

Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana
August 5, 2025

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at Jasper City Hall Council Chambers. Roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present in Person:** Julie Burns, Emi Donato, Bibianna Green, Heath Kluemper, Beth Seidl, Pat Thyen, and Selena Vonderheide. **Non-Voting Student Representative:** Vacant. **Observed Remotely via Zoom:** Linda Kahle. **Commission Members Absent:** Darla Blazey, Jasmine Bosler, and Corie Eckerle. **Staff Members Present:** Kyle Rupert, Eric Herndon, Emily Peak, Danny Kopp, Casey Uebelhor, and Liz Book. **City Attorney:** Renee Kabrick. **Guests in attendance:** None. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Note: Julie Burns was not sworn in prior to the start of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Pat Thyen moved to approve the minutes of July's meeting. **Emi Donato** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

City Financial Statement

Heath Kluemper moved to approve the claims as presented. **Beth Seidl** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Donation Report

No restricted-use donations were submitted in July, so no action was needed.

Selena welcomed new board member Julie Burns to the Jasper Community Arts Commission.

Old Business

- Danny shared that the lawn mower at the Arts Center has been repaired, so a new one will not be purchased at this time.

New Business

- Kyle shared that there are funds available that were left over from previous work completed at the Jasper Arts Center in 2023. The funds are in an account that is not invested, so it is not earning interest. There is roughly \$30,000 to be spent. There are several projects that are under consideration, and depending on the costs will determine what work is completed.
- Danny requested permission to seek quotes to install a new fire alarm panel at the Jasper Arts Center. The current fire panel is extremely outdated and is no longer easily serviced. **Selena Vonderheide** made a motion to allow Danny to seek quotes for a new fire alarm panel. **Bibianna Green** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Danny requested permission to seek quotes for new exterior lobby doors to be installed at the Jasper Arts Center. The current doors are the original doors from when the Lobby/Krempp Gallery was built in 1983. The doors do not latch without being forced shut. **Beth Seidl** made a motion for Danny to seek quotes for new exterior lobby doors. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Kyle requested to pay a \$2,000 deposit for *Damn Tall Buildings*, which is less than 50% of the artist's fee. **Bibianna Green** made a motion to accept paying the deposit, as requested. **Heath Kluemper** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Kyle requested permission to seek quotes for the 2026 exhibit guide. **Pat Thyen** made a motion for Kyle to seek quotes for an exhibit guide. **Emi Donato** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Kyle requested permission to seek quotes to replace the landscaping at the Jasper Arts Center. The proposed scope of work would include the perimeter of the building. **Emi Donato** made a motion to allow Kyle to seek quotes for new landscaping. **Beth Seidl** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Director's Report/Performing Arts

Kyle reported:

- Kyle welcomed Julie to the board.
- The 2025/2026 performance season was announced, and early feedback has been very positive. Ticket revenue is on pace to outperform last season, which was the highest it had been in many years. There is one ticket remaining for *LeAnn Rimes*. While ticket prices for some shows are higher, the number of tickets purchased is also higher.

There are ticket buyers from outside the Midwest, which can be attributed to more nationally known acts. Canadian-based band and season opener, *Walk off the Earth*, is only playing two dates in the United States.

- Planning for the upcoming season is underway, and discussions about the 2026/2027 season have started.
- The budget for 2026 is still unknown due to the uncertainties with the State's budget and tax revenue. The other City departments are in the same situation, and everyone is doing their part to manage expenses. The budget will be less than the previous years, but he doesn't know by how much. At this point, he does not see anything being cut, but there will be a reduction in the extent to which something is offered.

Building and Structure Report

Danny reported:

- The City provided EVOC training for the staff.
- After Strassenfest, there was no apparent damage to the Cultural Center.
- In July, Actors Community Theatre held a children's theatre camp and its summer musical, *Mary Poppins*.
- The lawn mower has been repaired a couple of times, and the repairs have held.
- Weyer Electric is updating the electrical wiring to accommodate the installation of the new kiln.
- The Jasper Police Department is hosting a training session at the Jasper Arts Center on Friday.

Visual Arts Report

Emily reported:

- The same exhibits are on display for the month: Steve Gerberich, Kevin Titzer, and the Dubois County Art Guild. Steve Gerberich's exhibit will close at the end of the month, and she is looking for assistance in packing the exhibit.
- Registration is open for a few new clay classes for the fall.
- There were 100 pieces of artwork submitted for consideration for the Juried Art Exhibition. Juror Tania Wineglass accepted 41 pieces, and in September, she will judge the artwork in person to determine the winners.
- Jasper High and Southridge High School students will attend field trips to see the artwork on display from Kevin Titzer and Steve Gerberich. The students will hear gallery talks from both artists and view a documentary by Jordan Barclay about Kevin Titzer's art.

Event Report

Eric reported:

- He shared the rental updates for the month.
- Beehive will be held on October 24-25. Ten artists have been accepted into the Beehive Arts Market. The market is open to the public on October 25th from 9 AM to 3 PM. There will also be two food trucks on site for the event.
- A fundraiser will take place on Friday evening from 6 to 9 PM. The ticketed fundraiser will be \$50 per person and will include entertainment, food, a silent auction, and a cash bar. Proceeds will benefit Jasper Arts' programming. Those who are unable to attend are welcome to make a donation. A media release announcing the artists and fundraiser will be sent this week.

Education Report

Casey reported:

- Casey shared a video she made featuring July Camp Create. There were 30 campers. Pop Art was the theme for the week. She thanked Selena for her help, and Casey would like to continue to have additional help at camp.
- She is working on the plans for Fall Camp Create. Camp will be held in the morning, Monday through Thursday of Fall Break. Living artist David Hockney will be the focus of the camp. Hockney is an early adopter of digital art. Campers will get to use Jasper Arts' iPads during a session of camp to create digital art.
- Casey met with the instructors and is working on the schedule of fall workshops.
- There will be a Hispanic Heritage Month exhibit and activities that will be completed in partnership with ALASI, the Jasper Public Library, and students from Jasper and Huntingburg.
- Casey will host two Homeschool Connection sessions this fall that will feature an art lesson and a craft.
- She is working on the details for the upcoming fall school performances and field trips.
- In November, Jasper Arts will partner with Dubois County Pride for a poetry reading.
- After a busy summer of workshops and camps, she is working on cleaning and organizing the workshops.

Public Business

Adjournment

Heath Kluemper moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 pm. **Bibianna Green** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Selena Vonderheide

Dana Blazey