant attended the State of the City event and the Canyon Ridge STEM Festival.

Vice-Chair Morgan reminded everyone about the next AZ Humanities speaker series on April 26th.

Commissioner deJong guided the Local Art Gallery tour, attended the Joe Tyler Studio tour and visited Ground Floor Artists and attended Lunchtime Theater.

Commissioner Lickus visited the State of the City event and the Arizona Philharmonic performance at the Vista Center for the Arts. He also shared that he has accepted a seat on the Vista Center for the Arts Board.

Staff Reports

Ms. Osborne reported on the following items:

- March 2022 event participation:
 - 15 participants in the March 8th City Hall Tour
 - 35 participants in the March 9th AZ Humanities Speaker event
 - 5 participants in the March 17th Local Gallery Tour
 - 20 participants in the March 19th Tour of Joe Tyler Home & Studio

- 50 participants in the March 24th Lunchtime Theater event.
- Gallery 37 art pieces review
- Arts & Culture Grant application has been released
 - Closes on 4/22 at 5:00 p.m.
- New bookmark give-a-ways are on order

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – Consideration and action pertaining to the March 7, 2022 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner deJong asked to correct the fifth paragraph on item 6, page 4.

Commissioner Grant moved to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2022 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission meeting as amended. Commissioner Lieu 2nd. 6 Yes votes. 1 vacancy. Motion carried.

Item 2 – Discussion pertaining to the 2022 Dysart Festival of the Arts event.

Danae Marinelli presented a certificate of appreciation to the commission for their sponsorship and participation at the Dysart Festival for the Arts. She shared that there were approximately 7,500 – 8,000 attendees.

The commissioners congratulated Ms. Marinelli on a successful event. They shared that the artwork by the students was amazing and they expressed appreciation for recognizing the commission during the event.

Commissioner Lieu shared that the featured artist hired by the commission – Sheri Caldwell - sends her gratitude to the commission for inviting her to the event.

Item 3 – Consideration and possible action pertaining to an application for a donation of art.

Surprise resident Douglas Gitchel presented for consideration a model aircraft carrier that he built and would like to donate to the city. He built the model to resemble the ships during his service in the United States Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962. The homemade aircraft carrier weighs 15 pounds, measures 6'x3'x1/4", and the main material used is poster board. Mr. Gitchel offered to build a Plexiglas cover if the commission accepted the piece.

Ms. Osborne advised the commission that if they would like to take the donation application into further consideration, a working panel should be formed to conduct further research and determine any other accommodations that would need to be made.

After some discussion and upon determination that no viable locations exist within city property due to a lack of space, the commission declined the donation. They suggested

offering Mr. Gitchel some local Veteran group contacts to explore finding an appropriate home for this art piece.

Item 4 – Discussion and possible action pertaining to art at the Surprise Stadium.

Vice-Chair Morgan informed the commission that after several meetings with the Sports & Tourism department to house art at the Surprise Stadium, it was determined that it is best to begin by placing art outside of the stadium. She stated that several locations were explored after previous discussions with the commission and staff. Ultimately, it was determined that the art should be placed on either side of the entrances to the stadium. The locations would have full exposure from the main road, parking lot, and visibility to drivers traveling North and South on Bullard Rd.

Ms. Osborne explained the Request for Qualifications (RFQu) process, where an evaluation panel will be formed to determine the semifinalists. Up to 7 qualified artists will be chosen and a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be distributed to develop a design for the art. She called attention to a draft project scope that was shared with the commission, mentioning that it may be revised after City Council budget adoption in the new fiscal year. The language on the solicitation may change upon review and recommendation from the Procurement team that may help attract artists. She asked the commission for guidance on the proposed scope of the project and the budget, in order to start establishing a timeline which would include a presentation to seek approval from City Council. Vice-Chair Morgan added that the art proposals will be open to figurative or abstract pieces but must have a relation with baseball.

Commissioner deJong asked if the artists would have to submit on both proposed locations. Vice-Chair Morgan responded they are welcome to but it is not a requirement. Commissioner deJong expressed concern about the proposed budget because it may not allow the commission to work on any other projects. Chair Miett advised the budget is available now and should be the focus of their efforts.

Commissioner Lieu shared concerned with the proposed locations; she felt that they were not prominent. Vice-Chair Morgan advised that the aesthetics were kept in mind when the decision was made for the two locations and staff recommended that the locations for the art be placed in areas that would be equitable to both teams. Chair Miett stated that the stadium is the number one most visited location in the city; therefore, public art should be considered.

