

**January 18, 2022  
Commission for the Arts  
Royal Oak City Hall, Room 122  
203 S. Troy Steet  
7:30 PM – Regular Meeting  
Minutes**

*The primary goal of the commission has been to encourage and promote arts and culture in the community. The City of Royal Oak recognizes the importance of arts and culture to a vibrant, healthy, and sustainable community. The city strives to promote and encourage arts and culture through the public and private display of art.*

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Commission members present: Jason Gittinger, Melissa Behring, Laura Bonnell, Jodie Ellison, Denise Reske, Commissioner Pat Paruch

Commission members absent: Alesha Beistline

Others Present: Susan Barkman, Peter Young

**2. Public Comment**

No public comment

**3. Approval of January 18,2022 Agenda**

Motion to approve the January 18 agenda.

Motion by: Pat Paruch

Seconded by: Jodie Ellison

Approved Unanimously

**4. Approval of Minutes – November 2021**

Motion to approve the November meeting minutes.

Motion by: Denise Reske

Seconded by: Jodie Ellison

Approved Unanimously

**5. New Business**

**a. Electing a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary**

The Commission discusses who in the group wants to be Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary for the year 2022. Jason Gittinger volunteers to be Chair; Jodie Ellison volunteers as Vice-Chair; and Laura Bonnell volunteers to be Secretary.

Motion of candidates to approve Jason Gittinger as Chair, Jodie Ellison as Vice-Chair and Laura Bonnell as Secretary.

Motion by Melissa Behring  
Second by Denise Reske  
Approved Unanimously

#### **b. Community Survey Results**

- Staff introduced a Community Art Survey summary.
- At 701 replies, the survey was popular when compared to other city surveys.
- The Commission discusses grant application. The Commission asks if they can apply for grants? Yes, we can apply for grants. However, Julie is the person in the city tasked with grant applications and she has a busy schedule.
- We should build collaboratively with other groups to avoid competition with similar projects. Staff is asked to network with other city groups to help collaboration.
- We should engage people with an art sale at the Farmer's Market.
- Can we add blurbs on the website about each member of the CfA and the commission's history? Staff suggests working on the website during next month's meeting. Does this have to wait until the next meeting through email?
- The commission suggests that they revisit the city website event calendar.
- Can we do more on the CfA on Facebook page?
- Discussion about the CfA creating its own website, so the CfA can promote arts throughout the community unrelated to the city.
- Could we play recorded music by local artists over speakers in Centennial Commons? The CfA could purchase speakers. Cities in Japan have music throughout the city, and we could investigate smart infrastructure that plays music.
- The park does not have speakers.

#### **c. 2022 Art Explored**

- A draft 2021--2022 Art Explored flyer is discussed:
- Can we make it easier to read by making the numbers black and not orange?
- Jason Gittinger volunteers to redesign the flyer.
- Can we add a link to other artworks not in the brochures? This pamphlet is only for Art Explored, but other programs could have their own pamphlet.
- The commission recommends that staff reaches out to the City Commission to increase our budget.
- There is discussion about City Commission increasing the CfA budget. CfA asks staff to ask the City Commission about increasing their budget.
- Can we pay for professional graphic design? Yes, staff would connect with a professional graphic designer. The CfA suggests a designer that can help and would forward their name to staff. The design costs would come out of the CfA budget.
- There is a discussion about how the CfA would prefer to circulate their promotional items. Circulate online. The commission prefers posting promotional graphics online rather than tabling. Design and paper quality matters and would like a higher paper quality for their promotional materials. Commissioner Pat Paruch says City Commission is doing long range planning in March; we could talk about getting more funding.
- What does the Commission for the Arts budget look like?

- The CfA has \$20k dedicated from the general budget and \$50k pledged by the Downtown Development Authority.
- It is important for the Commission for the Arts to look professional.
- Anyone wants to help with the Art Explored subcommittee? Jodie Ellison, Laura Bonnell, and Denise Reske volunteer to be on the Art Explored Subcommittee.
- Do you want to increase money that goes to artists and add an installation funding?
- The Commission for the Arts agrees to increase the amount paid to artists for art and add extra to cover installation costs.
- How do we determine installation costs? Ask artists what the installation cost would be. We Could look at different qualities of the art and set costs according to the artistic quality, style, and type. Birmingham pays \$2000, so we're behind. A subcommittee should meet and decide how much to pay for art. We should go to the City Commission with these art cost increases.
- There is discussion about releasing and buying new pieces. Staff cannot find documentation about ownership.
- Are there works interested in relicensing, long-term lease, or purchasing.
- Art explored subcommittee come up with a deaccession plan. There is going to be an abandonment clause.
- Commission for the Arts wants to avoid purchasing art; prioritize short- and long-term licensing.

## **6. Old Business**

### **a. 2022 Committee Goals**

Committee goal for public art city ordinance

Peter will research city ordinances for public art requirements.

## **7. Subcommittee/Program Reports**

### **a. Share the Warmth Update**

119 items, way more than usual

Sharing the Warmth

### **b. #ROMakesArt**

None

## **8. General Announcements**

None

## **9. Community Engagement Message**

### **a. Social Media**

In sharing the warmth mode

## **10. Next Meeting – Monday February 21, 2022**

The next meeting will be held on Monday February 21,2022.

## **11. Adjournment**

Motion is made to adjourn.

Motion by Denise Reske

Second by Jodie Ellison  
Approved unanimously

