

**Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission  
City of Jasper, Indiana  
October 7, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at Jasper City Hall Council Chambers. Roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present in Person:** Darla Blazey, Jasmine Bosler, Julie Burns, Bibianna Green, Linda Kahle, Beth Seidl, and Pat Thyen. **Non-Voting Student Representative:** Allison Woodruff. **Observed Remotely via Zoom:** None. **Commission Members Absent:** Emi Donato, Corie Eckerle, Heath Kluemper, and Selena Vonderheide. **Staff Members Present:** Emily Peak, Danny Kopp, Casey Uebelhor, Eric Herndon, and Liz Book. **City Attorney:** Renee Kabrick. **Guests in attendance:** None. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Darla welcomed Allison Woodruff to JCAC's board. Allison is a senior at Jasper High School and will serve as JCAC's student representative for the 2025/2026 school year.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Beth Seidl** moved to approve the minutes of September's meeting. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

**City Financial Statement**

**Jasmine Bosler** moved to approve the claims as presented. **Linda Kahle** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

*Bibianna Green arrived at 5:33 pm.*

**Donation Report**

**Jasmine Bosler** moved to accept the restricted-use donations of \$350 for programming. **Linda Kahle** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**Old Business**

**New Business**

- Danny asked permission to junk the old kiln, asset tag number 102592. **Pat Thyen** made a motion to junk the kiln. **Beth Seidl** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.
- Danny asked permission to junk three computer towers, asset tag numbers 102585, 102587, and 102584. **Jasmine Bosler** made a motion to junk three computer towers. **Darla Blazey** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.
- Kyle requested permission to pay deposits for the following shows: *Wind in the Willows* \$4,000 and *LeAnn Rimes* \$37,500. All deposits requested are 50% or less of the total performance fee. *Wind in the Willows* is part of Jasper Arts school performance series. **Pat Thyen** made a motion to approve the deposits, as presented. **Bibianna Green** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.
- Kyle asked permission to seek quotes to refurbish the Atrium terrazzo floor. Since the building opened in 2021, it has experienced significant usage. Based on the proposed usage at the time, a wax coating was applied to the floor to prevent staining. Instead, the wax coating has created a hazy finish and marring that is limited to the wax. The terrazzo floor under the wax is undamaged. There is an alternative finish that could be applied to the floor. He would like to seek quotes to estimate the cost for future planning. **Linda Kahle** made a motion to give Kyle permission to seek quotes to refurbish the Atrium floor. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**Director's Report/Performing Arts**

Kyle reported:

- Kyle shared an update on the usage numbers. Gallery visits year-over-year are up 32% and have surpassed the total number of gallery visitors in 2024. Total usage year-over-year is flat. For the performance season, year-over-year revenue is flat, while season-over-season revenue is up slightly more. Season-over-season follows from when the season is announced in May through the end of the season in April. Year-over-year follows the calendar and budget cycle.
- Jasper Arts received an Indiana Arts Commission grant. The amount received was slightly less than the last budget cycle but on par with previous grants. The two-year award will be awarded this year and next. This year, Jasper Arts was awarded \$12,403 and will receive the same amount barring any changes from the State. The Indiana Arts Commission's budget was cut for 2026.

- Darla asked about the 2026 budget for the department. Kyle shared that the first reading of the budget was held in September. The budget presented to the council is a 12% reduction from 2025 levels, but only a 2% reduction from 2024 levels. The 2025 budget was increased to accommodate Jasper Arts celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A majority of the cuts came from contractual services. He is working through the planning process for the next season. At this point, he does not anticipate cutting any shows.

### **Building and Structure Report**

Danny reported:

- He is working on scheduling the work for the projects that were awarded at last month's meeting.
- The roof replacement at the Jasper Arts Center has been completed.
- The parking lots at the Jasper Arts Center and the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center have been restriped by the Jasper Street Department.
- The sidewalks at the Jasper Arts Center have been power-washed.
- *Walk off the Earth* was the first show that implemented bag checks, and it went smoothly.
- *Ailey II* held both a school performance for Jasper High School students and the public. For the public performance, several area dance studios attended.
- He completed his bi-annual AED and CPR training.

### **Visual Arts Report**

Emily reported:

- The 32<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Juried Arts Exhibition* awards were announced at the September First Thursday reception. Juror Tania Wineglass selected the winner in person. *Jonpaul Smith* gave a gallery talk at the reception.
- *Kevin Titzer's* installation has been disassembled and removed.
- *Hispanic Heritage Month* will be featured in one of the galleries. For the last couple of years, Casey has spearheaded the creation of an ofrenda in the Art Lounge. This year, it will be in the gallery. In October, the community will be involved in the creation and decoration of the exhibit. The official opening of the exhibit will be on November 1<sup>st</sup> (Dia de Muertos) from 11 AM to 1 PM.
- There are two new sessions of Beginning and Intermediate Wheel Throwing classes that will start at the end of the month. Clay Open Studio continues to be held on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Kid's Clay and Play classes are also offered once a month.

### **Event Report**

Eric reported:

- He shared the rental updates for the month.
- 15 people have purchased tickets for Jasper Arts' 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fundraiser on October 24. Discussion was held on whether the event should be cancelled due to low ticket sales. Eric and Kyle have previously discussed how to scale back the event or to cancel it.
- Actors Community Theatre will present *Dracula the Radio Play* in the Black Box Theatre on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

### **Education Report**

Casey reported:

- A watercolor workshop was held at St. Charles Health Campus for residents. There are a couple more workshops planned.
- Casey shared an update on the activities planned for the Hispanic Heritage Month exhibit. On October 2, an Alebrijes workshop was held in conjunction with First Thursday. Participants learned about the connection to Mexican culture and tradition. A movie night will be held on October 22 at 6 PM in partnership with the Jasper Public Library. A Tapetes workshop will be held on October 28. Tapetes are large, elaborate ground artworks. The official opening of the exhibit will be on November 1. The community voted to honor Eddie Canales during the exhibit. Eddie was a Texas human rights advocate who installed two hundred water stations along the Texas-Mexico border.
- For Tour of Opportunity, Casey hosted a group of forty-plus students who had an interest in the Arts as a career.
- Camp Create Fall Break has 8 of the 15 spots filled. David Hockney will be the featured artist for this session.
- On October 21, Jasper Arts, in collaboration with Dubois County PRIDE, will host a poetry night for the community in the Black Box Theatre.

- Casey and Elizabeth Wertman (Blondebrush) will pass out bracelet-making kits at the Jasper Public Library's Halloween Bash event.
- Last week, Jasper High School students in grades 9 & 10 saw Ailey II. She received positive feedback from the school and teachers.
- At the end of the week, students in grades 6-8 will see *Mike Wiley: Tired Souls*. The one-person show focuses on the Montgomery bus boycott.

#### **Public Business**

#### **Adjournment**

**Beth Seidl** moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Darlene Blazey

Judith Kahle