

MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES

March 24, 2015, 5:30 PM

Low Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Angie Pierce Jennings, Dennis Frevert, Brenda Kowalsky, Pat Schmidt, Patsi Gann, Charlene Briggs

ABSENT:

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS: Karen Hoyt, Ann Tobert

Art News

Karen Hoyt discussed the ImaginArt in the Alleys project. She presented drawings from Shive-Hattery. The grant money needs to be spent by December but the artwork will not be installed by then. The committee will be using "CaFE" (Call for Entry) to manage RFQ and jury process. Their website is www.callforentry.org and is recommended by IAC. Updates on this project is located on the Art Director's Blog at www.imaginarartmarion.wordpress.com. Shive-Hattery's Refined Concepts open house regarding this project is April 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 at City Hall. The on-line portal called MindMixer is currently gathering ideas from the public for this project. This information is located at www.imaginarinthealleys.mindmixer.com. Karen said she will be attending ArtPlace Panel Presentation at National Main Street Conference in Atlanta on April 1.

Ann Tobert from the Iowa State Extension presented information regarding a 1 day art camp for middle and high school students. This opportunity would be handled by Iowa State College of Design and led by Jennifer Drinkwater, a professor at ISU. They would like a minimum of 12-15 students and a maximum of 30. The cost would be \$25 to cover the art supplies. Ann was requesting Art Council volunteers at this event and help covering the cost of renting the Safe Room on Tuesday, July 14. If the students wish to continue with the art class, Iowa State College of Design would provide the materials and instructions on more projects that could be done. Jennifer and the College of Design would only be at the July 14 camp. Fuf motioned to partner with Iowa State Extension with this project, Brenda seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed. Angie motioned to write a letter to Park Board to have the fee waved for this activity, Pat seconded the motion. Dennis felt the letter was unnecessary since Marion Art Council is part of the Parks Dept. Mary Ann said she will check to see if the letter was necessary and do any follow-up needed. Mary Ann will also check with Tony if the art supplies and instructions that the college would be able to leave for future classes is something the Parks Department would like to continue.

Karen Hoyt had contacted the Art Council about donating 2 pastel drawing to the Arts and Environment Center. Pat motioned to accept the donated artwork, Fuf seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carried. Pat will discuss with Karen the donation and get the value of the artwork for insurance purposes.

Sculpture Trail Committee Update

No updates to report.

Coffeehouse Nights

The next Coffeehouse Night is April 10 with Natalie Brown performing. Brenda will have the posters ready for this performance and will bring on Thursday night. 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) and no extra coffee is needed. Angie, Fuf, Pat, Dennis and Charlene will be attending the Coffeehouse Night. 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.

Exhibits

Fuf discussed the schedule for the exhibits, receptions and art exchanges. The next art exchange is May 2. Fuf and her granddaughter will handle the Linn Grove reception on April 9. The May student exhibit will be Starry Elementary with the reception on Thursday, May 7. The May/June exhibit will be Jake Putnam and Cara Briggs Farmer with the reception on Thursday, May 14. The art exchange will be Saturday, June 27. The July/August exhibit will be Mike Stark, photographer, and the Cedar Rapids Ceramic Center. The reception will be on Wednesday, July 15. The art exchange will be Saturday, August 29. The September exhibit will be Iowa Quilts and Jane Knapp is the contact person. The reception will be either Thursday, September 10 or 17. The October/November exhibit will be the Iowa Watercolor Society Traveling Exhibit. The December/January exhibit will be Barb Weeks or Julia Kulish.

MAC Budget

Mary Ann had the deposit for cookies sold moved to the revenue account. The Budget Balance worksheet does not include the purchase of Michael Wilson's artwork. Dennis reminded everyone that all expenditures need to be done by early June to be processed in this fiscal year which ends June 30.

Art Purchase

Mary Ann updated the council regarding the purchase of Michael Wilson's artwork "Grain Bin". The check should be processed by Finance Department on Friday. Once Mary Ann has the check, she will mail it with the information Michael needs. Mary Ann will let the council know when the artwork is received.

Signage in the Gallery

The council discussed the signage for the gallery. "The Gallery at Lowe" was the one most liked. The council agreed that it would be best to have at 3 different places in the gallery. Charlene and Brenda will get prices and report at the next meeting.

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, Pat and Charlene will be in attendance. Dennis was going to check if he would be able to also attend. Red Cedar Chamber have requested having the meet and greet before the concert and also at intermission. Fuf will pick up juice, water, plastic spoons and little food items for this reception and items that are needed for the next Coffeehouse Night.

New Business

Pat mentioned having pictures taken at all events held by the Art Council. Brenda will forward the pictures she has to Angie. Angie will look at all pictures taken at Art Council events and choose some to upload to the website.

Dennis reported his findings on weather data for future events. Fuf kept the report with the Art Council binder.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2015, at 5:30 pm at the Lowe Park Art and Environment Center.