

## MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES

November 1, 2016, 5:30 P.M.

Low Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Pat Schmidt, Charlene Briggs, Dennis Frevert, Elizabeth Wilson, Angie Pierce Jennings (phone)

ABSENT: Brenda Kowalsky

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS: Mark and Deb Weiser

### Butterfly Effect Proposal

Mark and Deb Weiser attended the meeting to discuss their Butterfly Effect Proposal. Their proposal is to expand on the colorful butterfly attached to The Chocolate Shop by locating another twelve butterflies throughout the downtown area. This project would reinforce Marion's attractiveness as an art hub and increase exposure to local businesses. The proposal would have local business owners sponsor the butterflies and underwrite the costs. The Weisers are asking for the council's approval before they move forward with more extensive research in cost, funding and the finer details. The council informed them they would discuss the proposal and let them know their discussion. Elizabeth moved to approve the Weiser's proposal, Fuf seconded the motion. Elizabeth, Fuf, Charlene, Pat and Angie were in favor, Dennis voted against. The council gave the approval for them to move forward with the proposal.

### Art in the Alley

Fuf updated the council with the information Karen Hoyt sent her. Construction work will be completed by the end of the week. The compass was installed by Culver's. The barricades will be lifted but no vehicular traffic is permitted in the alleyways. The stage wall received a skim coat and black primer this week in preparation for Cecilia's mural. The pillars created by Quincy Owens and Luke Crawley have been installed. They will provide light, color and sound near the center of the project site. On November 3, Chris Miller plans to install his art piece featuring a carved granite hand holding up a bike rack. Other installations will take place during the month of November at dates to be determined. A ribbon cutting and opening ceremony is planned for next May to coordinate with the Marion Arts Festival. Standard park benches, trash receptacles and planters will be installed in the early spring prior to the ribbon cutting. A framework for cultural programming needs to be developed in the months ahead and MAC members are encouraged to offer ideas. A promotional display is in the window of the former Dreaming Bear shop at the 11th Street entrance. An Art in the Alley map is included at the bottom of the minutes.

### Sculpture Committee

Pat updated the council on the Sculpture Trail. The committee reviewed the submissions from the six artists and selected two designs for the 2017 installation. The first artist is Reinaldo Correa from Ames, Iowa. Reinaldo was an assistant lead artist and designer with RDG Dahlquist Art Studio when the Lowe Amphitheater project was commissioned. The committee chose his piece to be the entrance sculpture for Lowe Park. His piece depicts the "Rebirth of the Prairie". The second artist is J. Aaron Alderman from North Carolina. His piece will be placed on the trail to be initially viewed from a distance along a horizon line. The sculptures will convey the disappearance of our native culture with the use of several pieces diminishing in details. The location of this piece is yet to be determined by the committee.

A to scale maquette and an itemized list of materials and supplies needed for fabrication and installation were requested along with any plans/directions for footings needed to support the structure. Once these items are received, the committee will submit for City review and approval. Brenda will touch base with Amanda Kaufmann on writing up the contract and getting \$500.00 for each artist to complete and submit the above requests.

The committee is still looking at a spring 2017 installation date. The plan is to coincide with the June 17, 2017 Picnic on the Prairie event to reveal the new sculpture and have a reception for the artist who created it, depending on their schedule.

On Saturday, October 29, Pat, Bob and Brenda met with Reinaldo Correa to view the site and discuss material, color options, sculpture placement and various questions and concerns. The committee is looking to be able to have the maquettes by mid-November to present to the Arts Council and City for approval along with drafts of the artists contracts.

#### MAC Brochure

The new MAC brochure will be available at Coffeehouse Nights and at the art council table by the art gallery.

#### Exhibits

The next school exhibit is by Westfield Elementary. The November/December/January exhibit will be Mary Weaver and Lynda Black-Smith. The school and artist's reception will be Thursday, November 10. Fuf will handle the school reception at 5:30. Fuf, Angie, Pat, Elizabeth and Angie will help at the artist's portion of the reception. February is the college exhibit of Mt. Mercy, Cornell and Kirkwood. Fuf has contacted the colleges. Red Chamber Concert will be on Thursday, March 30, 2017 starting at 7 p.m. Iowa Art Quilters will be exhibiting in July and August of 2017. Fuf has received several inquiries to exhibit at the art gallery and will be getting examples of the art work for the Art Council to view.

#### Coffeehouse Night

The November 4 performer will be Mary Reasoner and Laurie Haag (offshoot of the group Two Bit Maniac). Fuf and Pat will start setting up at 4:45. Angie will be available to help at 5:15 with the artist arriving at 5:30. The group would like to use the MAC sound system. Dennis will pick up the treats from Wit's End. Karla Ruth will be performing on December 2. Fuf asked the members to let her know if they will be able to help at this performance since it is before the next meeting. The Bernemann Brothers Trio will be performing at the February 3 Coffeehouse Night. Angie has confirmed Awful Purdies will be performing at the March 3 Coffeehouse Night. The April 7 performer will be Acoustic Open Jam Session led by Lori Blattner.

#### Hotel/Motel Tax Grant

Angie has received an updated contract with the correct date from Susan Werner's manager for her performance at the Picnic on the Prairie Spring Concert on Saturday, June 17, 2017. The signed contract is due December 1, 2016. The deposit is due on March 1, 2017 with the remaining fee payable the evening of the concert. Fuf informed the members the breakdown of cost for each item involved with the concert from when she had requested the Hotel/Motel funds. After the concert is signed and returned, MAC will begin with the details for the concert.

### Old Business

Mike Carolan will look at the benefits of having a sign on County Home Road for the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center verses people using GPS to find locations. The council is waiting on his decision on this.

Fuf is working on the details of holding an Adult Plien Aire workshop in conjunction with the August Picnic on the Prairie. The Plien Aire workshop could be held from 8 to 2 on Saturday, August 19 and 9 to 1 on Sunday, August 20.

The council discussed an art display from local schools during the Marion Arts Festival. Fuf motioned and Dennis seconded Pat and Elizabeth form a committee to oversee this project, all in favor.

### New Business

The "snow plow" art piece on the Sculpture Trail needs to be fixed. The members are concerned about the piece with the winter weather approaching. Mary Ann will check with Karlene and Mike when it is on the work repair schedule.

### Budget

Fuf met with Karlene to discuss the MAC Budget for 2017-2018. Fuf presented the MAC budget proposal to the Council. The council members discussed the proposed budget and recommended a few changes. Elizabeth motioned for the council to approve the updated budget, Dennis seconded, all in favor. Fuf will update the budget and send to everyone including Karlene.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

**Next meeting - Tuesday, December 13, at 5:30 p.m.  
Lowe Park Art and Environment Center.**

