

**NASHVILLE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019**

Commission members present – President Michele Wedel, Vice-President Chuck Wills, Secretary Anabel Hopkins, Treasurer Heather Nicholson, Member Jonathan Bolte, Member Cathy Martin and Member Melanie Voland. Commission members not present – Member Jayme Hood and Member Jessica George. Also in attendance – Mike Hater, Dee Manzenberger, Andrea Rogers-Bartels, Clara Stanley and Records Clerk Sandie Jones.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER

President Wedel called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

2) ROLL CALL

All Commission members present stated their names.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 10-10-19 MEETING

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the October 10, 2019 meeting. Treasurer Nicholson asked that the minutes reflect that the art show at the playhouse is being displayed by the Art Alliance.

Vice-President Wills made a motion to approve the 10-10-19 meeting minutes with the addition. Member Voland seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

4) INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSION APPLICANTS

Mike Hater and Dee Manzenberger introduced themselves to the Commission and explained what experience they have in the arts and entertainment field.

5) ANDREA ROGERS-BARTELS – NASHVILLE HOUSE EASEMENT

Andrea Rogers-Bartels, new owner of the Nashville House, advised that they have plans to landscape the front of the building and install outdoor seating. Currently the Town has an easement in the front of the building where the High Lonesome musical instrument sculpture is displayed. Ms. Rogers-Bartels explained that the easement allows for her to request an end to the easement with a 60-day noticed. She offered to allow the sculpture to be relocated on her property at the corner of Van Buren and East Main. Discussion.

President Wedel asked that Ms. Rogers-Bartels to put her request for the end of the easement in writing and submit it to Records Clerk Jones. The Commission discussed other possible locations for the sculpture. President Wedel asked to form a sub-committee to work on the relocation of the sculpture. Member Martin and Member Bolte agreed to be on the sub-committee with President Wedel.

6) BROWN COUNTY PLAYHOUSE LETTER OF SUPPORT

Treasurer Nicholson reported that she was asked for a letter of support on behalf of the NAEC for the Brown County Playhouse to apply for a Destination Development Grant. This grant is offered through the Office of Indiana Tourism and Development. Treasurer Nicholson advise the letter of support is not offering funds toward the Playhouse and the Nashville Town Council has also signed a letter of support.

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Secretary Hopkins made a motion to send a letter of support for the Brown County Playhouse submission of a Destination Development Grant to be placed in the grant proposal packet. Member Martin seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

7) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. PAVILION MUSIC SERIES AND STORY SLAM – YEAR END UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Vice-President Wills reported that the Pavilion Music series was shortened this year with four concerts and very good musicians. They spent less than budgeted on the series this year. He commented that the music series has evolved into adding ambiance to the village. Vice-President Wills commented that in the future, they could use buskers rather than the Commission trying to put on concerts as they don't seem to have enough volunteers to support music series.

Vice-President Wills announced that he is resigning from the Commission at the end of the year. He offered to be a volunteer on special projects. President Wedel thanked Vice-President Wills for his work on the commission.

Vice-President Wills advised that tonight will be final Story Slam of the season, it will be a grand slam with five story tellers. He has been reviewing the analytics for the Brown County Hour website and their hits are up twenty percent for the year and the second most popular page is the Story Slam page.

As for Story Slam 2020, Vice-President Wills thought they will need to change some things. His recommendation is that they look more at community alignment such as with the library, poetry groups, BC Literacy Coalition and others. He also thought they should limit to four Story Slams a year.

B. ART WALK – YEAR END UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Secretary Hopkins advised that she will get the galleries together next year to plan the 2020 Art Walk. They purchased new Art Walk signs last year and still have almost \$400 left in the 250 Fund for sponsorship fees.

Member Voland commented that the Art Walk was a positive experience this year and the themed Art Walk events were very well attended. She suggested that the Brown County Music Center be included in next year's Art Walk as they have a large gallery in the lobby of the building. Secretary Hopkins will talk with Brown County Music Center representative Nancy Crocker about this idea.

C. PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION – UPDATE ON PROGRESS

President Wedel reported that the selected artist, Brad Cox, is working on the installation of the interactive art piece and hopes to hit the target installation date.

President Wedel advised that a new concrete pad had to be installed for the interactive art piece. She asked that the Commission make a motion to pay for the concrete pad from the Hoffman funds. Member Martin made a motion to pay Dynamic Concrete for the concrete pad installed at Coachlight Square in the amount of \$1,745 contingent upon receipt of funds from the Brown County Community Foundation 714 Hoffman funds. Secretary Hopkins seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

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Secretary Hopkins suggested they have a public event of the interactive artwork in the spring. Perhaps they could tie it in with an Art Walk weekend. She would also like to invite members of the Indiana Art Commission to the event.

D. BACKROADS STUDIO TOUR – 2019 REPORT

Member Bolte reported that the tour went well this year. They will start signing up to 32 studios for next year's tour. He advised that the BRST is very healthy and have had an increase in locals attending the tour. Also, half of those in attendance were return visitors. Member Bolte reported that the BRST Facebook page has over 3,000 followers and that the CVB and Our Brown County were very helpful in advertising the tour.

