

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:20PM

Members present: Marsha Carrington, Brian Stanley (chairperson), Cable Steinemann, Jordan Sternberg, Martha Wikel

Ex-Officio Members present: Blake Harris, Arin Blair

Absent: Robin Lloyd, Michelle Newell, Chris Parthemore, Adam Ramsdell, Shawn Daley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion of Jordan Sternberg and a second of Arin Blair, the minutes of September 21, 2021 were approved. The group signified by saying aye. The Chairman declared the minutes passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Bloomberg Asphalt Art Initiative: The Chairman, Brian updated the members on the Bloomberg Asphalt Art Initiative. In April we applied for the grant, and we received notice that we were not selected for this round, although they will have further rounds potentially early in 2022. We had selected Huron and Hancock intersection; we were not granted ODOT approval to use that intersection because it is considered Route 6. Staff thought we would be able to gain that approval – but we were not. We do still have additional opportunities for funding but we need to consider other intersections that may be considered for this next round of funding. There is no deadline, but if we are selected, we will have to submit an updated location. Arin asked for an update on the perimeters of that grant. Brian stated there was a 100-page guideline with criteria for this grant, which could be up to \$25,000. Arin asked if should re-submit with an updated location to better improve our chances for the grant, and Brian stated that it was not necessary per the letter received. Jordan asked if this was an annual application or would we need to bring this back to the table for future to update this application. Per Brian, a new application was not necessary at this time; they would reconsider original applicants when future funding becomes available.

City Hall Art Gallery: Erin wanted to inform the Commission that the art gallery was installed also listing artist's names by each piece of artwork. Marsha was very helpful in helping to hang those pieces. Arin has had a lot of positive feedback on the gallery. We budgeted \$1000, and spent \$700 - most of that was for installation.

Lange Trust Sculpture Program: Erin stated that Sara Prout reached out to ask who could help to select the sculptures this year. She and Brian discussed it and because Sara had a quick

deadline – 8 days, and Sara recommended Marsha and Robin since they were active artists. Both agreed to be on the selection committee with Arin and three others. There were 200 pieces to select from, using a scoring system was used, 3 or 4 top selections were already sold. We selected the top 12 and they were installed. Firelands Health purchased one sculpture, titled Pulse, which is displayed by Shoreline Park. Sara let us know that we would create a map and flyer to show the walking route for these, also for Segway tours. Maybe in the future a public walking tour event could be scheduled in our annual work plan. The committee did not chose sculpture placement that was already decided by the Lange Trust. Erin hopes to get the Arts Commission more involved in the process earlier on next year. The amount contributed by the Arts Council was questioned. The event was \$10,000, but we have not been asked to contribute to date. Arin would ask Sara for clarification of costs for future obligation.

Susan Schulz Bequest: Arin met with Jason Werling and Scott Kromer in Lions Park to select a location this week. At the end of the roundabout is a sustainable planting arrangement right at the turn-around. It was thought that would be the perfect placement at the left because there was place for signage, there are benches, and from the viewpoint, it would look almost as if it were floating on the water.

NEW BUSINESS

Brainstorming Session Recap: Arin presented that we extended this process one meeting, first was the brainstorming session, then today the prioritization of ideas, then the draft work plan will come next meeting. Now we have to talk budgets and prioritization. Arin placed the post-it notes, with members input as to the priority consensus, on a board listing whether it be more important (high impact) or less important (low impact), easy (quick, low-cost, simple) or tough (timely, complex or expensive). She bolded items that we more often mentioned as opposed to less mentioned items. Marsha remarked that some kind of **Art Festival** was very important. Brian commented that he thought it was discussed before and that it was not favorable to spend money for that sort of thing. Some were concerned about liability as well. Also thoughts that it might be too large of a project for this Commission to take on, but if some other group would, it could be something the Commission would help fund or participate in. Marsha inquired whether the Commission thought that an **Art Walk** (showing studios or at artists homes) could be done. Arin is familiar with a group that does this on Washington Row maybe monthly, and they have spoken with Jason of either doing some component of art walk either weekly or at the Party on the Pier. They are hoping to host 13 of them, June – September 2022. Marsha commented that it was the original art walk, which was held downtown, and then it was relocated to Washington Row. She also commented that it became more of a craft show and no longer supported artwork. Cable commented that he agreed it had become crafts. Arin presented the current budget is \$83,090.55. We get 1% of the income tax collections. Our year to date on those monies is \$31,000, but will be closer to \$40,000 per our Finance Director. Our budget therefore, will be about \$120,000. We did elect to allocate \$50,000 for Columbus Avenue streetscape art in 2021. That leaves us \$70,000 in our budget to allocate for the 2022 work plan.

