

## MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES

September 10, 2018 5:30 P.M.  
Low Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Jay Moore, Jane Strnad Nelson, Brenda Kowalsky, Angie Pierce Jennings (phone)

ABSENT: Pat Schmidt

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS:

### Minutes

Jane noticed in the August minutes Leslie Montgomery Fox's exhibit was listed in March and April instead of November, December and January. Jay Moore motioned to approve the August 14 minutes with the corrected dates, Brenda Kowalsky seconded, all in favor.

### New Marion Art Council Member Applicant(s)

Leslie Montgomery Fox completed an Art Council member application on-line. The council discussed her eligibility to be on the board when also exhibiting her art work in the art gallery. The council decided this would not be a conflict of interest and would be acceptable. Jane motioned to recommend Leslie as a new member, Fuf seconded, all in favor. Mary Ann will let Mike Carolan know the Art Council is recommending Leslie Montgomery Fox to become a new Marion Art Council member.

### Our Town Grant Updates

Fuf shared with the council the list of events, workshops and projects the Art Council has done from 2017 to 2019. This document was prepared as part of the Our Town Grant application.

### Sculpture Committee

Mary Ann updated the council on the budget for the sculpture trail. There is no money available in the FY-19 CIP. The 5-year CIP that is being developed and reviewed by the City Council includes \$100,000 in \$25,000 installments for the sculpture trail. This funding would start in FY-20 if approved.

The path leading to the yellow sculpture needs to be mowed so the piece can be seen upon entering the park if possible. Two paths to the sculpture would work as an entrance an exit when viewing the piece on foot. Jay offered to meet a staff member to show where they would like the path. Mary Ann has contacted the Park Director about this and will contact them again.

### Exhibits

The current exhibit is Siliji Lynne. This exhibit runs from August 25 to October 27 with the reception on September 13 lasting 1 hour. Upcoming exhibits will be Leslie Montgomery Fox – November, December and January 2019; Mt. Mercy University and Kirkwood Community College – February 2019; Dr. Kettlekamp and Larry Zirbel – March and April 2019; Iowa Art Quilters - July and August 2019. Fuf is contacting an artist regarding the May and June exhibit.

Goodwill is exhibiting on the school exhibit wall. Their reception date was August 22. Fuf is contacting the schools regarding the school exhibit wall.

### Picnic on the Prairie Concert

The August 18 Picnic on the Prairie performer was the Bernemann Band. Angie reported 300 people attended the concert. Doug with RGS Productions locked up the box since he also does this for the Parks Dept events. The council has been given an "Amphitheater Policy Manual" for their reference. The council agreed that not having portable toilets for their events was not a problem. Several council members at the concert checked with the building supervisor during the event regarding the bathrooms. The council did note the area between the

building and amphitheater was dark and would like to suggest lights be available to light up the area. This would be helpful when the concert is over for the safety of attendees leaving the event.

Angie noted the dates for the 2019 Picnic on the Prairie are June 15 and August 17. Angie motioned having the June 29, 2019 concert from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and the August 17 concert from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Brenda seconded, all in favor. The different times for the concerts is due to the sun's position during those months.

#### Plein Air program

The Plein Air Workshop was held on August 18 before the Picnic on the Prairie concert. The workshop had 13 people attend. Fuf and Jane attended the workshop with the instructor Gordon Kellenberger.

#### Coffeehouse Night

Cedar County Cobras will perform at the October 5 Coffeehouse Night. The performers for the November 2 Coffeehouse Night will be Deep Dish Divas. Society of Broken Souls will perform at the December 7 Coffeehouse Night.

Brenda and Fuf went over the supplies that are needed for the first Coffeehouse Night. Mary Ann will check on the petty cash money. Brenda is checking with the new owners of Wit's End and will order the cookies, brownies and coffee. Jay offered to pick up the items. Fuf will be at the building at 5 to meet the performers. Jane and Brenda will oversee making coffee. The building supervisor will be scheduled to work at 6:30. Jay and Pat will also be present that evening to help.

With the change in council members, a new poster distribution list was created. Posters will be taken by: Brenda 3 (Art Council file, Huk Printing, Farmers State Bank); Jay 4 (Wit's End, library, 2 City Hall); Jane 1 (Summit Pointe); Fuf 1 (Keystone); Angie 2 (Cherry Building in New Bo, Cedar Rapids library?); Pat 5 (Iowa City New Pi, Iowa City library, Iowa City Bread Garden, Coralville New Pi, Cedar Rapids New Pi).

#### Budget

The Hotel Motel Grant awarded the council \$5,000 for the 2018-2019 year. Last year the Art Council received \$5,500. The council saved \$350 by not having portable restrooms at the Picnic on the Prairie concert.

#### Old Business

The Art Council shirts have been delivered.

#### New Business

None.

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

**Next meeting -Tuesday, October 9, at 5:30 p.m.  
Lowe Park Art and Environment Center**