



Tuesday, February 11, 2020

The monthly meeting of the Wheeling Arts & Cultural Commission was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 5:15 p.m. at the Stifel Fine Arts Center, the President being in the chair and the Secretary present.

Call to order at 5:20 p.m.

The following members were present: Sarah Clark, Sean Duffy, Jeanne Finstein, Sara Hauptfehrer, Jennifer Kellner-Muscar, Melinda Koslik, Danielle McCracken, March Phillips, Laura Roberts, Erin Rothenbuehler, Betsy Sweeny, Mindi Yarbrough Langford

Members Absent: Christina Fisanick, Cheryl Harshman, Travis Henline, Ron Scott, Katie Welch

Special Guest: Logan Schmitt & Susan Hogan

Approval of January's meeting minutes – Laura R. motioned to accept as received, Erin R. seconded and all approved. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The commission did not receive the current financial statements from the City in time for the meeting.

Reports of Standing Committees

Marketing and Fundraising

- Greater Wheeling Artists Studio Tour – Call for Artists - Melinda K. reported that everything is on schedule. The sub-committee had a meeting on February 4th and everything has been planned out for the event. The call for artists is currently live and will run until February 29. So far 4 artists have applied.

Visual Arts

- List of Public Places for Art – Danielle M. has met with Susan Hogan and Ellen Gano to discuss with the City possible locations for public art. Susan Hogan was present at the meeting and reported that Kossuth photography montage vinyls were created in the past and are in storage. These could be placed in various gateways. There is also an old billboard location in N. Wheeling where the owner is willing to redo the lighting and Lamar would create a custom frame to hang artwork. Susan H. also mentioned that there are tree grate benches stored at Operations and we can borrow them if they are ever needed. Another idea is to do a light show on the back of the Capitol building (Liz Neuman suggested this and Lenn Smith said that lights could be attached to the poles that run along the bike trail.). There are also mesh vinyls stored away that were once used in

the storefront of CJ Kaiser's building (currently the formalwear storefront next to the Capitol). Susan H. has old light poles in storage that could be brought out and used.

- Danielle M. mentioned that the curator of the Stifel will be doing a bicycle exhibit and creating personalized bicycle racks that can then be installed throughout the city.

History and Literature

- Wheeling Reads – Christina F. and Laura R. organized the launch event which was held at the Towngate. 23 people attended and everything went well. Sean D. hopes to have some sort of event every 2 months or so that centers around Wheeling Reads. Next event will be in April. In May there will be a program about mental health. In June there will be a literary pub crawl. Another thought is to do a poem contest about "Where I'm From". It could be an open mic night where the 5 best poems are picked asked to be presented. They will also have a Wheeling Reads event during the Writer's Conference.

Special Guest

- Logan Schmitt (local artist) talked about an event that he would like to do on April 18. He plans to have a live painting mural festival. There will be food trucks and music. Logan S. has reached out to various business owners to see if they would like to have these murals mounted on their buildings. The event will be called "Crossroads" because of Wheeling's history. Logan would like help with funding. The total budget is approximately \$1,500. Danielle M. to share the list of public spaces to help find locations for the murals. 15 artists are currently participating.

Reports of Special Committees

- Arts Fest 2020 – Mark P. spoke with Rusty and verified that the Market Plaza location is doable. There are now 3 options for the commission to consider: push the date back to October (because of timing), not do Artsfest and instead focus on other community projects or do ArtsFest in June as planned, but as a smaller, scaled back event. Discussion ensued amongst the commission members about which course of action to pursue. It was decided that the commission should focus on smaller projects spread throughout the year instead of doing one giant event. The commission can then support more community events and initiatives. The commission should also help market the Friendly City Handmade event that is scheduled in October. Mark P. will talk with Adam and Beth about supporting their event in various ways. Discussion then ensued about the ArtsFest event date that is already published in the CVB's event guide. Should the commission still set up a small event on this date? Laura R. suggested a writer's event or plein air event. June 19-20 can be called an Arts Weekend.

Next meeting March 10, 2020 at the Stifel Fine Arts Center

Adjourn at 6:20 p.m.