

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

**URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION**

**APPROVED**

**DATE:** August 9, 2011

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m.

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

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Geoffrey Bant, Barbara Hedlund, Robert Lewis, Patricia Sammann, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ilona Matkovszki

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Carrino, Economic Development Division Manager; Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator; Sukiya J. Robinson, Recording Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeffrey Farlow-Cornell

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Ms. Sammann. Christina McClelland 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 July 12, 2011 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Mr. Lewis 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. COMMUNICATIONS

- **Presentation by 2011 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra**

Ms. Sammann introduced Jeffrey Farlow-Cornell, executive director of the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Farlow-Cornell gave a slideshow presentation on her project, The Young People's Concerts, in which the CUSO held 3 performances titled "A Visit With Beethoven" over 2 days. Ms. Farlow-Cornell thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

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

Ms. McClelland 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.

For an update on current projects, she reported the following:

- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, Ms. McClelland reported that 2010 project final reports were being submitted, and 2011 projects were in progress. She also stated that for the 2012 cycle application materials had been updated, and Staff was working with City Information Services to create an online submission process. She stated that an online upload may not be available, but an online form should be able to be set up.
- With regards to the Downtown/Royer subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that the signage was approved by the County Board, however a finalized design is needed before moving forward with fabrication.
- With regards to the Marketing subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that a meeting was held on July 28<sup>th</sup> and they had been working on materials that would compile various classes of the arts available in the Champaign/Urbana area.
- With regards to Fundraising, Ms. McClelland reported that the subcommittee recommended that the Commission do its long term planning during the fall rather than the spring, which can be especially busy.
- With regards to Outreach, Ms. McClelland reported that City staff presented a lunchtime lecture on the Urbana Public Arts Program at OLLI on July 20<sup>th</sup>. She stated that she has continued to meet with members of the arts community and would like Commission members to inform her if they know of others she should meet with.
- With regards to Boneyard Creek Public Art, Ms. McClelland reported that she would give an update later on in the agenda.
- With regards to Art at the Market, Ms. McClelland reported that the third 2011 Art at the Market workshop, "Get the I.D.E.A.!", with the I.D.E.A Store's Education Team, was held on July 30th with about 150 participants. She stated that the next one would be "Building Boxes for the Birds with Justine Bursoni," from 8am-12pm on August 27th with a preview on WCIA at 8:20am on Monday, August 22nd. She stated that

City staff was still seeking a Commissioner to help with the Art at the Market workshop on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

- With regards to *Art Now*, Ms. McClelland reported that August's new episode was an interview with painter, Suzanne Keith Loechl.
- With regards to the City Building Exhibit Space, Ms. McClelland reported that the paintings of the current Artist of the Corridor, Bonnie Switzer would be on display until September 30<sup>th</sup> with a reception scheduled for Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 4-5pm.
- With regards to marketing, Ms. McClelland reported that City staff had been regularly updating the Public Arts Program's Facebook page, which as of this meeting had 377 fans. She also stated that the Urbana Public Arts Twitter account, which could be followed @urbanapublicart, as of this meeting had 85 followers. Ms. McClelland reported that a monthly e-mail newsletter had been sent to 342 subscribers on August 1st. She also stated that Staff had selected a design firm for producing new marketing materials for the Urbana Public Arts Program and would begin working with them shortly.
- With regards to UPAC New Commissioners, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff had been working with the Mayor to direct suitable candidates to apply to fill the three open seats on the Urbana Public Arts Commission. She requested that any recommendations from the Commission be sent to her.
- With regards to grants, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff had submitted an application for a Program Grant for General Operating Support from the Illinois Arts Council. She stated that the application had been reviewed and a response would hopefully be received soon.
- For upcoming events, Ms. McClelland reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for September 13, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Chambers.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion and Approval of Boneyard Creek Beautification Project Selected Artist**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms McClelland summarized the process that the jury, which included City Staff, local artist Christiane Martens, Foth and Wenk consultants, and the Boneyard Art subcommittee, used to narrow the application pool down to the 3 finalists. After interviewing the 3 finalists, the jury selected Jack Mackie to be recommended as the selected artist for this project. She stated that his letter of interest, and resume were included in the meeting packet and then gave a slideshow presentation of some of his work that was not included in the packet due to file size. Ms. McClelland stated that it was City staff's recommendation that the Commission approve Jack Mackie as the artist to assist on the project. A discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and Staff ensued. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Ms. Sammann asked

for a motion. Ms. Sammann made a motion to approve Jack Mackie as the artist for the Boneyard Creek Beautification Project. Ms. Winkelmes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and with all members in favor, the recommendation was approved.

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. McClelland announced that staff was looking for more applicants for the Artist of the Corridor. She stated that any Urbana artist interested in applying for Artist of the Corridor should email her at [cmmcclelland@urbanaininois.us](mailto:cmmcclelland@urbanaininois.us). Ms. McClelland also announced that 40 North was accepting nominations for their annual ACE Awards.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Lewis made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Hedlund seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Submitted,

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Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator