

**NASHVILLE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2017**

Commission members present – President Nancy Crocker, Vice-President Michele Wedel, Secretary Anabel Hopkins, Member Michael Fulton, Member Bob Kirlin, Member Cathy Martin, Member Anne Miller and Member Chuck Wills. Commission member not present – Treasurer Scott Hutchinson. Also in attendance – Town Manager Scott Rudd (arrived at 10:15am) and Records Clerk Sandie Jones.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER by President Crocker at 10:05am.

2) ROLL CALL all Commission members present stated their names.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 1-12-17 Meeting

President Crocker advised that the Commission had been given the draft minutes from the January 12, 2017 meeting. Member Kirlin moved to approve the minutes as presented. Member Wills seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT/FUNDING

President Crocker reported that at last month's meeting the commissioners approved the purchase of photographs for the Village Green restrooms. Also at that meeting Lamond Martin of the Parking and Public Facilities Commission had presented a bid from another company. In the interim between the NAEC meetings, the second bid was examined; and it was determined that the quality of the work would be below that of the Reeves' proposal. In the meantime President Crocker had consulted with Reeves who proposed a lower bid of \$2,300. President Crocker asked for a motion to approve this bid. Discussion.

Member Miller made a motion to go with the new lower bid and that the Arts and Entertainment will pay half and Parking and Public Facilities Commission will pay the other half. Member Fulton seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor. Records Clerk Jones will process the purchasing request.

The Commission reviewed their monthly financial report.

5) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. MARKETING/INTERNS/STAFFING

Member Wills reported the contract for the Media Coordinator was due to be renewed and the NAEC members were in the process of reviewing the contract with the intent to renew it with Linda Margison. During this time, President Crocker and Member Martin met with Town Manager Rudd to discuss the Town's perspective on media coverage. From this conversation they talked about working closer with the CVB to meet their goals. Member Wills advised they have since had a meeting with CVB Director Jane Ellis which resulted in proposal from the CVB to work with the NAEC.

Member Wills commented that from his perspective Ms. Margison did a great job especially with the goals they had indicated for her. He believes it is good to evaluate what the CVB can do for them and once they get some goals written they can decide if they need a contractor

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position. President Crocker commented that perhaps in the future, if needed, they could hire Ms. Margison for a mini contract or project.

President Crocker explained the CVB and their website is changing and they are very open to new ideas. The proposal from the CVB before the Commission would cost the NAEC \$100 per month. Member Wills noted the CVB has the most web traffic in the area and a partnership with the CVB will get the NAEC closer to their goal. Discussion.

President Crocker advised that the CVB suggested the NAEC write a blog and she is working on this. Vice-President Wedel reported that blogs will increase their search engine hits and perhaps they can do a spotlight on younger artists. President Crocker will ask if the blog could be published in the local newspaper. Member Fulton noted the newspaper could put the blog on their website as well.

Secretary Hopkins asked about phase three of the proposal; regular communication with the database a minimum of two times per month. She asked how many communications people receive from this database every month now. Member Wills believes the NAEC information would be included in the CVB's existing communications/e-mail blasts. Secretary Hopkins asked who is going to get all the event information each week/month and get it to the CVB. Discussion.

President Crocker advised they have to make sure the art and entertainment community knows that they need to communicate their events to the CVB and/or the NAEC so they can post the events. Secretary Hopkins suggested they could help to educate those entities by having an informational meeting or workshop. President Crocker advised the CVB suggested they partner with the NAEC and have an informative meeting. Discussion.

Member Kirlin asked about the cost of partnering with the CVB. Member Wills advised the fee is \$100 per month to the CVB. They have more details to work out with the CVB, but they will know more by the next NAEC meeting. Vice-President Wedel will also attend the next meeting with the CVB to discuss the details.

Member Fulton asked if they are moving towards hiring an intern. President Crocker reported that she has met a person that is interested in interning for the Commission but they will first need to discuss what they want from this position. Discussion followed about possible job duties of an intern.

Member Martin advised the newly updated Arts Village brochures are available at the CVB. Discussion. President Crocker will distribute the brochures around town this month.

IU Intern Renny Keener, who is working with Town Manager Rudd, presented the Commission with contact information for IU SPEA faculty. He noted there is a program where students partner with groups/commissions/boards to write grants. President Crocker thanked Mr. Keener for the information and thought this could be useful for the Commission.

B. GRANTS/PLACEMAKING/WAYFINDING

Town Manager Rudd advised they will be finding out in March if they have been awarded the Our Town grant.

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President Crocker announced that IAC will hold a Creative Placemaking workshop June 8-9. She asked that they use the travel funds in their budget for Commission members to attend.

Member Martin asked that all Commission members look at potential art grants that they may apply for.

C. PUBLIC ART AND MUSIC

President Crocker will work with Parking and Public Facilities President Martin and Kendall Reeves to coordinate the installation of the Hohenberger photos in the Village Green restrooms.

President Martin asked about the proposal process for projects. Town Manager Rudd advised there are many thresholds but it is always best to get more than one proposal or bid for work. If it is a matter of a special type of art, they should ask for a list of qualifications.

