

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: April 10, 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, Iona Matkovszki, Patricia Sammann, Virginia Waaler, Mary-Ann Winkelmes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Lewis

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Barbara Hedlund

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Stewart Hicks, Allison Newmeyer

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

The Urbana Public Arts Commission was called to order at 4:35 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 March 13, 2012 meeting were reviewed by the Commission. With no changes proposed, Ms. Winkelmes 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: Allison Newmeyer & Stewart Hicks**

Ms. Sammann introduced Allison Newmeyer of Design With Company & Stewart Hicks, Assistant Professor of Architecture at the University of Illinois and also part of Design With Company. They gave a slide-show presentation on their project, Pin-Plant, in which they took apart old computers and used the colorful pieces to construct a plant exhibition. 5000 buttons in a couple hundred different colors were handmade by Ms. Newmeyer and Mr. Hicks from these pieces. The project was installed and displayed in the storefront window space of Art Coop. They 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:

- Ms. McClelland made an announcement regarding the required Open Meetings Act training required of all Commission members.
- With regards to the Martin Luther King Jr. Park Project Subcommittee, Ms. McClelland reported that 45 submissions were received for the RFQ. She stated that a selection panel would meet on April 11, 2012.
- With regards to the Urbana Arts Grant Program, Ms. McClelland reported that the 27 2012 Urbana Arts Grants recipients were entering into agreement with the City and were beginning their projects. She stated that over 50 people attended the 2012 Urbana Arts Grants Announcement Celebration at Buvon's Wine Bar.
- With regards to the Boneyard Creek Public Art, Ms. McClelland reported that Jack Mackie was continuing to compile final costs and complete final designs for the additional enhancements funded by the CCDC donation.
- With regards to Downtown Arts Planning, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff had been following up on questions related to the artist-designed adhesive vinyl for the parking deck. She stated that the subcommittee would meet on April 12, 2012.
- With regards to the Urbana Sculpture Project, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff and the Downtown Arts subcommittee were working with the Public Art League (PAL) to develop a tree-themed Call for Sculpture for downtown which would be due on June 15th. She stated that they were also working with PAL to select sculptures for Philo Rd.
- With regards to *Art Now!*, Ms. McClelland reported that the April episode featured an interview with mixed media collage artist, Michael Willet. She also stated that the

- episodes could be viewed on YouTube as well as the City webpage.
- With regards to the Artist of the Corridor, Ms. McClelland reported that the current show featured paintings by Betsem Benjamin and Wiley Elementary third and fifth graders, to be exhibited through April 30th. She stated that the exhibit would be included as a venue for the 2012 Boneyard Arts Festival. She also stated that Judy Jones, Urbana painter, would be the featured artist starting in May.
 - 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 431 fans. She also stated that the Urbana Public Arts Twitter account, which could be followed @urbanapublicart, as of this meeting had 245 followers. Ms. McClelland reported that a monthly e-mail newsletter had been sent to 415 subscribers on March 13th, March 27th, and April 2nd. She stated that the printed promotional postcard was being distributed to area businesses and organizations.
 - With regards to Grants, Ms. McClelland reported that Staff applied for a 2013 Illinois Arts Council Visual Arts Program Grant for general operating support that was due on March 15, 2012.
 - For upcoming events, Ms. McClelland reported that the date for the next Public Arts Commission meeting was set for May 8, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- **FY12-13 Program Plan**

Ms. Sammann introduced this agenda item. Ms. McClelland gave an update on the progress since the last meeting. She stated that she had put together the Program Plan using discussions that occurred over the last few Commission and subcommittee meetings. Ms. McClelland summarized the few suggested changes to the plan she had received from Commission members. A discussion of the matter by members of the Commission and staff ensued. Following discussion, Ms. Winkelmes moved to approve the FY12-13 Program Plan. Mr. Chew 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. Ms. McClelland stated that the plan would be presented to the City Council on April 23, 2012.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Waaler made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Winkelmes seconded the motion. With no further business, Ms. Sammann declared the meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Submitted,

Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator