

Meeting Minutes - Monday, February 14, 2022

Called to order 5:40

I. ROLL CALL – Irma Hayes, Maria Bermudez, Carl Byerly, Judy Wilson, Deputy Mayor Khalfani Stephens, Mayor Greimel

Mayor thanked Commissioners for their work, explained need for reappointment process; want to empower Commission to do their work so it can really come alive. Look forward to working with us and new appointees, feel free to reach out and provide input; grow economic opportunity for community, all members to be lifted up. Thanked Commission for their hard work.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JWilson motioned to approved, CByerly seconded - passed

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MBermudez motioned to approve, CByerly seconded

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- a. *Spring Canvas Festival – Pastor Spann unable to attend. Much more to look into. Mayor is aware. Volume of attendees anticipated (50K) raises numerous questions; IHayes will send KStephens email of Pastor
- b. Pontiac Arts Crawl – May 20 [has since changed to July 22] JWilson motioned to approve date, CByerly seconded, motion passed.
 - i. Special Events Application – VGustaffson says fee will be waived
 - ii. Call for Artist – approved for dissemination once revisions/updates have been made to be available by 2/18/22
 - iii. Call for Volunteers -
- c. Update on Grant Money – Judy Wilson awarded 4K for 2020 crawl. COVID prompted call from funder “use funds in manner similar to what was proposed – funding to artists”. Mayor Waterman said she would handle it. Alexandria Borngesser is aware of need to investigate status of the agreement and 2020 funds. JWilson said also need to know if Alexandria Riley created profile in MCACA’s Egrant system. Questions are obstacles to pursuing future funding from MCACA (now MACC) MBermudez asked about funds to remove Phoenix Center torn canvas. KStephens – City is receiving bids to clean up Phoenix Center storm destruction. Stay tuned. Plans do not include rebuilding. JWilson share potential funding sources – MACC and other source. Will discuss 9am 2/15.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Nominations for Commissioner – waiting for word from Mayor’s office. Terms discussed. IHayes shared Mission: The Arts Commission consists of 12 members appointed by mayor acts as advisory body to the mayor and the council and as an advocate for the arts and aesthetics in all aspects of city life. It shall advise and support cultural institutions and groups interested in cultural activities. It shall encourage and support a wide variety of programs which reflect the cultural needs and experiences of all citizens and encourage participation by all citizens in cultural activities carried on in the state. Four appointed to four year terms, four appointed to three year terms, three appointed to two year terms, and one appointed to one year term. Terms to be staggered. JWilson request this document be sent to current commissioners.
- b. New Order of Business
 - i. Monthly City Council Meetings – Commissioners will attend minimum of once monthly.
 - ii. Main Street Meetings – Commissioners will attend
 - iii. PCIP Meetings – try to attend these online meetings
 - iv. Pastor Jones Committee of 50 Meetings – Mayor directed IHayes to attend these
- c. Collaborative Funding for Arts & Culture in Pontiac-- Judy Wilson working to build collaborative effort to create more robust presence of arts and culture in Pontiac – in all Districts – involving businesses, city, nonprofits and lead by artists. Renewed hope from new administration and covid weary constituency and businesses may be more open to hearing from and working with the arts community. Funding opportunities

exist that we should go after, don't leave money on the table. Important to hear what residents of Pontiac would like to see. What does "arts and culture" mean to them, how do they consume those experiences.

d. Pontiac Arts Crawl – other events will be running simultaneously; also vision/plans for amphitheater stages in Hidden River Park, plus funding to resurface alleyway. Requires building owner buy-in. Time of crawl 3-10pm. MBermudez wants to track down Canvas Pontiac canvasses. JWilson requests establishing meeting dates for arts crawl planning and that we create lists of tasks. Proposed April 9 to be cut off date for artist registrations' submissions. IHayes phone number as contact on registration form. JWilson will check emails to *pontiacartists@gmail* IHayes shared new city address for commission. This year we will continue with the same email used in 2019 as stated here. Installation / displays of art should be in place one week before and remain for one week (min) after art crawl. Artwork should be available Monday prior to crawl unless prior arrangements reflect different timeline based on access to exhibit/performance space.

i. Artopia: The Oasis – Friday, Saturday and possibly Sunday at 17 W Lawrence

ii. Zach Curtis -Riker Building Mural - tabled

iii. Lawrence Street Project – will be renamed and host art gallery.

[off agenda discussion of proposed Karazim avenue of Art for Saginaw St's name this summer, IHayes proposing expanding to allow others to purchase banners in memory of loved ones lost]

e. Partnerships

i. Lawn Chair Concert Series – GM willing to sponsor, Mayor approved. IHayes want to train youth to produce events in each district/neighborhoods to cause creativity – bring your lawn chair to pop-up performance stages. IHayes will send council members letters informing them of this initiative and will field their ideas. Several businesses have come forward requesting to sponsor event. MBermudez requested blurb be written up so we are all sharing the same information [on all activities] weekly at City Council meetings. IHayes volunteered to attend 2/15 Council meeting. Commissioners agreed to alternate meetings once dates and activities are confirmed.

ii. Bonded! Jonathan Harris, Artist of Critical Race Theory artwork fame, Irwin Gallery/Studio

- June 10, 11, 12

- 46 N. Saginaw – turning into gallery in alley, park, and spilling into street. IHayes would like PAC logo attached to this event.

iii. City Institute – Pontiac Tours PAC collaborating; link from our site, to create traffic and boost interest in Pontiac. Begin with walking and/or bus tours. Commissioners trained to facilitate tours.

- Historical
- Entertainment
- Hidden Gems

iv. Skyline Salsa Event Management – Rafael Quinta Interested in producing Salsa / Spanish events. IHayes will be touring possible event locations.

v. Arts, Culture & Entrepreneurial Speaker Series – IHayes has been inviting people to speak in Pontiac accompanied by print sales for as long as original art is on display.

- 1xRun– How to get Prints of Original Work – Owner willing to speak to local artists on how to monetize their art
- Setting Up Your Business Oakland County – Eric Phillips

vi. HipHop Conference – Binx Vadar, Wil Black, Sin Crawford, RoSpit – group of people interested in producing this event.

IHayes coordinating groups to produce each of the above events. We will help young local artists make their vision a reality.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 7:40 PM

VIII. NEXT MEETING – Monday, March 14, 2022@ 5:30pm Zoom/In-person Mix