

Pontiac Arts Commission

October 09, 2017 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Mike McGuinness

Commissioners present: Dr. Carl Byerly, Owen Edwards, Portia Fields-Anderson, Mike McGuinness, Judy Wilson, Sabrina Jefferson, Renee Voit-Porath. Quorum established.

Members absent: Robert Karazim, Dwayne Anthony Lyons, Maria Bermudez, Mark Stone.

Public present: Melanie Rutherford, Moriah Rutherford, Janiece Gage, Virginia Ficarra.

Agenda motion to adopt agenda made by Commissioner Byerly, seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Motion unanimously approved.

Minutes motion for minutes approval made by Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Byerly. Motion unanimously approved.

Public Comment: Pontiac resident and vocal artist Melanie Rutherford stated that she wanted the commission to make a stronger voice for artists. Spoke of walk of fame idea and honoring Pontiac artists past and present.

Guest Presentation: Virginia Ficarra of "Connecting Community with Nature and Walking" gave a presentation (Which included a video) on Community Healing Tree of Life. She suggested a small park to be used to create a walking space with a tree planted along with a creative walking path to promote health and wellbeing.

Old Business: Grizz Night is October 25th-6:00-10:00. Arts Commission will have an information table at the Pontiac Little Art Theatre (PLAT). Erebus Haunted Attraction is included with the evening's events.

Commissioner Renee Voit-Porath reported that the Spinners Concert in September went successfully and was well attended.

Annual Tree Lighting- Dr. Byerly. Caroling will be at 1st Presbyterian Church following the tree lighting at 7:00 pm. School choirs are being invited to perform. His committee is Dwayne Anthony Lyons and Sabrina Jefferson. Volunteers needed.

New Business/Announcements: Pontiac Bicentennial is in 2018. Pontiac is oldest inland settlement in state. Commissioner Mike McGuinness encouraged colleagues to generate ideas on how this milestone can be commemorated through artistic and cultural expression.

Meeting adjourned: 6:45 pm. Next meeting is November 13, 2017.