# NASHVILLE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2016

Commission members present – President Cathy Martin, Vice-President Kathy Anderson, Treasurer Scott Hutchinson, Secretary Anabel Hopkins, Member Nancy Crocker, Member Michael Fulton and Member Chuck Wills. Commission member not present – Member Anne Miller. Also in attendance – Media Coordinator Linda Margison, Concert Series Promoter Tim Meyer and Records Clerk Sandie Jones.

## **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- 1) CALL TO ORDER by President Martin at 10:04am.
- 2) ROLL CALL all Commission members present stated their names.

  President Martin reported that Commission Member Zody has sent in her resignation to the Commission as her work doesn't allow her the time to devote to the Commission.

### 3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 9-08-16 Meeting

President Martin advised that the Commission had been given the draft minutes from the September 8, 2016 meeting. Vice-President Anderson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Member Crocker seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

#### 4) TREASURER'S REPORT/FUNDING

Treasurer Hutchinson reviewed the Commission's financial report. Vice-President Anderson advised she attended last month's Town Council meeting to ask for the Council's approval for the Commission to apply for the NEA Our Town Grant as well as for some funding that would help fulfill the required fund matching if Nashville becomes a grant recipient. The Council approved \$2,000 in matching funds.

Member Crocker suggested they ask the local Modern Woodman representative for possible matching funds. Vice-President Anderson explained the NEA Our Town grant is a planning grant. If Nashville is awarded a planning grant, the town would become eligible for an Our Town implementation grant. Member Crocker advised the Chamber of Commerce would like to be involved in this program.

Town Manager Rudd addressed the Commission concerning next year's budget, and noted the Commission's budget might be squeezed due to pressure on the Town's general fund. He asked if the Commission could save some money this year that might help him to justify sustaining the Commission's budget for next year at its current level.

Vice-President Anderson reminded everyone that the reason the Commission still has money is that they have had donors contributing to the Arts and Entertainment Commission. She doesn't want the donors to feel like if they give the Town will cut back. Discussion.

President Martin commented that since Commission Member Zody has sent in her resignation the remaining members of the public art committee need to facilitate the moves of three sculptures: BETA sculpture to Coachlight Square the Dancers sculpture to the Pat Reilly lot and High Lonesome to the Pavilion area. Member Fulton will check on the specifications of the pad for the Dancers sculpture and will facilitate the moving of the Dancers sculpture. Records Clerk

Jones will contact the sculptor of the art piece at Coachlight Square to have it removed since its lease is expiring.

Member Crocker presented a proposal to install public art on the back of her garage. She will pay for the art work and asked the Commission to approve the artwork. President Martin advised they will need to have a public art committee meeting to discuss such items. Members of the public art committee are President Martin, Member Fulton, Member Miller and Member Crocker as the Chair.

Vice-President Anderson reminded the commissioners that they had voted to concentrate on miniature public gardens that will resemble/relate to the Selma Steele gardens. She advised the Chamber of Commerce is recognizing businesses with beautiful gardens and landscaping as well. Vice-President Anderson spoke with Vickie Blake of the Chamber and perhaps the Commission and Chamber can work on this garden project together.

President Martin spoke with Todd Baker who does the Town's landscaping. He is willing to work with the Commission by using the same type of plants in the Town's landscaping as were used in Selma Steele's gardens. Member Fulton suggested they also look at beautifying the Courthouse square. Discussion.

## 5) COMMITTEE REPORTS/3 YEAR PLAN A. MARKETING/INTERNS/STAFFING

President Martin read aloud Anne Ellis McCombe's thank you note for allowing her to be the Commission's intern this summer. President Martin advised the Commission members purchased a gift certificate to Big Woods as a thank you to Ms. Ellis-McCombe. Discussion ensued concerning the need for an intern next year. Vice-President Anderson suggested they address this at the beginning of next year.

Regarding staffing, Member Wills reported he and Media Coordinator Margison have discussed Facebook posts and how to be more effective next year. He asked that the Commission members send event information to Media Coordinator Margison so that she can post events in a timely manner. Member Wills asked the Commission to discuss prioritizing what is important to put out there. He also reported that during each monthly meeting the commissioners will have the opportunity to update Margison on noteworthy subjects to publicize.

Member Wills suggested they raised the Facebook post budget to \$50 a month to expand their audience. Media Coordinator Margison passed out the Facebook metrics and explained how the posts are measured. Member Fulton asked if boosting posts are for specific events or a constant effort. Media Coordinator Margison explained the page promotion is where the money is best spent and this will help them to expand their audience. Discussion.

Treasurer Hutchinson made a motion to increase the boosts in November and December to \$50.00 per month. Secretary Hopkins seconded the motion. Vice-President Anderson suggested they add October as well. Treasurer Hutchinson amended his motion to include the month of October with the funds coming from the Education line item. Secretary Hopkins seconded the amendment. Discussion. All voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The Commission asked Media Coordinator Margison to add Columbus, Ohio; Chicago and Fort Wayne to the list of targeted outreach areas.

