

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2020

TIME: 4:30 P.M

PLACE: Online Zoom Meeting (Web ID: 823 3358 2693)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Sammann, Courtney Becks, Barbara Hedlund, Frank Modica, Jenelle Orcherton, Gonzalo Pinilla, Angela Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jared Miller, Stacey Robinson

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Rachel Storm, Arts & Culture Coordinator; HeatherAnn Hicks-Layman, Program Specialist; Stepheny McMahon, Economic Development Coordinator; Jason Liggett, UPTV Station Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Carlie Upchurch, Jose Guzman, Seth Fein, William Reger

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The Urbana Arts and Culture Commission was called to order at 4:45 P.M by Hedlund, acting chair. Hicks-Layman took roll and a quorum was declared present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Modica moved to approve minutes from September 8th, 2020. Sammann seconded. With no changes, all present were in favor and minutes were approved.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was none.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- **Staff Report – Rachel L Storm, Urbana Arts and Culture Coordinator**

Storm presented the monthly staff report. Topics included: an overview of ongoing and upcoming virtual events, the call for applications for the 2021 Arts Grant Cycle, the call for applications for the 2021 Poet Laureate and the inaugural Youth Poet Laureate Programs, participation in community driven discussions concerning race involving members of the local theatre community, the acceptance of an Illinois Arts Council Grant for 2021 operation costs, and an update on the WeCU Intern who is using their involvement with the Urbana Arts and Culture Program as part of their James Scholar Honors Program. Other topics included an update on the Care4U program which in the past had supplied the Urbana Arts and Culture Program with a high-school aged summer intern. This program will end due to a lack of funding.

Poet Laureate Will Reger gave a brief reflection on his tenure, and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve Urbana as the inaugural Poet Laureate.

- **COVID-19 Impact on Urbana’s Arts and Culture Program**

Storm reported that Urbana’s Arts and Culture Program continues to have a suspension of in-person programs with the exception of small and socially-distanced gatherings (such as ribbon cuttings.) The program staff is working remotely while the City building remains closed to the public. An updated list of artist relief programs is available on the City website.

- **2020 Urbana Arts Grant, Final Report – Carlie Upchurch**

Upchurch presented a final report for *Vibrant Public Mural*, a requirement of their 2020 Urbana Arts Grant.

- **2020 Urbana Arts Grant, Final Report – Seth Fein**

Fine presented a final report for *Pygmalion 2020*, a requirement of their 2020 Urbana Arts Grant.

- **2020 Urbana Arts Grant, Final Report – Jose Guzman**

Guzman presented a final report for *Salsa Dance Night with the Afro-Caribbean Jazz Collective*, a requirement of their 2020 Urbana Arts Grant.

- **Urbana Sculpture Project**

Storm presented the Urbana Arts and Culture Commission with the staff recommended sculpture *What is the Good* by Gregory Stallmeyer. Discussion was held. There will be an official announcement about installment in the upcoming months.

6. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Hedlund declared the meeting adjourned at 5:56 P.M.

Submitted, HeatherAnn Hicks-Layman, Program Specialist