**MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES**

July 9, 2019 5:30 P.M.

Lowe Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Jay Moore, Jane Strnad Nelson, Leslie Montgomery Fox, Angie Pierce

Jennings, Brenda Kowalsky, Pat Schmidt

ABSENT:

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS:

Approval of the June minutes

Jay motioned to approve the amended June 11 minutes, Angie seconded, all in favor.

Election of officers

Angie and Fuf would like to continue as the Co-Chairperson. Brenda would like to step down as the secretary. Leslie volunteered for the secretary position. Jay motioned for Angie and Fuf to continue as co-chairperson and Leslie as the secretary, Pat seconded, all in favor.

Sculpture Committee

Brenda will gather the information regarding the “Disappearing Culture” sculpture footing concerns and will discuss at the August meeting.

The council would support the a Public Safety Sculpture as the next sculpture purchase when CIP money becomes available.

Exhibits

The current exhibit is Iowa Art Quilters and will be on exhibit until August 31. The reception will be held on Thursday, July 11. Fuf and Jane will be able to work this reception. Upcoming exhibits will be Bob Strickland (photographer) – August 31 thru October; Karen Sands (pottery and paintings) - November to January 2020; Cara Briggs Farmer and Ben High – March to April 2020; Silje Lynne – May to June 2020. Cecile Houdel is interested in exhibiting and has done a series of pastel Nobel Prize winner portraits. The Iowa Pastel Society will exhibit next April in conjunction with their annual meeting. They will display in the Hall Gallery. Details are still being worked out. Fuf has received requests from 2 artists interested in exhibiting in the gallery and will contact them.

Goodwill Heartland clients will be exhibiting during the summer. A daytime reception will be arranged for this exhibit.

Coffeehouse Nights

Angie has started contacting performers for the 2019-2020 Coffee Houses.

Picnic on the Prairie Concerts June and August - Update

The June 15 Picnic on the Prairie performer was Lucy Kaplansky. The concert was moved inside due to the weather forecast and severe thunderstorm watch. This was a good decision since there was heavy rain around 7:30 and lightning throughout the performance. The performance and evening went well with the change. There was approximately 70 people in attendance.

The August 17 Picnic on the Prairie performer is Dandelion Stompers, a jazz group from Iowa City. The council decided not to get port-a-potties for this event. The cones, signs and garbage containers used for the event are stored in the maintenance room. Angie will arrive early for the sound set up. Jay and Leslie will arrive at 5:30 to help with the set-up and parking. Fuf, Leslie and Jane volunteered to add the information on the Community Event Calendars. Mary Ann will send them the Community Event Calendar list.

The Art Council discussed purchasing reusable corrugated signs to advertise the Picnic on the Prairie. Mary Ann shared the cost the Rec Dept spent on the signs purchased thru Signs on the Cheap. The council decided to create the signs after the next Picnic on the Prairie due to the timing.

August Plein Air Workshop

Gordon Kellenberger will instruct the Plein Air Workshop. Fuf will share the flyer to be placed on the website. The cost of the workshop is $25 per person.

Hotel / Motel Grant

The Art Council was awarded $4,100 that is available after July 1, 2019. Angie and Fuf will sign the agreement at the meeting and Mary Ann will interoffice to the Finance Dept.

Budget

The council reviewed the budget worksheet for the current fiscal year and the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Old Business

Mike Carolan, Park Director, suggested the council add up the amount of time spent volunteering on an annual basis to be included in their presentation to City Council. The members will add up their hours and bring to the next meeting. It was suggested to have a volunteer binder to log in volunteer hours every month.

New Business

Amber Bisinger, the City Communications Coordinator, and Jessica Carney, the City Event Coordinator, will attend the August meeting to discuss marketing of events.

Red Cedar Chamber Concert will be held at Lowe Park on Thursday, April 30 at 7 p.m. Fuf will remind them they will need to do the set-up and tear down of the room for this event.

Mike Brandt holds Summer Art Camps in the art room during the summer months. He is interested in offering art classes through out the year. The council decided against having permanent year-round classes in the art room due to the room being used for meetings, music events and art storage. The room is used as a functional workspace year-round by the Art Council and Friends of the Park.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

**Next meeting -Tuesday, August 13, at 5:30 p.m.**

**Lowe Park Art and Environment Center**