Member Bolte spoke about the Youth Art Grant that the Backroads Studio Tour artists have created. The artists on the tour have committed \$500 to the grant with an additional \$200 funds collected as well. Secretary Hopkins suggested they use funds from the Interactive Public Art grant with the Youth Art Grant they could hold the last art demonstration with the students at the school.

Member Bolte advised that the BRST will purchase two banners with four images for the downtown banner project. He will be installing the Christmas banners soon and suggested they purchase new Christmas banners next year. Records Clerk Jones suggested they talk with Clerk-Treasurer Young of the Christmas Committee about funding for the banners.

E. OUTREACH EVENTS – EPIC UPDATE

President Wedel reported that this was the second year the Commission was a sponsor of the EPIC event at the Brown County State Park. They had a good group of people to volunteer and encouraged people to come into Town. She commented that they may have maxed out their effectiveness with this event. President Wedel suggested they look at promoting music venues in the future as well as look at other ideas in using sponsorship fees.

F. MARKETING EFFORTS – CURRENT FACEBOOK STATS AND ARTS VILLAGE BROCHURE UPDATE

Member Voland reported that their Arts Village Facebook page visits and likes have improved significantly over the last month. Again, the funny posts bring the most engagements for the page. Member Voland advised that she will be promoting Buy Brown County local art and Shop Small Business for the upcoming holiday season. She talked about Instagram and will start using that platform for Arts Village posts as well. Member Bolte advised that Amy Greely uses Instagram for the BRST and perhaps she can help Member Voland.

8) PLANNING MEETING DISCUSSION – SUMMARY OF 11/10/19 MEETING

Vice-President Wills advised at the Planning Meeting they talked about purchasing more bumper stickers to hand out at events. He reported it will cost \$270 to purchase 2,000 stickers with using one of the current images.

Vice-President Wills noted they had talked about doing a third design. Member Voland suggested Art & Nature as a third design. Discussion. Member Voland and Secretary Hopkins suggested if they are going to do music outreach next year, they should purchase the Art and Music stickers.

President Wedel reported that the Commission has \$460 left in the EDIT Professional Services fund for the year. She would like to have a motion to use up to \$460 out of the EDIT professional services

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fund purchase of additional bumper stickers, vendor leaves and legal review fees. Discussion. Secretary Hopkins made this motion as read. Member Voland seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor. Records Clerk Jones noted the Town Council will also have to approve the use of the funds in this manner.

President Wedel advised that Secretary Hopkins has typed up the minutes of the Planning Meeting and sent the to her for review. Once edits have been made the minutes will be forwarded to Records Clerk Jones.

President Wedel advised they talked about those Commission members that will be rotating off the Commission and unfortunately this will be Vice-President Wills. She thanked him for his work on the commission and offer to continue to volunteer on projects. President Wedel noted that the other Commission members whose terms are up have agreed to stay on the Commission for another term or at least one more year. She is checking in with Commission Member Hood and Member George to see if they want to continue on the Commission. She noted that the Commission Members are formally appointed by the Nashville Town Council.

President Wedel asked that all that are interested in serving on the Commission, complete an application and submit it to Records Clerk Jones by December 10, 2019.

Member Martin commented that she found it very helpful to have the Planning Meeting.

9) NICKEL PLATE ARTS DISTRICT VISIT SUMMARY

President Wedel advised that Arts Village Brown County is one of ten cultural districts in Indiana. The Nickel Plate Arts District which represents the Noblesville Indiana area, received a grant from the IAC to visit all the cultural districts in the state. President Wedel reported that the Nickel Plate District representatives came to tour Arts Village Brown County yesterday.

She thanked Member Martin, Secretary Hopkins and Treasurer Nicholson for being a part of the tour and representing the Commission and Art Alliance of Brown County. President Wedel also thanked the following: Vicki Blake of the Brown County Chamber of Commerce as well as Jane Ellis and her staff at the CVB, Andra Walters of the Brown County Art Guild, Hard Truth Hills for giving a tour of their facility and donating appetizers for the tour, Clint Studebaker and Lisa Hall of the Brown County Playhouse. She commented that this was a great community effort.

10) ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Member Bolte announced that the BRST is the winner of the 2019 Regional Arts Service Award from the John Waldron Arts Center. The Commission members congratulated Member Bolte and the studio tour for the award. Discussion.

Mike Hater asked the Commission where their funding comes from. President Wedel explained they receive funding from the Town, grants, the Hoffman Estate funds, donations, sponsorship fees as well as tickets to events. The Commission members talked about the different activities they do as commission members. Discussion.

11) ADJOURNMENT

Member Voland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Wills seconded the motion. President Wedel adjourned the meeting at 11:35am.

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The audio recording made at the Nashville Arts and Entertainment Commission meeting on 11-14-19 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.



President Michele Wedel

12-12-19

Date