

MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES

February 24, 2015, 5:30 PM
Lowe Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Angie Pierce Jennings, Dennis Frevert, Brenda Kowalsky, Pat Schmidt

ABSENT: Patsi Gann, Charlene Briggs, Karlene Hummel

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS: None

Art News

Karen Hoyt was unable to attend the Art Council meeting. Karen emailed information to Angie. Angie will forward the information to all of the Art Council members.

The first weekend in March there will be a wood carving show at KTOS. The last weekend in June is the Des Moines Art Festival. The Giving Tree show *Glass Menagerie* received good reviews and five more plays have been scheduled.

Sculpture Trail Committee Update

Nothing new to report due to waiting on the Parks Master Plan.

Coffeehouse Nights

Coffeehouse Night on February 6 had 156 people attending with 40 people being turned away due to lack of room. For future performances, the council would like to leave tables in the front of the room for people to sit at and enjoy the music. The next Coffeehouse Night is March 6 with Ben Schmidt and Larry Mossman performing. Brenda brought in the posters for this performance and the website has been updated. Patsi or Fuf will be picking up coffee filters, water, little plates, and napkins. Dennis will be picking up the same number of treats as the last Coffeehouse Night from Wit's End (2 dozen cookies and 2 dozen brownies). Extra treats can be used at the next artist's reception. Fuf, Pat, Brenda, Dennis and Angie will be attending the Coffeehouse Night. Fuf will check with Patsi and Charlene to see if they will be able to also attend. The performance is scheduled from 7 to 8:30 pm with doors opening at 6:30. A building supervisor is scheduled to work that evening at the front desk. April 10 is the next Coffeehouse night with Natalie Brown performing.

Exhibits

The February 10 reception with Cornell and Mercy College was well attended. Fuf and Angie will exchange the art on February 28. Dennis will also be here on Saturday morning to work on the benches. The reception for the school and March/April artists, Marci Wright and her brother, will be on Thursday, March 12. Brenda will make posters for the new artists. Fuf will not be able to attend this reception due to school conferences. Angie and Pat will attend the school reception from 5:30 to 6:30, arriving at 5 to prepare for the reception. Brenda and Pat will attend the artist's reception from 6:30 to 7:30. Fuf or Patsi will pick up pop, juice, Oreos, and gallon size ziplock bags for this reception. The next art exchange is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, with the reception for Jake Putnam and Cara Briggs Farmer on Thursday, May 14. The following art exchange is Saturday, June 27, for Mike Stark, photographer, with the reception being Wednesday, July 15. Fuf will look into an artist to be with Mike Stark. Fuf reported that she is

waiting to hear from the Iowa Watercolor regarding their exhibit and reception. Discussion of future artists for 2016 will be at the next meeting.

Art Purchase

The council voted at the last meeting to buy Michael Wilson's painting *Grain Bin*. In the 2015-2016 Budget, money was budgeted for future artwork purchases. Fuf discussed with Mike Carolan, Park Director, purchasing *Grain Bin* for \$250 out of the Miscellaneous Commodities account. Pat motioned to purchase the Michael Wilson's painting for \$250 out of the Miscellaneous Commodities account and Dennis seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Fuf will discuss with Mike and Darcie Coberly the next steps to purchase the art.

Signage in the Gallery

Mary Ann reported it is recommended that no signage (Mission Statement) should be placed on the narrow part of the wall.

Red Cedar Chamber Music Concert / Silent Film Event

The concert is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, at 7 pm. They have let the council know of several requirements they have for their performance. Fuf, Angie, Brenda and Pat will be in attendance. Red Cedar Chamber have requested having the meet and greet before the concert and also at intermission.

Additional Art Center Key

Fuf requested an additional key for Dennis. Dennis stated he adjusts the lights six times a year and was fine without one. Fuf and Angie wanted to check to see if it would be possible to have another key made. Mary Ann said there are no extra keys and would check if one could be made for Dennis.

Giving Tree Theater

Karlene emailed information to the Giving Tree Theater about the amphitheater regarding rental prices, no set storage and no sound and extra lighting provided. She also let them know July 3-5, 2015, was available for rent. Dennis reminded the council that the Giving Tree Theater is a for-profit business and should pay the normal rental fees. Fuf thought a future Coffeehouse performance could be a Reader's Theater performance by this group.

New Business

Pat mentioned people have been requesting more outdoor concerts scheduled at the Amphitheater. Fuf said she had checked the reservation book and weekends were full with graduation parties and weddings in May. Dennis said the weather in early May is unpredictable to hold a concert. For 2015, the Picnic on the Prairie will be the only concert on the amphitheater organized by the Art Council. Fuf commented in 2016 they should look into doing two concerts and need to pencil in a date before filled with other reservations.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2015, at 5:30 pm at the Lowe Park Art and Environment Center.