**MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES**

March 12, 2019 5:30 P.M.

Lowe Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Pat Schmidt, Jay Moore, Jane Strnad Nelson, Brenda Kowalsky

ABSENT: Angie Pierce Jennings, Leslie Montgomery Fox

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS:

Minutes

Jay motioned to approve the February 19 minutes, Pat seconded, all in favor.

Sculpture Committee

Mary Ann let the Parks Dept staff know the light on the sculpture at the entrance of the park is not pointing towards the sculpture and trash is being placed in the buffalo sculpture.

Erik Miles met with Fuf and Karlene Hummel regarding a plaque or art piece to commemorate the Echo Satellite communications site near Marion. The Arthur Collins Legacy Association is a group of former Collins Radio employees undertaking an effort to celebrate the work of Arthur Collins/Collins Radio and how it helped lead to humans on the moon. This year is the 50th anniversary of the first landing of mankind on the moon. A grant from the Rotary Club of Marion-East Cedar Rapids matched by a grant form Rotary District 5970 would provide a base of $10,000. Other grants and donations will be sought. The art would be fabricated after July 1, 2019 and installed by June 1, 2020. A committee would be created consisting of Erik Miles, Karlene Hummel, 2 Art Council members and 2 Collins employees. Jay and Fuf offered to be on this committee. Jane offered to help also. They are hoping to start meeting at the beginning of April. Brenda sent Karlene the information she has from doing the “Call of Artist” for the 2 newest sculptures. Mary Ann will check with Karlene if this is needed since the project is not using the City’s money. The plaque or art piece will need to follow the City’s art plan.

Exhibits

The current exhibit is Bill Kettelkamp and Larry Zirbel and will be on exhibit from March 2 to May 4. The reception will be March 14. Fuf and Jane will be responsible for the reception. Jay will be in the building as a building supervisor so will also be able to help. Upcoming exhibits will be Gary Hoard – May 5 to June 29; Iowa Art Quilters – June 29 to September 7; Bob Strickland (photographer) - September to October; Karen Sands (pottery and paintings) - November to January 2020; Cara Briggs Farmers and Ben High – March to April 2020; Silje Lynne – May to June 2020. Cecil Houdel is interested in exhibiting and has done a series of pastel Nobel Prize winner portraits.

Francis Marion Intermediate (FMI) School is exhibiting on the school exhibit wall. Their reception is Thursday, March 14 from 5:30 to 6:30.

Coffeehouse Night

Sarah Driscoll and Nicole Upchurch performed at the March 1 Coffeehouse Night. Approximately 55 people attend the concert and $71 worth of refreshments were sold. The Bone People, a group consisting of Debra Marquart, Peter Manenis and Anthony Steven, will perform at the April 5 Coffeehouse Night. Jay, Pat, Jane, Fuf and her husband, and Angie and her husband will be at the April 5 Coffeehouse Night to help.

The distribution list of posters is: Brenda – 3 (Art Council, Huk Printing, Farmers State Bank), Jay – 4 (Wit’s End, library, 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), and Leslie – 4 (gas station in Robins, Mr. Beans, Great Harvest Bread Co, Artisan Sanctuary).

Picnic on the Prairie Concerts June and August

The June 15 Picnic on the Prairie performer will be Lucy Kaplansky. The cost for this performer is $3,000. The contract also calls for the Art Council to provide lodging and a hot meal. The Art Council can not officially announce the performer until the contract is signed. The contract will be presented at the March 13 Park Board for approval. The deposit will be processed in the March 21 council batch after the contract has been approved and signed. Angie would like to do this concert rain or shine. Brenda asked if the contract has regulations regarding posters and usage of photos. Mary Ann will let Angie know Brenda was inquiring about this.

The August 17 Picnic on the Prairie performer is Dandelion Stompers, a jazz group from Iowa City. The performer cost is $1,500.

The signed sound and lights contract for both Picnic on the Prairie events have been received.

Cecil Houdel may be interested in teaching the August Plein Air Workshop.

Budget

The council reviewed the budget items. Fuf will order wine colored tablecloths. The wine colored tablecloths are currently sold out. Mary Ann will continue to check if they become available. Additional hangers are in the 2019-20 budget.

Mary Ann will let the council know when the information to apply for the Hotel / Motel Tax Grant is released.

Old Business

The council decided to do a presentation to the Park Board at the May 8 meeting. Jay will let Darcie Coberly, administrative assistant at Thomas Park, know so will be placed on the agenda. The council will discuss the presentation at the April meeting.

Red Cedar Chamber will be holding a concert at Lowe Park on Thursday, March 28. The reception will be held after the concert in the lobby. Fuf and Brenda will be able to help with this reception. Red Cedar Chamber will be responsible for the chair set-up in the Oaks.

The Our Town Grant has not been awarded yet.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

**Next meeting -Tuesday, April 9, at 5:30 p.m.**

**Lowe Park Art and Environment Center**