

**Notes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission  
City of Jasper, Indiana  
July 3, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2018, in the Council Chambers at Jasper City Hall. Roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present:** Becky Hickman, Mike Jones, Linda Kahle, Sherry Monesmith, & Kent Reyling. **Commission Members Absent:** Darla Blazey, Jay Hamlin, Gary Moeller, Beth Seidl, Pat Thyen, & Selena Vonderheide. **Staff Members Present:** Kyle Rupert, Corina Mack, Emily Peak, Donna Schepers & Liz Book. **City Attorney:** Renée Kabrick. **Guests in attendance:** Dubois County Art Guild Members – Ann Nagy, Mary Letterman, LaVonne Tisdal, Sue Taylor, Von & Jim Hogan, Diane Wininger, Nancy Gerber, Kristine Harris, & Barb McCullough. Also in attendance: Mayor Terry Seitz, Christine Golden, and Dubois County Community Foundation Director Clayton Boyles. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

*With only five Board Members present, there were not enough to form a quorum. No action could be taken at the meeting which, because of this, was strictly informational.*

**Public Business**

- Mayor Seitz presented a proclamation to the Dubois County Art Guild celebrating 2018 as the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its establishment and thanked the group for its impact on the Arts in Dubois County. Kyle presented the Guild with an engraved statue.
- Dubois County Community Foundation Director, Clayton Boyles, informed the Board of a new endowment that was established by Lenny & Lou Newman, with the first grant to arrive in 2020. This endowment joins a list of other sustainable granting dollars that JCA receives each year.

**Director's Report/Performing Arts**

Kyle reported:

- During the month of June season renewals were processed. He reminded those who have not already renewed and would like to do so, to please turn in their orders. In July new subscriptions will be processed, and he anticipates another sell-out of the Backstage Series due to a limited number of seats available.
- The Indiana Arts Commission will host in quarterly meeting in Jasper on September 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 AM. The original thought was that the meeting would be held at the Train Depot, Kyle feels this might not be possible due to construction noise at the River Centre and demolition at the Hoosier Desk site. Becky said she would look into possibly using a meeting room at German American Bank for the IAC meeting.
- A Demo Day Celebration is schedule for July 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM.
- Kyle would like to shift some funds in the budget to cover the installation of an awning over the outside staircase that leads into the auditorium. A temporary awning had been placed there last winter to keep water from entering the building due to a collapsed drainage pipe. He would like to install a more permanent solution in the meantime, until the full issue is discovered.

**Building and Structure Report**

Kyle reported:

- He passed out quotes for the stage floor refinishing that was discussed at a previous meeting.
- The chiller is currently working, and he has proposed that it be replaced in 2019. He would like to avoid having major issues with the chiller during the season or summer rentals due to the scope of the project.

**Visual Art Report**

Emily reported:

- Pamela Hignite Deaton was featured in the Krempp Gallery for the month of June. Emily commented that it was nice to have a broad scope of Deaton's works in the Gallery, because she had been in previous Juried Shows.

- Italian artist, Guglielmo Botter, picked up his remaining artwork, and he kindly donated one of his pieces of the Jasper Firehouse to the Jasper Fire Department.
- The Dubois County Art Guild Exhibit Opening Reception will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 7 PM. She congratulated the Guild on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and for all it does for the community.
- ARTventures will conclude in the next two weeks. She reported that it was great to get instant feedback from the participants via the online registrations.
- This year almost 50 people submitted artwork for consideration for the Juried Art Show. The judge will select the pieces for the exhibit this month with judging and awards to follow in September.
- Plein Air event will be held on August 4<sup>th</sup> and will be held at the Parklands. Registration will begin at 7 AM. She hopes the new location will help draw people to the event.

### **Education Report**

Donna reported:

- The next *Brown Bag with the Arts* will be held on August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. The event will feature a panel discussion with Dubois County Art Guild members on the “*Art of Collecting Art*”.
- She has met with all of the Jasper Principals, with the exception of one, about the upcoming programs for the 2018/2019 school year.

### **Project Coordinator Report**

Corina reported:

- *Demo Day* for the Hoosier Desk building will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. At the event the name of the Cultural Center will be announced, and there will be refreshments and activities planned. A media release will go out, and of course, the event is being co-hosted with the Jasper Public Library.
- *Give Where You Live* will be on October 26<sup>th</sup>, and a call for talent press release will be sent out for *The Very Big Show of Support* variety show.
- JCA is partnering with the Next Act to present *E.T. the Extraterrestrial* at the Astra during Strassenfest on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM.
- She reported that the painting event held at Redemption Christian Church was so well received that the church has already reached out to schedule another painting event, this time with rocks.

### **Old Business**

- The Next Act – “*Rock Lotto*” will be held on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Several bands were put together to perform and the audience will vote on the winner.
- Cultural Center construction documents are 99 % complete. The documents will be finalized at next week’s meeting. Renée reported that there are been several potential investors who are interested in purchasing the tax credits. There will be a professional services working day scheduled in Indianapolis to meet and discuss the timeline and create a task list with deadlines. She mentioned that the fluctuating steel prices could have an impact on the overall cost of the project.
- The finished Strategic Plan will be presented at the next board meeting.

### **New Business**

- The proposed 2019 budgets were distributed to the board. There were a few changes that were made from the 2018 budget in revenue and expenses.

#### **Revenue:**

- A decrease in ticket revenue – 2018’s number was very ambitious, and the changes made to ticket pricing and the season format should be able to determine a more realistic target.
- An increase in grant revenue – New endowment and warming relations with other granting bodies should see an increase in revenue.
- Corporate sponsorship – would change the budget if the board would choose to have the funds be restricted or unrestricted.

#### **Expenses:**

- The expenses for the 2019 would decrease by 2%. An Excel error was found that inflated the expenses in the General Supplies line. There were seven shows booked in the spring of 2018

which meant an increase in contractual services was necessary to ensure quality programming for the fall of 2018. For 2019 Kyle has worked to balance the season so there are six shows in the fall and six shows in the spring and watch the cost of the shows while still providing the audience with quality performances.

- He requested an increase to the repair line, due potential chiller repairs and the collapsed drain line under the outside backstage stairs. He hopes to have the scope of work needed to repair the drain line completed in 2018.
- The only big change to the wage line is the addition of three hours to the Program Coordinator position. He anticipates an uptick in interest and rentals for the Cultural Center. He sees the need that the position will more than likely become a full-time position in 2020.
- Chiller replacement would be a large expense. Someone would need to spec the project to determine the scope of work and course of action. Kyle would prefer to plan on the chiller being replaced as opposed to needing to ask for emergency funding to fix, repair, or replace it. He would also like to avoid having a major issue during the season or during the busy summer rentals.

The mayor has seen the proposed budget and has given his input. The budget will go before the Common Council at the end of August.

- The Arts Department has two interns this summer. Kade Nicholson has worked backstage with both Doreen and Derek. He finished his internship last week. Catherine Bell has helped design flyers and rack cards along with helping out the ARTventures workshops.
- Kyle reported that the Friends of the Arts had its fundraiser in June and they presented the City of Jasper with the “*Champion of the Arts award*”.
- Kyle reported that Doreen is recovering from her surgery, and he will be excited to have her back at work.

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**Michael Jones**

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**Attested**