

Cultural Commission Minutes: April 18, 2019

Call to Order: Kellie Williams called the meeting to order at 7:33 am

Roll Call: Kellie Williams, Ron Crick, Meryl Brown, Julia Cozad-Callighan, Angelique Racki, Mark Halx, Melissa Libert, Carole Ringer, Jamie Mathy

Staff Attendance: Jim Mack, Samantha Stills, Cara Peterson, Ann-Marie Dittmann

Minutes Approval: Minutes of March 21st, 2019 were approved with one minor change to spelling of Beth Whisman's name

Staff Reports

Cultural District Ordinance status

Jim: May 13, 2019 will be when the Cultural District Map will be presented at Council meeting.

Jamie: There is a new Alderman swearing in on May 1st. The first 30 minutes will be discussion with Council members.

Jim: The District map should be on the regular agenda and Kellie, Jim and Carole will be there to help present at 6:00pm. Jim mentioned to watch for email from Kellie with exact date and time.

Creativity Center Capital Campaign

The Creativity Center Capital Campaign announcement was on April 15th via all media channels. The Capital Campaign fundraiser will be October 5th at 6:00pm and it will be Alice and Wonderland themed.

Events Update

Cogs and Corsets will be June 7th –June 9th.

- Friday will be a steam-punk theme Contra Dance with Callahough Bandacoots out of Chicago. There will be 3 dance callers at 7:00pm. And at 8:45pm ArcAttack will be on the Lawn of the BCPA with a tesla coil demonstration.
- Saturday will be ArcAttack with music, coils and light presentation. The afternoon and evening performance will be general admission. Joshua Cain will be presenting on Saturday afternoon and early evening with Gothic at Midnight. There will be tea pot racing, a bustle-making and goggles- making workshops.
- This event is expected to grow exponentially every year and gets a large crowd draw. BCPA is more involved this year compared to past years.
- There should be vendors up and down Main Street.
- GLT Summer Concert event is also on Saturday.
- Food vendors will be on the BCPA lawn Friday and Saturday night.

July 13, 2019 the BCPA lawn concert will be announced. It is going to be country blues artists Karen Waldrup and Kacey James.

July 25-28th is Godspell with Miller Park Summer Theater. The show was switched from Newsies due to vocal range limitations. The Youth Touring Theater will be mid-June through 1st week of August. There will be 5 teens presenting Fairytales, Folktales and Myths. They will be traveling to day care centers, senior living centers and community centers.

August 14: BCPA 2019-2020 season announcement.

BCPA is installing a new ticketing system in which they will be able to start moving information after the new fiscal year starts on May 1st.

Old Business

City Council Outreach

Kellie: Talked about outreach to City Council and asked everyone to see the list of members. She asked the Commission members to email their reps about the Council meeting.

Jamie: Has Ward 1 handled and covered.

Angelique and Ann-Marie have reached out to Scott Black.

Kellie will talk to Brian and encourage artists to make a public comment. She also mentioned that she has asked Adam (McLean County Museum of History) and Doug Johnson (McLean County Arts Center) to attend if they can and provide support.

Kellie asked if anyone is encountering resistance.

Jamie: stated he had people asking him why churches are not included. His response was that they can be added later.

Kellie: mentioned people asking why the arena was not also included. Her response is the Cultural Commission had to start somewhere. And they plan to grow and add entities or businesses later. It is easier to grow the district then to detract.

Jamie: Asked Jim to send the new Council members the reference document "City of Bloomington Cultural Commission."

Kellie asked everyone to wait until May 1st to contact their reps.

Jamie: stated he will meet with Donna Boelen.

Commissioner Business Cards

Business cards are now available for commissioners, and they include an email address for commission. There are no names on them and names can be placed on back to personalize. Jamie (and Jeff, once sworn in) will use City Council business cards. She asked Commissioners to encourage communication through the new Cultural Commission email when they are interacting with the community.

New Business

Kellie: mentioned the list of the Cultural organizations within the City of Bloomington. Mark prepared a list of organizations that she will email to all Cultural Commission members and have them add any personal notes if they have any knowledge about any of the organizations on the list.

Kellie: The Commission could take on a yearly gathering which would bring these organizations more awareness to the Cultural Commission and be able to receive feedback while learning the needs of these organizations.

Carole: stated the Cultural Commission needs to invite the Normal organizations like Beth Whisman (Children's Museum). These organizations serve both communities.

Kellie: stated that base criteria needs to be created in which it will say who to invite and why.

Jamie: is more concerned that normal entities could become upset when they hear we invited people in Normal to come talk to the Cultural Commission in Bloomington. If proper communication is there prior to these meetings and intentions are shown ahead of time, this should cut back on a lot of the potential conflict.

Kellie: There needs to be more inclusion instead of less.

Kellie: asked Jim if there was a place that documents could sit or be stored that all the members can read. They wouldn't be able to edit or adjust them and if this was within legal guidelines.

Jamie: There are rules and protocols around this type of thing. Commissions are not allowed to use Google Docs.

Jamie: also mentioned to Commissioners that they need to complete their open meetings training and conflict of interest forms. They should have received an email and it is due May 1st. It has to be turned into the City Clerk's Office.

Meryl: asked who needs to be contacted to make sure a commissioner is within their guidelines and up to date on their forms etc.

Jamie: stated the Open Meetings Act training is through the City Clerk's office. And the Compliance would be through the County Clerk's Office.

Jim: will resend email and forward it to each Commissioner.

Jamie: added before meeting was over, that World Circus Day is this upcoming Saturday. There will be a lot of neat events going on. The presentation of the plaque will be at 2:15pm across from the Castle Theater. This is a great event that the Cultural Commissioners should go to and show support.

Jim: stated he would send out an agenda for this event.

Jamie: stated he has been asked by multiple people about the Public Art Committee and asked where that stood.

Jim: stated the proposal for the Art Committee was rejected by Council. Monday's upcoming Council meeting will readdress this Public Art Committee proposal. Something soon will happen and it will be announced that there is a Public Art application and Committee. Until then it is being reviewed by Tim Gleason.

Meeting Adjourned: Adjourned at 8:35am, 1st Jamie Mathy, 2nd Jim Mack.
Next Meeting: May 16th, @ 7:30am