



Meeting Minutes - Monday, July 10, 2023 -- 6:30pm

Location: City Hall, Shriner's Room

- I. ROLL CALL – Tia Harvey, Mike Martin, Bruce Cobb, Judy Wilson, Maria Bermudez, Bianca Tucker, Quincy Stewart. Absent – Alex Resnik
Guests in attendance: Kevin Gillespie, Brian Major, Karen Jorgensen, Amelia Dixon
- II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - MBermudez motioned, MMartin seconded, passed.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - MBermudez moved, BTucker seconded, passed
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Projects – Guests update on events progress
 - i. Art Crawl now Pontiac Festival of the Arts Update - inclusive of multiple genre. Event producer, Bmajor, wants to move from 7/29 to September 16 to identify adequate number of artists' and vendors' participation. MB asked about vendors committed to 7/29 and 9/16 will heighten expectations from Mexican community because that is Mexican Independence Day, and those she had lined up for 7/29 will not be available as they're contracted elsewhere; THarvey Accent Pontiac not available for September; BMajor suggested featuring Latinx if 9/16 is selected, however not many groups available due to other Latinx festivals. JWilson requested Bmajor look at 8/26, he will. THarvey says 8/26 not good for Accent Pontiac. KJorgensen 9/23 Erebus event brings people in already. Suggestion to consider 9/23, after Labor Day, doesn't conflict with Mexican Independence Day. MMartin checked City calendar – 9/16 acceptable, will check 8/26. Mbermudez asked if BMajor checked with Hmung community? He says they've not returned his phone calls. MBermudez will check with her seven vendors if 8/26 or 9/16 will work. JWilson requested the Commission give BMajor our support if he finds 8/26 doesn't work that he goes forward in planning the festival for 9/16. Consensus was achieved. BCobb advised we work to have more Latinx inclusion in this event however possible.
 - ii. [Pontiac Music](#) in the Parks Update - schedules booked; fresh port-a-johns and trash cans. QStewart questioned Pontiac performers representation: Melanie Rutherford, Polyester Playa's, Dirk Kroll, Kenya Cisneros, The Project, Consuming Arts. Working to secure Pontiac artist for Melanies Rutherford's opener. Keith Bubby Webb and Gwen Fox were pursued and chose not to respond. Qstewart accepted offer to open for MRutherford 8/24. Mayor sent list of Pontiac What's Happening pages. JWilson asked about marketing for these events, because attendance has been low. Push for performers to also push via social. Pontiac Arts Commissioners do same, and ask communications director for Pontiac send out Constant Contact to

residents twice in week of events. MMartin shared Paula Bridges promotes via City of Pontiac Social and that they are sending out twice week of event, will check with Bridges to find out when the communications for these events go out; Can Oakland County support marketing effort? Suggestion was made to request City Council members promote. Attend Council meeting and request in public comment, ask Council President to announce during meetings? MMartin will reach out to MMcGuinness and request this support. JWilson will reach out to all Council members to support event.

- iii.* Status of new Commissioners to fill vacancies - Discussion THarvey shared updates - three vacancies & three interested parties - Ubadah McConner, Ivan Quinones, Courtney Marshall-Ross. Discussion supported all three candidates. BTucker knows an artist/musician that would be a good candidate, Matthew Perry - Pontiac resident. JWilson requested Chair THarvey reach out to Mayor to please appoint commissioners.
- b. Officers Update – Chair Vacancy - Tia interested if work load doesn’t increase
 - i.* Nominate and vote to fill - BTucker nominated Maria Bermudez; JWilson nominated Tia Harvey. THarvey is acting chair until commission appoints Tia as Chair. Tia is resigned as Vice Chair. Two nominees for Chair - Maria Bermudez & Tia Harvey. Tia Harvey elected as Chair 5-2, Maria Bermudez as Vice-Chair unanimous.
- c. Survey – Target dissemination date - tabled
- d. Strategic planning - MMartin believes we will have remaining funds. JWilson asked that planning date be set once new commissioner positions are filled and that we invite a key arts and culture person from each district to participate.

Remaining items tabled until August 14 meeting:

- V. New Business
 - a. Goals of the PAC - Discussion
 - b. Communications
 - i.* Logo
 - ii.* Social media presence and management
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS - MBermudez Rochester Adams HS - 7/19–23 at the high school - Mary Poppins; THarvey - Laurie Tenant exhibit opening at Strand 7/12 @ 5 , Blu Dragon providing food; Accent Pontiac 3 musicians side-by-side concert w/ Chicago Philharmonic, **check vmail**, younger students performing coming up; JWilson 40th Anniversary Fiero Celebration - a combined effort of Pontiac Transportation Museum & M1 Concourse 7/13-15 pontiactransportationmuseum.org
- VII. ADJOURNMENT QStewart motioned to adjourn, Bianca Tucker second, motion passed.
- VIII. NEXT MEETING – Monday, Aug 14, 2023 @ 6:30pm