Cable remarked that the Columbus Avenue street art was very important and would support more monies be allocated for that, Arin agreed she would like to see another \$50,000 allocated. Marsha asked why admission or vendors could not pay a fee to support the art festival also food trucks. She asked what other expenses were anticipated with hosting this sort of event. Brian said he would look into past minutes to see what the legal or issues were. Jordan asked for clarification if we could sponsor the event but some other party would have to host it. It was group consensus that the time and labor would be issues. Erin spoke about a grant funding possibly for an interested party or group in hosting such an event. She would speak with our Law Director for guidance on this matter. Jordan remarked that the Columbus Avenue and Jackson Street Pier seemed to be the top priorities from the Commission. Martha commented that she thought **interactive art** was very exciting for children and families. Marsha shared the idea of a giant chalkboard where people could draw and write messages was very engaging. Ari commented that there would need to be a maintenance group to erase fowl words or pictures each day. Blake mentioned that on Charlotte he participated in a large pencil with a book sculpture where people could write captions for photo ops and such. Brian mentioned it was his understanding that the Commission would allocate monies each year that would carry over year to year until such time that a work plan was set to spend those funds for Columbus Avenue. Jordan recalled the same conversation. Arin asked for dialog on that subject; what was the Commissioner's thoughts and ideas. If we have the RFQ out now, we are hoping to get the design process awarded in December, it will take 2022 to design it, construction would not happen until 2023. We would want the Arts Commission on a steering committee for the design process. So the money would not be expended until 2024 – 2025. Jordan stated; with that big-ticket item on the horizon, the question is what other smaller projects the Arts Commission would like to fund in the meantime. Arin asked if the Commission would like to keep supporting the City Hall Art Gallery since the expense was so low, maybe \$200, if any hanging materials would need to be purchased. Arin heard interest in getting the "Greetings to Sandusky" mural back, would it need refreshed and where would placement be. Lakes Erie Shores and islands is interested in placing something graphic on the west side of their building that faces the vacant lot. **Murals** need to be approved through a variance process in our zoning/sign code. That does make it quite cumbersome. Maybe the Arts Commission could do an approval process prior to submission to the code. Arin does believe it is a valuable effort. The idea of a rotating vinyl program was discussed, as used in Columbus, artists submit their work, then a selection committee approves them and prints them on vinyl and they are displayed for a season. Marsha commented she thinks that would be a great idea for our community given we have many older, historical buildings. Arin suggested she would inquire whether it would be approved to paint art or do vinyl applications instead; she would talk with Landmark Commission about what information would be needed. Blake asked what if the buildings would be privately owned, could they submit interest in this program. Brian asked if Arin knew costs involved, she did not. Jordan knew of a bus wrap that cost \$5000.

Arin summarized: An Art Festival maybe something we could help facilitate – and we want it to feature fine art more prominently. We will hold funds for Columbus Avenue and possibly add

more to those funds in the future. We want to maintain the City Hall gallery. We will do more research on the idea of murals or vinyl murals on buildings, costs, sizing and legalities. Maybe the purchase of a Lange Trust artwork through a collective public response forum.

The next Public Arts & Culture Commission meeting is November 16 at 5:15 pm at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion of Arin Blair and a second of Cable Steinemann, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm. The Chairman declared the motion passed.



Cathleen Myers, Clerk
Date: 11/16/2021



Brian Stanley, Chairperson
Date: 11/16/2021