Media Coordinator Margison asked the Commission what events are important to them that should be promoted. The Commission suggested the following events:

- Brown County Playhouse Shows
- Christmas in the Village
- Local Author's Fair at the Brown County Library during the Chocolate Walk
- Psi Iota Xi will be setting up fundraising tables
- Halloween events
- Melchior slighted Haunted Puppet Theatre
- Brown County Art Guild Writers and Poets event
- Lynn Fife artwork at Chateau Thomas
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday November Art Walk
- Partake At Chateau Thomas
- Arts in the Parks (November)

Media Coordinator Margison asked for the email list from the CVB so that she can send out a newsletter. Member Wills said the Marketing Committee should meet to discuss this further. Discussion followed about having a link to the newsletter on the Commission's Facebook page and CVB website.

#### B. GRANTS/PLACEMAKING/WAYFINDING

President Martin thanked Treasurer Hutchinson for his work on the NEA Our Town Grant application. She also thanked Member Fulton for getting letters of support for the application and Vice-President Anderson and Treasurer Hutchinson for plugging all the necessary information into the application.

Vice-President Anderson reported on a grant opportunity through ArtPlace. This group is trying to support the Arts and Economic Development. She would like for the Commission to look into this grant. Treasurer Hutchinson advised the small grant proposal would consist of a three minute video.

#### C. CONCERT SERIES

President Martin announced there was a good turnout at the last concert event. Member Wills commented that it was fun to play at the Pavilion last weekend. President Martin passed out the informal survey results she gathered from the concert series.

President Martin advised that high school music teacher Nathan Suddath would like to add the high school Jazz Band to the concert series. The pavilion is available on Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 4:30-6pm. Discussion.

Member Fulton made a motion to include the high school Jazz Band in the concert series. Member Wills seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

Concert Series Promoter Meyer advised he is still working a on written report on the concert series and will send out via email next week. Discussion of having chairs at the concert events. Member Crocker advised that Brozinni's provided several chairs at each of the concert events this season and maybe next season they could be a sponsor. Concert Series Promoter Meyer suggested they give Brozinni's a nominal fee for the chairs. The Commission agreed it was a

very successful concert series and thanked Concert Series Promoter Meyer for his work on this project.

#### D. VENUE LEAVES

Vice-President Anderson reported the new CVB arts brochures are in the process of being printed.

#### 6) COMMISSION MEMBER TERMS

President Martin spoke about expiring commission terms at the end of this year. Vice-President Anderson advised she will be resigning from the Commission at the end of the year as she will become the Chairman of the Indiana Arts Commission in 2017. President Martin voiced concerned about the staggered terms creating a potential total Commission member turnover in 2018. She wondered if the Commission would like to ask the Council to change the ordinances to read staggered three year terms. Discussion.

Vice-President Anderson made a motion to ask the Town Council to have Arts and Entertainment Commission members serve staggered three year terms. Member Crocker seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

Member Crocker commented that they should all reach out to those they think would be valuable on the Commission and have them apply. President Martin noted there are potentially six open spots on the Commission for next year and that those members whose terms are expiring please reapply if interested. Media Coordinator Margison will post the application information on Facebook.

#### 7) COMMENDATIONS

President Martin commented that former Commission Member Zody did a great job working on public art. She also thanked Concert Series Promoter Meyer for all he did in making a successful concert series.

#### 8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Vice-President Anderson reported that she, President Martin and Member Crocker attended the Cultural District meeting in Columbus on September 29, 2016. She gave the Commission a brief overview of the meeting and reported that the cultural districts have agreed to meet more often.

Member Crocker reported she has been approached to be on the Chamber of Commerce Board Member as a representative of the NAEC.

Vice-President Anderson announced that next year the Indiana Arts Council will be holding a place making workshop and encouraged the NAEC members to attend. She proposed the commission's budget include funds for travel to such events.

Vice-President Anderson suggested the NAEC look into the Food and Beverage tax and how they might tap into that to hire someone full-time to champion for art and artists in Brown County.

Vice-President Anderson reminded the commission to keep in touch with the County Commissioners to keep them informed on the different things the NAEC is doing out in the county. Member Fulton suggested they start thinking about the start of the year presentation as

there will be at least one new commissioner. Member Crocker commented that they should also look at talking with other commissions in the Town and County so they can work together. Member Fulton offered to address the County Commissioners at their January meeting and agreed they should also meet with other boards and commissions.

President Martin passed out Larry Pejeau's presentation on the state of the Indiana Creative Economy 2010-2015.

## 9) ADJOURNMENT

President Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:40am.

The audio recording made at the Nashville Arts and Entertainment Commission meeting on 10-13-16 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.

President Cathy Martin

Date 10, 2016