

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: February 14, 2012

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Geoffrey Bant, Gregory Chew, Barbara Hedlund, Ilona Matkovszki, Patricia Sammann, Virginia Waaler

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Lewis

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Mary-Ann Winkelmes

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Carrino, Economic Development Division Manager;
Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Phil Strang

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. 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 December 13, 2011 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Ms. Hedlund made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Waaler 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: IMC Children's Art Festival**

Ms. Sammann introduced Isak Griffiths, Venue Coordinator and Carol Ammons, Operations Manager, IMC. They presented a slideshow presentation of their Children's Art Festival held on October 22, 2011 at the UC-IMC. The festival's attendance increased by over 200 people from the previous year and offered activities such as music, dance, painting, hula hooping, storytelling, and face painting. Ms. Griffiths and Ms. Ammons thanked the Commission for the grant received. At the conclusion of the report, questions and comments from the Commission were heard.

- **Presentation by 2011 Urbana Arts Grant Recipient Report: Boneyard/Saline**

Ms. Sammann introduced Chris Carl and Evan Blondell, artists for the Boneyard/Saline project. They gave a slideshow presentation on their project in which they explored the Boneyard and Saline creeks by canoe and on foot. They observed wildlife, plastic, shopping carts, and other objects along the 12 mile stretch of creeks, which they used for their sculptural project. The exhibition was held during the Sweetcorn Festival and all unused leftover materials were donated to Mack's Recycling. A book was produced from this project and 60 copies would be available for distribution soon. Mr. Carl and Mr. Blondell 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 Staff, Ms. McClelland reported that Jessica Snyder was the new volunteer Public Arts intern for the Spring.
- With regards to the Commission, Ms. McClelland reported that a new Illinois law had been passed that all elected and appointed members of public bodies must successfully complete an electronic training course on the Open Meetings Act. She stated that she would provide more information on that in the future.
- With regards to the Boneyard Creek Public Art, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff presented ideas for additional Boneyard public art enhancements, including the wall tile and stone markers for the Broadway Bridge, to the Champaign County Design and Conservation Foundation on February 6th. She stated that she would inform the Commission when more information was received. She also stated that Jack Mackie had been working on updated designs for the liners for the walls due to some issues

- with joints in the walls. She showed an example of the updated design.
- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, Ms. McClelland reported that the 52 applications for 2012 Urbana Arts Grants had been received. She stated that juries met on February 4th and would be meeting again on February 19th to review the applications, and recommendations would be presented at the March meeting.
 - With regards to the Royer Arts & Architecture District, Ms. McClelland reported that an on-demand video of the dedication ceremony for the Champaign County Courthouse Commemorative sign could be accessed at <http://urbanaininois.us/residents/urbana-public-television/video-demand/royer-sign-dedication>.
 - With regards to the Marketing subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that the Marketing subcommittee met on January 26, 2012 to develop a marketing plan for 2012.
 - With regards to the Martin Luther King Jr. Park Project Subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that the RFQ was released on January 26th with guidelines and application available at <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artsopportunities>. She stated that submissions were due by 5:00 pm on March 14, 2012.
 - With regards to Downtown Arts Planning, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff was conducting research on downtown arts projects, including vinyl window art and projecting video art/short films onto the exterior of downtown buildings.
 - With regards to Outreach, Ms. McClelland reported that she served as a judge for 40 North and Adam's Outdoor Advertising's SKY GALLERY project, which features local artists' work on area billboards. She stated that Staff was also involved in the Urbana planning committee for the 2012 Boneyard Arts Festival, which would be held April 19-22, 2012.
 - With regards to *Art Now!*, Ms. McClelland reported that January's episode featured painter, Bonnie Switzer. The new episode for February was an interview with scenic designer, Tom Korder and choreographer, Jean Korder.
 - With regards to Art at the Market, Ms. McClelland reported that a proposal for additional Market music and performance programming to be coordinated by the Public Arts Coordinator was approved by City Council on February 6th as part of that position becoming full time. She stated that there would be a follow-up memo to the Public Arts Commission for the March meeting on the increased arts programming at the Market.
 - With regards to the City Building Exhibit Space, Ms. McClelland reported that the new Artist of the Corridor display featured paintings by Betsem Benjamin and Wiley Elementary third and fifth graders, and would be on display until April 30th. She stated that a reception would be held on February 15th 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 415 fans. She also stated that the Urbana Public Arts Twitter account, which could be followed @urbanapublicart, as of this meeting had 195 followers. Ms. McClelland reported that a monthly e-mail newsletter had been sent to 415 subscribers on January 9th and 31st. She stated that the design for the promotional postcard was included in the meeting packet and she requested any feedback from the Commission.
 - For upcoming events, Ms. McClelland reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for March 13, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- **Long-range Planning Exercise, continued**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland gave an update on the progress since the last meeting. She stated that in the draft included in the meeting packet, she had compiled what had been worked on since October and made it more user friendly for the Commission and the public. Ms. McClelland asked the Commission if there were any comments about things that should be included. A discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and Staff ensued.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- **Lease Extension of Fanfare by Shawn Morin**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland explained that most of this agenda item was sent to the Commission members via email, but that the Commission's approval would be needed in order to compensate the artist for the extension of the lease. Mr. Chew made a motion to approve the lease extension with Shawn Phillip Morin for Fanfare. Ms. Waaler seconded the motion. With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Ms. Sammann called for a voice vote. All Commission members were in favor of approval and the motion carried unanimously.

- **Annual Planning Process**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland reported that she had written an update for all of the areas in which work had occurred this year. She stated that it would be helpful for the Commission members to think about which programs they would like to see continued, and ones they might possibly want to add before the next meeting. Ms. McClelland briefly reported on the status of the Public Arts Projects and Program of Work for FY 11-12. A discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and Staff ensued.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Hedlund announced that there would be an event called "Moving Pictures" held at the Krannert Center on February 24th at 7:30 p.m. Ms. McClelland announced that the 40 North Annual Gala was scheduled for that weekend and she could provide more information to anyone interested.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Matkovszki made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Waaler seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Submitted,

Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator