

**January 17, 2023
Commission for the Arts
Royal Oak City Hall, Room 122
203 S. Troy Steet
7:30 PM – Regular Meeting
Agenda**

Artist Laureate Selection Committee will be meeting at 6:30pm.

Members Present: Commissioner Paruch, Jason Gittinger, Alesha Beistline.

Others Present: Susan Barkman, Assistant to the City Manager

Members discussed the 2023 Artist Laureate program.

The artist laureate program will be open to all disciplines. Application will include information on potential project, how they might engage the community in the arts over the year, how their project might endure beyond the original year, and an estimated budget.

Regular Meeting for the Royal Oak Commission for the Arts.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

Members Present: Commissioner Paruch, Jason Gittinger, Alesha Beistline, Laura Bonnell, Denise Reske

Members Absent: Melissa Berhing

Others Present: Susan Barkman, Assistant to the City Manager

2. Public Comment

Jim Ellison – The Mr. Ellison would like to loan a piece of art to the city on a long term loan for public display.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Jodie Ellison

Second: Alesha Beistline

4. Approval of Minutes – November 21, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes [for November 21, 2022](#)

Motion by: Pat Paruch

Second by: Alesha Beistline

5. New Business

A. Officers Elections

Chair

Jodie Ellison nominated Jason Gittinger to serve as chair. Jason accepted the nomination. Laura Bonnell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair

Jason Gittinger nominated Jodie Ellison to serve as vice-chair. Jodie accepted the nomination. Denise Reske seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Secretary

Jason Gittinger nominated Laura Bonnell to serve as secretary. Laura accepted the nomination. Denise Reske seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

B. Presentation of the Annual Report

The annual report was presented to the Commission for the Arts.

Motion to approve the annual report.

Motion by: Alesha Beistline

Second by: Jodie Ellison

Approved Unanimously.

C. Board and Commission Review

Commissioner Paruch introduced the boards and commissions review.

Susan Barkman is the staff member working on the boards and commissions review and discussed the approach of looking at the supporting processes, laws and procedures and then the individual board. The group provided input on what could be improved.

Process side of things –

Attendance ordinance isn't well received, the communication feels cold and the policy is not well communicated.

The commission would like to see an orientation that would cover topics like Robert's Rules of Order, the Open Meetings Act, and the Freedom of Information Act. The group has not historically had an orientation for their specific board to talk about their programs. An orientation for the board will be something we provide moving forward when we have new members. The board would like to be able to better understand the appointments process so that they can assist in the recruiting efforts.

Some potential changes to the ordinance -

Remove secretary position from ordinance.

Fundraising – update the language to partner with the Civic Foundation
Mayor shall seek advice from chair, or the commission for the arts on appointments.

6. Old Business

A. Considering Evolution sculpture update

Susan provided and update that the conversations with the DDA are ongoing, and we will see where it leads. The commissioners asked who would own the piece and be responsible for maintenance. No action was required.

B. Local Community Art Grant

The Commission for the Arts wanted to explore the possibility of providing support to Royal Oak based arts groups as the funding from the Arts Council is dwindling. Staff researched the possibility of this as a grant program,

however we cannot donate funds to non-profits. Members asked if we could structure this as a transaction to purchase a concert for the community. Would the group then be able to collect donations at the concert. Staff will look into this and follow up.

C. Commission for the Arts Mural Program

Staff has added this to the budget for next year and the information is largely ready to accept applications at the start of the fiscal year. Commissioners asked for staff to begin providing monthly updates regarding the budget since the budget has grown significantly over the past few years.

D. Maintenance RFP

Staff is continuing to prepare and RFP which would help us understand the maintenance needs for some of our most long terms and iconic pieces of art.

E. Piano Project Update

The group discussed the Piano Project. Staff let the group know that with the departure of another staff member, they are busy and would need the groups to work together to make the project available this summer. Jason volunteered to lead this effort. Staff will work to set up the documentation to help us track the businesses that are interested in having a piano and prepare the agreements for them to be installed. Jason will recruit businesses for hosting the pianos, help to ensure agreements are signed and provided to staff. He will also coordinate the installation, painting and removal of the pianos. Other members of the commission who can help will work with Jason to help identify locations, and painting, volunteers to help paint pianos. This item will be added for a regular update.

7. Subcommittee/Program Reports

Sharing the warmth is receiving a lot of donations and things are also being picked up from the railing.

8. General Announcements

None.

9. Social Media

A. Sharing the Warmth social media campaign

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Made by Jodie Ellison and seconded by Denise Reske. Unanimously supported.