



## Meeting Minutes for Monday, November 11, 2019

**SWEARING IN BY Honorable Judge Cynthia Walker** - 5:30 p.m. Handout provided of City Charter, Division 4 pertaining to creation of Arts Commission, members terms and compensation. All Commissioners present were sworn in.

### I. ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

Irma Hayes  
Dr. Carl Byerly  
Judy Wilson

Dwayne Anthony Lyons  
Renee Voit-Porath  
Maria Bermudez

Owen Edwards

### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### III. MEETING MINUTES - October minutes not recorded.

- a. Renee Voit-Porath and Judy Wilson will share secretarial duties.
- b. Carl Byerly said Ken Martin would like minutes for City website. Dwayne Anthony Lyons shared Ken Martin's phone number - 248-758-3101. Irma will start sending minutes to Ken.
- c. Irma requests that any information shared by Commissioners she be cc'd on

### IV. CHAIR'S REPORT - Irma Hayes

No report, as she has just been appointed as Chair. She thanked Commissioners for having faith in her, sharing she has 45 years in entertainment, many ideas going forward. Mayor requested she get involved with Hauntiac and Christmas events. Irma will support both as she is requested to help by those already producing events. Since production of these are already in motion, this year she won't be as involved as next year. Renee Voit-Porath shared that PAC partners with Main Street on Hauntiac. Maria Bermudez regarding PAC involvement in State of City, doesn't fall under our purview, no history of PAC involvement. All Commissioners present concurred.

### V. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Arts Commission Leadership - addressed under Chair report
- b. International Peace Day Concert Report, Sept 21 - Mark Stone is out of town - will table for December meeting when Mark Stone returns. Renee shared that it did take place.
- c. Outdoor Art/Mural Art Project Task Force Update - Judy Wilson reported on committee meetings at previous PAC meetings. Request for Qualifications has been drafted - getting feedback from first draft. Will tweak and push out. Need to identify sources of funding. News about Asphalt Art grant. Will share with Alexandria Riley. Mural Committee members - Maria Bermudez, Ryan Tavarez, Quindell "Quest" Mitchell have attended with Judy. Robert Karazim would like to attend upcoming meetings. Location for first murals, tentatively, overpass over Orchard Lake west of Woodward Loop. Discussion of theme and locating murals in each district. Responses to RFQ will be reviewed by committee, and finalists brought to PAC for final selection and approval. Timeline undetermined due to unidentified funding source(s).
- d. Hauntiac Finance Report - Renee Voit-Porath -proposed budget of \$500 to decorate downtown areas, actual came in lower \$303.46, submitted receipts for reimbursement. Dwayne - receipts should go to Janet Peters, in finance. Dwayne requested they be emailed to

him, and he'll send to Janet and cc Mayor. Ideas shared for next year. Judy proposed we think about seasonal / holiday decoration tasks, PAC can produce and support but it warrants creative thought around what PAC is envisioned being part of regarding the actual labor of all decorating responsibilities – don't want to discourage people from volunteering. We need resources – human and financial. Irma stated nothing that we do, should we actually be doing. We should recruit volunteers to participate. Everybody wants to be a part of their city. City Council meetings on Tuesdays – present opportunities to volunteer, and to accomplish things together. Moving forward, we'll follow this process. Dwayne cited exceptions, eg. Soul Food, produced by himself and Mark Stone, who are not paid, but every musician is paid, supported by grants from City and OU, \$1500 – 2000. There will not be a Soul Food in January 2020, due to Mark's travels out of area. Youth Soul Food being planned for Summer 2020. Renee requested that all activities' promotional materials include crediting the PAC with PAC logo.

