

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: July 10, 2018

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

PLACE: City Council Chambers, Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Hedlund, Eric Jakobsson, Jenelle Orcherton, Patricia Sammann, Jessica Snyder

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Erica Cooper-Peyton, Katie Harrell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sara Jones

STAFF PRESENT: Brandon Boys, Economic Development Manager; Rachel Storm, Public Arts Coordinator; Sukiya J. Reid, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Josh Birky, Christina Carpio, Charlette Jones, Caiyere Reid, Corday Reid

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Ms. Sammann. Ms. Reid took roll and a quorum was declared present.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the June 12, 2018 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Ms. Sammann made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Hedlund seconded the motion. All Commission members present were in favor of approval, and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was none.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- **Presentation by Staff: Monthly Progress Report**

Ms. Storm presented the City staff's monthly progress report to the Commission, outlining projects in process, recent requests and recommendations from the public, staff activities, and upcoming events.

Following the monthly progress report, Ms. Storm introduced Public Arts Intern, Deborah Agoye.

- **Presentation by 2018 Arts Grant Recipient: Christina Carpio, *Asian American Cultural Center***

Ms. Sammann introduced Christina Carpio, Acting Director of the Asian American Cultural Center. After giving a background on the Asian American Cultural Center, she gave a presentation on their project titled, *Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month AsiaFest Celebration*. *AsiaFest* was a free event that took place at the Asian American Cultural Center on April 29th from 1-4pm. The family-friendly festival showcased a variety of Asian cultures through food, art, performances, and activities to approximately 1000 people. Some of the activities included Bollywood, Chinese calligraphy, origami and a photo booth. Four professional staff, 11 interns, 40 student volunteers, and three community volunteers helped to make this event possible. Ms. Carpio thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2017 Arts Grant Recipient: Josh Birky, *An Exploration of Collaborative Painting***

Ms. Sammann introduced Josh Birky, Grants Manager at Parkland College, and hobby painter. He gave a presentation on his project titled, *An Exploration of Collaborative Painting*, which was a collaboration between eight Urbana High School students and eight Parkland College students. The project took place at Parkland College where students were paired off in groups of 2. Each pair of students had a section of a larger painting that they would work on in 2-3 hour sessions over several evenings. At the end, all 8 pieces were to be connected together to make one large collaborative piece. The finished piece was installed at Broadway Food Hall and will remain on display for some time. Mr. Birky thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2018 Arts Grant Recipient: Charlette Jones, *Rejoicing through Pain with Hip Hop***

Ms. Sammann introduced singer/writer/play director, Charlette Jones. She gave a brief background on herself and a visual presentation on her project titled, *Rejoicing through Pain with Hip Hop*. Her project was geared toward minority males aged 35 and under to help them use the arts as an alternative to violence. During the program, participants played drums and speakers spoke to the audience about life obstacles that they were able to overcome. Ms. Jones then asked if two young males from the audience, Corday and Caiyere Reid would come up and join her for a song. The three of them performed an acapella version of one of her songs, *Rejoice*. Ms. Jones thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Discussion: Arts & Culture Research**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. Storm stated that as a continuation of the discussion on arts & culture, she wanted to present an activity for the Commission to participate in focusing on the mission statement and vision for the future. She stated that the Commission would continue this topic at the next months meeting. A brief discussion between members of the Staff and Commission ensued.

6. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Sammann made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Hedlund seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Submitted,
Sukiya J. Reid, Recording Secretary