**MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES**

Novemebr 10, 2020 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

**Roll Call:** Jay Moore, Fuf Renfer, Jane Nelson, Leslie Fox

**Absent:** Angie Pierce and Pat Schmidt

**Staff:** Karlene Hummel, Tracey Bellach

Called to Order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of March 10, 2020 Minutes

The word “sound” was added after non-environmentally, in the Sculpture Committee report. The minutes were approved unanimously, so moved by Leslie Fox and seconded by Jay Moore.

Sculpture Committee

Seth Staashelm from Parks and Recreation informed the Council that money unused for coffee house nights (cancelled due to the pandemic) could be put toward a chain saw sculpture to create something positive from the August derecho. The plan is to select an artist (most likely a local wood sculptor Clint Henik of Mount Vernon) and a tree from Taube park to be carved. Karlene will confirm the budget and Jay will come back to the Council with preliminary ideas and sketches.

Our Town Grant

This was turned down.

Exhibits

Cara Briggs Farmer’s and Ben High’s exhibit was hung on March 7. The building closed on March 18. Cara and Ben were able to come on a weekend during the summer to collect their artwork. The last exhibit in March was Linn Mar High School. Arrangement were made for them to also pick up their student art work.

The 2020/21 exhibit schedule had been set out as follows:

December 5 - January 30, 2021 – Rylee Holub

February 1 to February 29 - Mt. Mercy University and Kirkwood Community

 College

February 29 – May 1 – Cecil Houel

April 17 – May 29 in the Hall Gallery – Iowa Pastel Society

May 1 – June 26 – Chris Sell

June 26 – August 28 – Silje Lynne

All of the above depend on the Lowe facility being open. At the moment the building is closed, except for a few very limited rentals. There is no firm date to reopen the gallery. Therefore, no schools will be invited to exhibit in the spring of 2021 and Fuf Renfer will continue to keep future exhibitors informed as plans change.

Coffee House Nights

On March 7, Tara McGovern and Keith Reins performed along with Champagne Academy of Irish Dancers. 104 people attended. The remaining coffee night performer, Kelly Montijo (April 3), was canceled due to Covid as were the October and November coffee house performances. A motion was made by Jane Nelson, seconded by Jay Moore, to cancel coffee house nights for 2020 and spring 2021, and to resume scheduling them in the fall of 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

Picnic on the Prairie

The spring 2020 and fall 2020 concerts were canceled due to Covid. Since the $3000 hotel/motel tax proceeds were not used, they can be put towards the June 21, 2021 scheduled concert.

Budget

Karlene submitted the new budget using the same numbers as the previous budget. Angie and Fuf both approved.

Old Business

Jane presented an update on case or cloth sleeves for storage of the MAC permanent art collection while not in use. Prices range from $70 to $100’s for everything from cardboard carriers to specialty cases to a wooded spindle holder for canvases. Discussion will continue.

Deb from DKW Studios had agreed to do the August 2020 Plein Air Workshop, but it was canceled due to Covid.

Tracey has ordered additional Walker Gallery art hangars as needed.

The selection of new Art Council members will be delayed at least untll the next meeting due to Covid.

New Business

Six Marion Library staff are currently working at Lowe since the derecho destroyed the library. This could last for months. We remain flexible!

Nameplates for sculptures were discussed. Tracey will update the out-of-date quote for name plates and Karlene is still checking into a telephone URL to teach visitors about the sculptures. This project and discussion will continue.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m. The next meeting will be December 8.