- e. 2019 Holiday Tree Lighting/Church Concert -Dr. Carl Byerly – most challenging year since PAC took over 3 years ago. Brenda Causey-Mitchell, with City's after school programs, didn't get grant that had supported in past. Other school cut arts resources, as well. Two school groups signed on so far, along with City Wide Choir, Springfield Baptist, Accent Pontiac. Dwayne added he'll probably bring his praise team. Carl confirmed church, tech, afterglow all lined up. Maureen's(?) doing cookies, as she has over the years. Contacted Boy Scouts, but weak on participants this year. They'd try to get another group from church. Carl will lead carols again this year. Printed program – content submitted by Carl to Genysis who prints. Tree of Hope lighting 12/6, 6PM, concert 7PM at First Presbyterian. Irma asked if press has been drafted. Maria said event hadn't been publicized like that the past few years. Irma emphasized necessity of well-timed press releases. Irma identified Erik Anderson at Channel 7 as resource. Dwayne said City has Ch. 7 contact, will reach out to them, and will cc Irma on that communication. Renee added Main Street pays for tree lighting, so they must be mentioned with their logo added. Renee will send Dwayne these materials. Maria says Holiday Extravaganza begins at 8AM, parade 11PM. Irma asked who handles all of that, Renee said Linda Zabik. Maria handles warming center with PAE and OLHSA. Judy provided Irma with Linda Zabik's numbers, she would probably appreciate an email first, Linda's email shared. Details of parade shared by Maria. Irma asked what happens in the pancake shelter during events, Maria added nothing happens there. Irma suggested pancakes served next year. Renee shared that Santa visits library after parade. Lafayette Mkt. brunch buffet is planned for this year. PAC has been involved with Main Street to help coordinate decorations downtown. Main Street are two separate entities when involved with Holiday Extravaganza.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Pontiac City Hall Monthly Displays by Arts Commission -
  - i. *Black History (February – currently installed)*
  - ii. *Women's History (Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 a.m. Installation)*
  - iii. *Bicentennial Celebration and Pontiac Arts & Culture Crawl (April)*
  - iv. *Asian Pacific Islander & Arab American Heritage (May) Civic Engagement & Flags (June)*
  - v. *Student Artwork Display (July) and Automotive History & Tribute to Labor (August)*
  - vi. *Hispanic Heritage (September) and Native American Heritage (October)*
  - vii. *Veterans and Military Families (November) and Foster Youth Advocacy (December)*

Commissioners discussed the volume of tasks here. Just displays, but done well, it's a time-consuming task. Irma reminded commission that it does not need to be done by us. Renee suggested that an organization that has something to do with each month's special topic be given opportunity to produce display. Tap into community, or invite school groups. Judy suggested that Commissioners send Irma names of people/groups that would be associated with each month's installation theme and capable of doing installations. Irma agreed, our vision and they support that vision, with guidance from us. List came from previous agenda based on Mayor's vision, supported by Irma. Irma suggested Judge Waterman be on the list of displays. Dwayne shared that it is on the

list, and his portrait is being pursued from Judge Walker. Irma requested ideas be sent soon, as Black History Month is right around the corner. Irma will put timeline together for events and all displays.

b. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Upcoming Events

- i. MLK Day – 8 weeks away, what do we do? Dwayne, acknowledge the day. Renee shared city is invited to meet downtown for a walk honoring Dr. King. Was a Ministerial Fellowship/Alliance produced event; event is added to calendar PAC produces; local church has MLK event every year. Several organizations in city host MLK events.
- ii. Art Crawl – May event; discussion around moving event further into May. Renee will try to arrange meeting with Main St. to discuss. Renee shared feedback from community that a two-day event would be worth considering. Judy requested it not be scheduled weekend of May 15, due to major conflict with PCAC event tied to Arts Crawl, and it's relationship with College for Creative Studies artists in this show, and the fact that 5/15 is CCS student show – biggest event of their year, so we'd miss out on that turnout. Irma identified 5/8 or 22.
- iii. Strand – Dwayne shared Pontiac Music Festival (Sept. after Dream Cruise) and Gospel Explosion take place there (Aug.). Renee said Strand hosted Accent Pontiac. Dwayne will send information on both to Irma and Renee.
- iv. Downtown – OU formerly did Griz Night; Arts Crawl; Hauntiac; Dream Cruise; Holiday Extravaganza (collaboration with Auburn Hills, White Lake, Waterford, Pontiac) Maria added Sylvan Lake also involved.
- v. County Wide – Renee shared Oak. Cty. Will be celebrating 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, logical that events will happen that we should stay in touch with that.

c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Events we're responsible for organizing

- d. How are we integrating with other community organizations and spreading our message? Answered in prior item points. Renee shared that video exists of PAC highlights. Dwayne and Irma requested video re: PAC be sent to them
- e. What campaigns do we have currently for Pontiac Arts Commission? Agenda speaks for itself. Marie asked are we having festivals? Wants Puerto Rican Festival. Irma tabled for December meeting. Dwayne shared we're putting together Multicultural Christmas at Ruth Peterson senior Center, date tbd. All welcomed to participate, attend. Dwayne will update everyone. Judy shared PCAC event, Karaoke with the Clauses, 12/14, noon-3. Free, crafts fee \$1 each. Launch of Project Access, enlightening people as to how people with low vision, low hearing, and mobility challenges interact with arts and culture. February 8, opening of black history month exhibit *RISE*, at PCAC, with special guest speaker, Rochelle Riley.
- f. Discussion of Pontiac Music Conglomerate, put together by Will and others who felt they weren't getting enough representation. Must have a tie to Pontiac, benefits are shared promotion. Dwayne will send FB link. Judy shared the PAC had, as a goal, to produce database/directory of local artists. Irma said the Conglomerate is doing that. Discussion ensued on revisiting PAC producing database of all genre artists.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VIII. OPEN FLOOR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Next meeting December 9<sup>th</sup> @5:30pm

**IX. ADJOURNMENT - Motion by Renee, seconded by Dwayne at 7PM**