

**MAC Minutes**  
**January 27, 2015**  
**5:30 p.m. Lowe Park**

Present: Dennis Fevert, Pat Schmidt, Fuf Renfer, Charlene Briggs, Brenda Kowalsky, Patsi Gann, Angie Pierce Jennings and Karlene Hummel

Absent:

Guests: Karen Hoyt and Bob North

- Update from Karen Hoyt and Bob North –The Art in the Alleys Committee is moving along and will be sending out a “Call to Artists” with all the details in the near future. A draft copy was emailed to the art council members. They hope to have submission by the end of March. After artists apply, the Committee will try to have artists chosen within a 4 to 6 weeks period. They would like the art work installed by late spring of 2016. The Committee is working with Shive-Hattery holding “Mind Mixers” to finalize ideas and to help people visualize the final project. "Mind Mixers" are meetings with business owners, artists and other city groups. Bob and Karen will continue to keep the art council informed.
- Other Art News: Marion’s “Brand Direction” – Brenda and Dennis attended this presentation and reported that they would like to make Marion a more family friendly destination. Karlene stated the presentation can be viewed on the City of Marion website. Brenda also talked to the “Giving Tree Theater” about the art council working with them for promotion and maybe a performance at Lowe Park.
- Sculpture Trail Committee update – No report. Karlene will touch base with Kyle Martin.
  - This was sent by the Sculpture Trail Committee Chair – Kyle Marin to Karlene on 1/28:  
*The Art Trail has taken a little bit of a backseat to the Alley Project right now. Several of the Art Trail committee members are on the Public Art Committee which is meeting every other week with one committee member, the Public Art Director, being at full time on the Alley Project. My intention is to meet again as soon as possible to wrap up the process for the Art Trail so it doesn't drag out any farther than it has already. I will take a look at the updated Alley Project schedule and look for the best time to meet again.*
- Coffeehouse Night - Set-up for the Friday, February 6 concert will be 5:30. A staff person will be at the front desk at 6:15. This group has a big following and expecting a large turnout. The art council will be doing the ticket tear off tracking method to count the people attending the concert to comply with fire code. The setup of the room will be reconfigured to maximize seating and no round tables will be used. Pat checked with the fire department and a row of chairs can be placed in the hallway along the outside wall. Dennis will be getting double treats and more coffee to sale. Patsi will pick up plates etc. for the Coffeehouse and upcoming reception. The Art Council has in their budget funds to buy a rug for the performers to stand on during their performances. They have been using the rug from the front lobby. Menards has several to choose from. The cost of the rugs are roughly \$220. Karlene will pick up the rug Fuf chooses through the Parks Department account with Menards.
  - Performers and Dates: February 6 - Black Sheep  
March 6 - Ben Schmidt & Larry Mossman  
April 10 - Natalie Brown
- Exhibits and Receptions:
  - Tina Dietzgen reception and jam session and the Oak Ridge Middle School reception – The session was well attended. The jam session was so good that we would like to have them play at Lowe Park.
  - Art exchange: Saturday, January 31.

- February Exhibit - Cornell and Mercy College, reception: Tuesday, February 10 (the date was changed)
  - Indian Creek Elementary Exhibit – reception: Tuesday, February 10
  - Art exchange: Saturday, February 28
  - March/April - Marci Wright and her brother, reception: Thursday, March 12
  - FMI/Emerson School Exhibit – reception: Thursday, March 12
  - April School Exhibit – Linn Grove – reception: Thursday, April 9
  - Art exchange: Saturday, May 2
  - May/June - Jake Putnam and Kara Farmer (sculpture artist) - reception: Thursday, May 14
  - Starry Elementary Exhibit – reception: Thursday, May 14
  - Art Exchange: Saturday, June 27
  - July/August - Mike Stark photography and maybe an abstract artist - reception: Wednesday, July 15
  - Artist Exchange: Saturday, August 29 or Saturday, September 5 (waiting to hear back from the Watercolor Society)
  - September/October - Iowa Watercolor State Exhibit - reception may need to be Saturday, September 12. They are having their big annual meeting in Cedar Rapids that weekend and would make sense to have it then.
  - November/December - Barb Weeks & Frank Kinney?
  - Discussion of other artists for 2016
- Signage in the gallery – Charlene presented a mock-up idea which uses a wooden sign similar to other signs in the building and also an idea for applique signs that are on the walls. It was suggested that the applique could be mounted on Plexiglas so it can be taken down for painting etc.
  - Red Cedar Chamber Music / Silent film event on Thursday, March 26 at 7 p.m. -
    - Discussed the planning of the event, window coverings, who will be attending, set-up and tear down, etc. Brenda said the cost would run about \$100 to \$200 per window for window coverings. Karlene informed the council that blinds will be added to these two rooms in July. It was decided to use the temporary light blocking material instead of doing blinds. Fuf will let Red Cedar Chamber know the reception will be during their intermission. She will find out how they want the chairs arranged. Fuf talked to them on January 28. They would like to have the reception at the beginning and also have things to eat and drink during their intermission. Fuf thought this would be fine. They would like 50 chairs in a semi-circle with an aisle down the middle with extra chairs along the side. The set-up should leave room in the front for them to perform and a place for the projector.
  - Old Business
 

Pat made the following motion: MAC will purchase Tom Wilson’s painting “Grain Chute” for the permanent collection. Dennis seconded; motion passed. If purchased through Pay Pal account then shipping is included. Fuf will contact Darcie to ask if this possible. Fuf called Darcie on January 28 and was informed the City does have a Pay Pal account. Fuf sent Darcie the information and she will order the oil painting for MAC.
  - New Business
    - Dennis and Pat will check on lights that need to be changed out and let Karlene know so can be placed on a work order.
    - Karlene will check about a key for Dennis so he and Pat can arrange the lights for the exhibits when the building is not being used.

Next meeting: February 24, 2015  
Lowe Park – 5:30 p.m.