

**Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana
March 5, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at Jasper City Hall Council Chambers. Roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present in Person:** Darla Blazey, Jasmine Bosler, Emi Donato, Corie Eckerle, Jay Hamlin, Heath Kluemper, Beth Seidl, Pat Thyen, & Selena Vonderheide. **Non-Voting Student Representative:** Anna Uebelhor. **Observed Remotely via Zoom:** Linda Kahle. **Commission Members Absent:** Bibianna Green. **Staff Members Present:** Kyle Rupert, Eric Herndon, Casey Uebelhor, & Liz Book. **City Attorney:** Renee Kabrick. **Guests in attendance:** Mayor Dean Vonderheide (via Zoom). The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Pat Theyn moved to approve the minutes of February's meeting. **Emi Donato** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

Old Business

- Kyle has reviewed the quotes he received for a Digital Content Management Service. The management service would allow for the digital displays at the Cultural Center and on the Square to be remotely updated and schedule content. Additional users could be invited to have access and additional devices can be added. Based on his research and the pricing, he recommended using OptiSigns. By paying for a full year of service the Android Sticks that runs the program are free. The total cost would be \$1,800 which is below the threshold needed for board approval and is in the budget.
- Kyle presented the board quotes for the 2024-2025 season guides. He asked for two versions of the guide. One version would be like in previous years and would include both the performance season and the exhibits (24 pages). The alternate version would strictly be for the performance season (16 pages). The exhibits for 2025 will celebrate JCA's 50th Anniversary, and the Visual Arts Committee and Emily are working to bring in some bigger artists to celebrate. He feels a separate guide sent out in the fall will allow the exhibits to shine and give more information about the exhibits. 4,500 will be printed; 4,000 in English and 500 in Spanish. **Beth Seidl** made a motion to approve the alternate 16-page season guide. **Jay Hamlin** seconded. Motion passed 9-0. **Jay Hamlin** made a motion to accept the low quote from Ewing Printing. **Jasmine Bosler** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

24-page guide

Name	Brochure	Mailing	Poster	Design	Total
Ewing Printing	\$6,517.00	Postage Not Included	Included	Included	\$6,517.00
Branded by Woods	\$8,075.37	Postage Not Included	\$261.66	Included	\$8,075.37
White Rabbit Copy					Did not submit

16-page guide

Name	Brochure	Mailing	Poster	Design	Total
Ewing Printing	\$5,528.00	Postage Not Included	Included	Included	\$5,528.00
Branded by Woods	\$6,178.17	Postage Not Included	\$261.66	Included	\$6,178.17
White Rabbit Copy					Did not submit

- Kyle presented the board with the proposed updated Cultural Center Rental rates. Ideally, the rental rate resolution would be approved at the next JCA meeting so it can then be approved at the April City Council meeting. He also proposed making some small changes to the language of the resolution to help clarify. The all-day rental rate for Commercial/Private renters would increase from \$1,500 to \$2,500. A cleaning fee of \$350 will

be part of the new price and will also include soft drink services. The Atrium cleaning fee would remove the renter's responsibility of cleaning and taking out the trash after their rentals. The Galleries will increase to \$200 per hour which is a slight increase. The 12-hour rental of the Black Box Theatre will increase from \$200 to \$300 and a 4-hour rental will increase from \$75 to \$125. He also proposed removing renting the entire Arts Wing. Most businesses that are renting the space are not renting the entire wing, just the parts needed for a particular day. The Non-Profit/Government rates will also increase. Current rates will be honored for those currently under contract.

New Business

- Kyle presented the board with the proposed Corporate Sponsorship Guide for the 2024-2025 season. There are a few small changes that increase the sponsorship benefits. The print-at-home ticket and box office tickets have been combined and are a two-year agreement for a total of \$2,000. The gallery sponsorship was also increased to \$750 to help offset some of the costs associated with shipping artwork. **Heath Kluemper** made a motion to accept the presented Corporate Sponsorship Guide. **Jasmine Bosler** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.
- Kyle presented four artists for approval for the 2024-2025 performance season. One artist would be for a Family Fun show, a country artist, and a Broadway star who could potentially be a 13th show for the season. He also presented a contemporary Indie pop artist. The performance date would be mid-week but is a big enough artist that it shouldn't be an issue. Based on the feedback that has been received, patrons are interested in seeing more notable and known artists even if ticket prices are higher. The contemporary artist would require a \$5,000 deposit which is in the budget. It would be due at the signing of the contract. **Heath Kluemper** made a motion to approve the presented artists. **Corie Eckerle** seconded. Motion passed 9-0. **Pat Thyen** made a motion to approve the deposit for the contemporary artist performing on September 11, 2024 [this date may change]. **Selena Vonderheide** seconded. Motion passed 9-0. Kyle spoke with Visit Dubois County about presenting a performance mid-week, and there was interest in providing additional grant money to help promote the show.
- Kyle asked permission to pay a deposit for two Broadway stars for their performance on April 12, 2025. The deposit is \$15,000 which is 50% of the performance fee and is due at the time of contract signing. **Jasmine Bosler** made a motion to approve the \$15,000 deposit for the April 12, 2025 performance. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