Member Fulton spoke about moving the Bison-tenennial bison from the courthouse lawn to the History Center. The History Center board will discuss accepting ownership, and if they take ownership he recommended that they have some formal change of ownership. President Crocker advised the bison was purchased by donations of several entities in the town and county as well as the Brown County Foundation.

Member Fulton advised that he will meet with Utility Manager Cassiday about relocating the Dancers sculpture to the Pat Reilly parking lot area.

Member Martin reported that there is an empty concrete pad at Franklin and Jefferson where the Coordinate Harmony sculpture was located. She suggested they consider finding another sculpture for this area. Vice-President Wedel talked about creating art work where people could take selfies and other photos. Member Miller suggested they hold a competition with young artists to create artwork and perhaps they could work with the local schools.

Member Kirlin commented that the original idea of having public art was to get nationally known artists and their art. Those pieces would be rotated out every two years to draw people back to the area to see what is new. Member Martin advised they do have some funds to lease or purchase artwork and collaboration with students is also a good idea.

Member Wills spoke about the Pavilion Concert Series and advised they are just about done contacting musicians. Member Kirlin advised that he spoke with last year's concert series sponsor Jenny Johnson and that she will support the series again this year but only if they start the concerts at 7pm and nothing earlier. Member Kirlin noted that Ms. Johnson was disappointed in the turnout last year as well.

Member Wills explained that by having the concert series in the late afternoon they will not be competing against other local events. Member Wills asked what is their target audience. Discussion. Town Manager Rudd called Ms. Johnson during the meeting and then informed the Commission that she is willing to compromise by having the later start times in the warmer hot months. Member Wills will talk with Concert Promoter Tim Meyer about the timing of the concerts.

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D. VENUE LEAVES/GAMIFICATION

Vice-President Wedel advised she has the ServIT questionnaire to complete and will be asking the Commission members for their input.

Member Martin reported that Ruth Reichmann is submitting a proposal for a grant to provide information to tourists regarding local sites. Member Martin advised Mrs. Reichmann of the gamification idea that the NAEC is looking into doing to get people to see various sites in the town and county concerning art. Discussion. President Crocker summarized that the NAEC will support Mrs. Reichmann but will not work with her on the proposal at this time.

Vice-President Wedel advised they will need an updateable database for the gamification apps to work properly. Town Manager Rudd reported the CVB has a database they can use for this purpose. Vice-President Wedel advised they will also have to input the location of all the items into the app as well.

E. COLLABORATION

Member Fulton reported the County Council member and County Redevelopment member Keith Baker is excited that the NAEC is working with the County.

President Crocker suggested that the Commission get NAEC name tags to wear when speaking at government meetings and attending events. Discussion. The Commission members agreed to purchase their own name tags for \$10 or less and President Crocker will order the name tags with the Arts Village Logo leaf pattern.

6) PUBLIC INPUT

President Crocker announced that Kathy Anderson of the IAC would like someone to nominate the Town of Nashville or an artist from the community for Governor's Arts award. President Crocker will send out a link to the Commission members for the nomination application.

President Crocker advised that the state legislature is considering a small tax that would help to fund the Indiana Cultural Districts. Member Martin asked if our local county might also consider this type of tax. Member Kirlin commented that he did not think this would pass at the county level.

President Crocker reported that she spoke with the Brown County Garden Club about the list of Selma Steele plants to be planted around town. The club liked the idea but was worried about the upkeep of the gardens throughout town. They offered to be consultants on the Selma Steele garden project.

Member Kirlin advised there is an area in front of the Brown County Playhouse that should be tilled up and planted with some Selma Steele plants. Town Manager Rudd advised this area is in INDOT's right of way. Someone can beautify the area but this is not the Town's responsibility as it is on private property. Member Fulton suggested they get Playhouse volunteers to do the weeding and they should be able to find funding to purchase the plants. Discussion.

7) COMMENDATIONS

President Crocker thanked everyone on the Commission and said she loves working with them.

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8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Member Miller announced that she needs to take a break from the Commission as she is not able to attend all the necessary meetings. Jonathan Bolte has applied to be on the Commission and once he is appointed to the Commission she will step down.

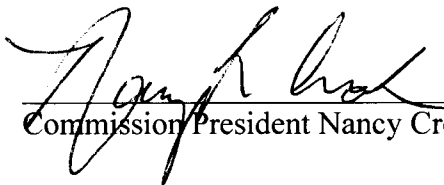
Member Martin made a motion to recommend Jonathan Bolte to replace Anne Miller's commission seat. Secretary Hopkins seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor. The Commission will make this recommendation to the Council at next week's meeting.

Member Kirlin announced the Brown County Playhouse will be holding a Volunteer Meeting on February 18, 2016 at 3pm. This will be their annual meeting of volunteers and then they will have a free showing of La La Land.

9) ADJOURNMENT

President Crocker adjourned the meeting at 12:05pm.

The audio recording made at the Nashville Arts and Entertainment Commission meeting on 2-09-17 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.



Commission President Nancy Crocker



Date