

Cultural Commission Minutes: October 11th, 2018

- Call to Order: Kellie Williams called the meeting to order at 7:37am
- Roll Call: Jeff Crabill, Angelique Racki, Ron Crick, Kellie Williams, Jamie Mathy, Mark Halx, Carole Ringer
- Staff Attendance: Jim Mack, Ann-Marie Dittmann, Samantha Stills, Eric Veal, and Steve Rassmussen (late attendance.)
- Minutes Approval: Minutes of September 27, 2018 approved as submitted; 1st Jeff Crabill, 2nd Carole Ringer
- Staff Reports:
- Ann-Marie: This week and the following two weeks are very busy for the BCPA. This week Jeannie Robertson and Black Violin are in appearance. Next week Whose Live Anyway and Flamenco are performing. A silent film; The Golem is the following week, and then Travis Tritt, whom is sponsored by Fox and Hounds will be performing.
- Old Business:
- Kellie: Stated Katie Simpson was unable to attend today's meeting and she will keep communicating with her in regards to next meeting.
- Jim: The Cultural Commission still needs to put together a compact proposal for the City Council. Mid-November is still the date to strive for to get on Council Agenda. Stated he will put together a recommendation after today's meeting. Kellie Williams will then send it to Commissioners to look at and tweak if needed. Then it will be given to Eric Veal.
- Kellie: Stated Steve Rassmussen is also in approval of mid-November time frame.
- New Business:
- Jim: In regards to the Public Art Committee, 5 months ago a gentleman came into his office and had suggestions of putting an art piece in front of the BCPA. At this time Jim felt policies and procedures for something like this needed to be put into place. This was discussed and decided that it would be moved forward by creating a committee composed of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Cultural Commission, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Beautification Committee and a staff member from Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts. This committee will review and approve or not approve applications for art pieces around town. It will approve locations of these temporary pieces; 18 months to 2 years, to be displayed. This will bring a better look for City beautification and for the artists it gives their pieces publicity and exposure.
- Kellie: There is discussion about the maintenance of these art pieces with weather elements etc.
- Jim: The committee is trying to find locations where vandalism won't be prevalent.

Jamie: Asked if it was normal for artists to have to pay to display their artwork.

Jim: Stated at this time there is no budget to pay artists to display their art, like most other cities. The committee can explore sponsors to support and help these artists.

Eric: Asked how these funds are captured for the artists in other cities.

Jim: Stated through grants, and raised money they help artists cover the costs. Over time, it is hoped that the City will be able to pay the artists to display their art pieces throughout the City.

There is an application process to go through in order for artists to display their art pieces. Fire stations and Libraries are great locations for art pieces to be displayed.

Kellie: Stated Tipton Park would be a great place to consider.

Jamie: Mentioned there are 47 parks throughout Bloomington and that is a great area to look at to display some of these art pieces.

Jim: Stated it is hoped that within a few years of displaying these pieces temporarily, it may lead easier into permanent art pieces for the City.

Angelique: Asked if this would include murals.

Jim: Confirmed murals would be included even though most murals are less temporary.

Kellie: Stated it would be so helpful and more meaningful if information was displayed and given with the different murals around town as to who the artists were, what the concept of the piece was and why it was created.

Carole: Mentioned there are places that have huge areas in a bigger park that are dedicated to multiple art pieces and it would be great to see something like that in Bloomington.

Asked what the Cultural Commission's role in this public art process would be.

Jim: Two members; the Chair and Vice Chair, will be a part of the Public Art Committee and these two people will report back to the Cultural Commission.

The Public Art Committee will only meet when applications are submitted to be reviewed.

Carole: Asked how the public is being made aware of this new practice and Committee.

Jim: Stated that eventually the public will be given information about the Committee and process to display art but at this time the committee has not gotten that far into things yet.

Mark: Asked if the artists have to be well established or well known or could any artist apply.

Jim: The Public Art Committee does ask for a resume but it is more based on finding the right art pieces. Skilled artists tend to make better artwork that will be able to be displayed in all weather elements.

Kellie: Asked members to look at and review the Arts, Culture and History chapter of the City's 2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan and then asked each member to come up with two to three goals for recommendation as a primary Cultural Commission focus area for 2019.

She stated the first goal in that Comprehensive Plan was to have a Downtown Cultural District established. This has been formally recommended by the Cultural Commission already.

Goals:

Carole: Stated her goals were figuring out who does the operations of the Cultural District after approvals and having a formal regional arts council.

Ron: Stated his goals were to establish internal Commission governance and Commissioner responsibilities, to increase and build support for the Commission as an umbrella organization, and to narrow the focus of the Commission before the focus is expanded.

Jamie: Stated his goals were to increase awareness of the BCPA and how do we make the current building more productive. He also stated the Commission needs to create a central online location for events, which is what the BCPA should be. Lastly, those notifications and alerts need to be pushed to the Community.

Angelique: Stated her main goal was to get a central organization, as stated above, that can do more calendar, advertising, and sending out events of people's interests. There needs to be more push of notifications.

Kellie: Stated signage is discussed in the chapter also and so the Cultural Commission should be checking in more periodically with the signage committee in order for action to get done.

Steve: There are two signage areas not to get them confused. One is Community Development and the other is Wayfinding. Wayfinding is who the Commission needs to be checking in with for signage.

Jamie: Stated the Cultural Commission needs to be more in the loop and should be able to preview the Wayfinding signage, because up to this point nothing has been shown to the Cultural Commission.

Meeting Adjourned: Adjourned at 8:31am, 1st Jeff Crabill, 2nd Carole Ringer

Next Meeting: October 25th @ 7:30am