City Financial Statement

Jasmine Bosler moved to approve the claims as presented. **Selena Vonderheide** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

Director's Report/Performing Arts

Kyle reported:

- *My Funny Valentine* was completely sold out. The show went well and was enjoyed. *Chris Mann* performed last weekend and was very talented. The audience enjoyed his performance. The pianist Nikko Ielasi loved playing the Bösendorfer and shared on his Instagram account, "I think I just played a concert on the BEST piano I've ever touched. This Bösendorfer Imperial 290 felt like having a Ferrari car under my hand!! The perfect combination of crispy highs, and rumbling yet clean bass! The fullness and preciseness of each note and its harmonics...I'm forever team Steinway, and I've played hundreds of concert pianos in my life, but seriously?!... this one might take home the prize." Kyle thanked those who have maintained the piano over the years and those who made the purchase possible in the 1990s.
- There is one ticket left for *Okaidja Afroso*.
- Kyle shared some statistics about where ticket buyers for *Lea Salonga* are from and the impact that it can have on the community. Over 10.5% of ticket buyers are from outside the state, and 31.5% are from outside of the county. This show will help build and curate an audience for future shows like this. Those who have purchased tickets will receive a season guide. Kyle also thanked Jim and Pat Thyen for their sponsorship which made the performance possible.

Building and Structure Report

Kyle reported for Danny:

- There were two different school shows and a public performance within eight days. Young Women LEAD conference will also be held at the Jasper Arts Center.
- Danny is working with Weyer Electric to resolve a pendant light issue in the Atrium.

Visual Arts Report

Kyle reported for Emily:

- Youth Art Month exhibits for Middle School and High School will open on Thursday. Kyle thanked Universal Design Associates for sponsoring the exhibit. At the First Thursday reception, a member of Psi Iota Xi will announce the scholarship winner for one of the High School students.
- Going forward with clay classes, handbuilding and wheel throwing will alternate every six weeks.
- *SOUP-Port the Arts* will be held on April 21 from Noon to 2 pm. Over 300 bowls have been made. Proceeds will help support traveling exhibits. Tickets are available online at jasperarts.org/soup

Event Report

Eric reported:

- Since the February board meeting there were three Atrium rentals. Two were for non-profits, and one was not.
- There is a large wedding that will utilize the Atrium and Galleries on March 23rd.
- A Facebook ad went out after Valentine's Day to encourage recently engaged couples to rent the Atrium for their wedding receptions. Similarly, an ad will go out to encourage people to rent the Atrium and Black Box Theatre for graduation parties.
- Emails have been sent to previous Chalk Walk volunteers to see if they are interested in volunteering for this year's event. Media releases promoting the event are ready to go and are scheduled to be sent at intervals. The closer to the event, the more often they will run.
- Last year Eric contacted Walmart about placing an order for chalk and also asked if Walmart would be willing to donate to the event. Last year 150 of the 450 boxes needed were donated. This year when Eric asked the new manager if they would be interested in donating, she offered to donate the entire 450 boxes. This will be a \$1,200 savings for this year's event.

Education Report

Casey reported:

- She shared her experience of attending the Kennedy Center Partners in Education meeting. She commented that the conference was very beneficial, and the professional development was great. She recommended that the partnership be maintained. She met with both partners, Superintendent Tracey Lorey of Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools, and Dean Christian Blome of Vincennes University Jasper and both wanted to continue the partnership. At the end of the meeting, they had a solid plan of action. Casey explained that post-COVID, the Kennedy Center Partnership has changed and is designed to provide professional development opportunities for schools so that access to the arts is more equitable across the county. Once a year, teachers in the community would partner with a teaching artist for 3-5 days, and the work students create would be publicly displayed at the Cultural Center. She has a follow-up meeting scheduled with a representative from the Kennedy Center to gather more information.
- LifeSpring's clients will be in to paint, and Casey will also host a field trip for the Jasper Middle School Art Club.
- A new type of workshop will be offered, a Precious Metal Bronze Clay Pendant. The class is already full.
- Opening Drawing Studio has had a couple of kid's nights that have been very successful, and there have been requests for it to be a monthly activity. She is working through what that might look like.
- Four spots are remaining for Spring Camp Create. Some students took part in last summer's camp. She hopes to have the information posted for this summer's camp in the next couple of weeks. The artistic area of focus will be on cubism.
- Students in grades 3-5 saw *Janet's Planet* last week. The teachers loved the curriculum tie in and the students enjoyed the performance. Students in grades Kindergarten through 3rd saw *Dot, Dot, Dot*. So far, she has received positive feedback. One administrator reached out personally to express how much she enjoyed the show. Students from Northeast Dubois were also able to attend.
- Twenty workshops have been added and are starting this week.
- Casey shared what shows she is looking at for school programming for the 2024-2025 school year. Nothing has been finalized at this point.
- Part of the strategic plan includes establishing a Youth Art Council. Casey and Emily are working through the planning, and they hope to have 2-3 students per high school in the county. Casey would like to get JCAC's student representative, Anna Uebelhor's feedback.

Public Business

Adjournment

Jasmine Bosler moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm. **Beth Seidl** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

Dana Blazey

Selena D Vonderheide