Commissioner Grant asked for clarification on how the process will take place when selecting two pieces of art by different artists while staying within budget. Chair Miett responded that the call would be out with an anticipated budget of \$400,000 for both pieces and an option to submit proposals for one or both sides.

Commissioner Lickus suggested placing art in other growing areas in the city since there are concerns with the proposed locations. Commissioner Grant expressed concern with the commission's lack of objection in previous discussions. She felt that any concerns should have been shared during previous meeting discussions and felt that the RFQu should be distributed to allow the commission to explore the art proposals. She felt that this would be a good opportunity to begin placing art in and around the stadium.

Commissioner Grant moved to approve the project scope and budget as part of a solicitation for art at the Surprise Stadium at a cost not to exceed \$400,000. Vice-Chair Morgan 2nd. 6 Yes votes. 1 vacancy. Motion carried.

Item 5 – Discussion pertaining to the City Hall Art Gallery.

Ms. Osborne asked for clarity and direction from the commission on what they would like to see in the City Hall Art gallery. She advised that if the commission desires to continue rotating exhibitions, then the language on the agreement with a provider will be reviewed and amended to more clearly define the expectations and services the commission would like to see. She advised that the relationship with the West Valley Arts Council could continue with any recommended amendments by the commission.

Commissioner Lickus recommended the continuance of rotating the art and a focus on involving youth as participants. Chair Miett asked to have West Valley Arts Council propose an exhibit schedule.

Commissioner Lieu said that she would like to continue the agreement with West Valley Arts Council and to include that the commission be acknowledged in all program publicity.

After further discussion, Ms. Osborne summarized and affirmed that the commission would like to continue their agreement with West Valley Arts Council, and will direct them to handle all art curation and duties related to exhibiting art in City Hall on a quarterly basis. The exhibit schedule will include the Charter Schools exhibition, a new exhibition featuring students from the Dysart Unified School District, and art in the display cases. In total, there will be 4 or 5 different exhibits throughout the year.

Commissioner deJong asked about plans to acquire a permanent art collection, to which Ms. Osborne deferred the question to the full commission. The commission decided to hold off on procuring any art pieces until the agreement with West Valley Arts Council is revisited.

Item 6 – Discussion and action pertaining to the “Poetry Slam at WHAM” event.

Ms. Osborne shared that the agreement for the Poetry Slam at WHAM is up for renewal and asked for feedback on current service levels and output. She advised that the agreement entails a \$1,200.00 stipend for the year to pay for the emcee, finger foods for guests, and miscellaneous costs. This stipend was factored into the new budget.

Commissioner Lieu felt that this is the most successful program currently available, and that visitors from surrounding cities of all age ranges attend.

Commissioner Lickus moved to recommend renewal of the “Poetry Slam at WHAM” service agreement. Commissioner Lieu 2nd. 6 Yes votes. 1 vacancy. Motion carried.

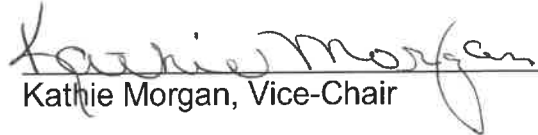
Item 7 – Discussion pertaining to an update on the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission’s recommended Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

Ms. Osborne provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2023 – the budget line items are as follows: \$5,000.00 for community relations, \$600.00 for special event hosting, \$4,700.00 for professional outside services, \$30,000.00 to support the art grants, \$2,400.00 towards art maintenance, \$3,000.00 for public art bus tours, and \$5,000.00 towards marketing. She advised the funds could be re-appropriated throughout the year if necessary.

Other Business and Future Agenda Items:

Art grant application reviews
Backdrop for WHAM
Proposed additional art opportunity at Surprise Stadium

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn: **8:04** p.m. – Commissioner Lieu. Commissioner Grant 2nd.
6 Yes votes (1 vacancy). Motion carried.

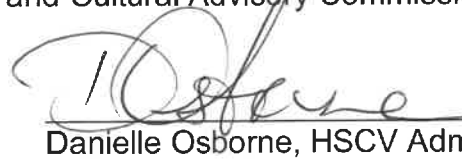

Kathie Morgan, Vice-Chair

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 April 4, 2022.


Danielle Osborne, HSCV Administrator

