

City of Lawrence
Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission (LCAC)
Annual Retreat, January 7th, 2018
Conference room, Spencer Museum of Art

Members present: Chair: Katherine Weik, Kate Dinneen, Joshua Falleaf, John Hachmeister, Jerry Johnson, Patrick Kelly, Michel Loomis, Mike Maude, Richard Renner, Kristina Walker

Members absent: Sean Reardon

Also present: Porter Arneill, Director of Communications and Creative Resources; Clint Paugh, visitor

MINUTES

Chair Katherine Weik called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. in the Conference room of the Helen Spencer Art Museum, 1301 Mississippi St., Lawrence, KS

Katherine asked about having a monthly LCAC in January in addition to the retreat. Commission decided to table the decision until end of meeting.

1. Budget Review

Porter shared the budget that included the increase in the ODSE program. The artist stipend is increased to \$1750, up from \$1200. Katherine asks about the Capital Improvement Program and the 2% for art resolution for 2018. There are no CIP projects for 2018 and four eligible projects for 2019.

Discussion followed about when the LCAC needs notice of CIP projects – ahead of the proposal or in back of the proposal. It is noted that the 2% for Art Resolution 7070 states in section III, clause C that it is to be submitted by September 1st of each year for the following year. Commissioner Jerry Johnson suggested a placeholder for CIP funds be placed on the current budget and the commission continue to ask for CIP money.

Discussion about increasing budget for Grants and Phoenix Awards. Commissioner Michelle Loomis requested more for videographer. It was suggested that the increase could be funded by using money saved from the miscellaneous, invitation and food budgets.

Porter brought up the idea of paying the awards artist by lump sum or per piece. It was pointed out that this year's artist made more awards than needed because of the fewer applicants accepted.

Motion to accept budget as stand with the addition of the placeholder for public art made by Jerry, seconded by Michelle, approved unanimously.

2. Election of Officers

The slate of new officers proposed by Katherine as: Kate Dinneen for Chair, John Hachmeister as Vice Chair and Katherine Weik as Secretary.

Michelle makes motion to accept the slate as presented, Joshua Falleaf seconds, motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Art

Discussion of Gateway art at West Lawrence Exit. Katherine suggests Hallmark could be approached as a corporate sponsor. It was suggested that the Public Art Committee could come up with a plan to pursue sponsors for artwork at other gateways and Lawrence Loop locations.

Further discussion of other gateway locations such as Teepee Junction, K10 and 6th street. Discussion continued on the definition of a gateway, the role of the LCAC and the inclusion of public art. Joshua pointed out that some locations for gateway artwork could highlight the historical nature of the location. Porter suggested the commission should pursue holding public meetings on gateway public art.

4. Health Department Placemaking Grant

The Health Dept. of Lawrence has been awarded a placemaking grant from the KDHE. Discussion on how to help them determine what to do with it. No real tight parameters on what you can do with the grant funding. It was suggested that the LCAC can play the role of a “friendly partner” to this project and Porter would serve as the contact between the commission and the Health Dept.

5. LCAC Policy reviews and updates

The mission of the LCAC is to enhance and enliven the community through the promotion and cultural opportunities and arts education while nurturing an environment of aesthetic vitality. Joshua suggested a change in mission statement to reflect the intention that we should promote other arts opportunities. Patrick commented that the commission is not intended for promotion, Katherine suggest we change the word to “advocate”. Katherine suggested that reevaluating our mission could be assigned to either the executive or strategic committee with the intent of aligning what we do and what we want to do into the mission statement.

Porter mentioned the idea of changing the commission meeting to another day of the week other than the second Wednesday to provide time prior for committees.

6. Public Art Resolution – Resolution 7070

Discussion followed about changing the resolution to an ordinance to give it more authority. Also, to change the wording to make it mandatory to include arts funding in capital improvement projects.

It was noted that the Comprehensive Strategic Plan defers to the Cultural Plan for future arts planning. The Cultural Plan calls for a more robust funding for the arts and LCAC can use this as a justification for making the request to change the resolution to an ordinance. Discussion continued on how a resolution becomes an ordinance, the changes needed and the approach to implementing them.

7. Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit 30th Anniversary

Porter suggested changing the name, dropping the word “sculpture”, to make it more inclusive to other arts and expand beyond downtown. Discussion followed about changing the nature of the juror, posting photos of past winners.

Porter suggested using a phone application called AutoCast to catalogue and map the public art in Lawrence. He says he will look into it and report back to the commission for the Public Art committee to evaluate.

8. Phoenix Awards

Michelle asked about partial payment for the award video to be paid by Explore Lawrence. Porter said he would check on it.

Suggestions were made for changes to the nominating guidelines. Michelle proposed changing the requirement for supporting documents. Joshua questioned the number of supporting letters needed. Patrick suggested excluding nomination and support letters from family members of the nominee. Discussion followed about the importance of support materials.

John made a motion to accept changes in the Phoenix Awards nomination criteria to include no self-nomination, nominator's narrative, no family support letters and no CV required. Patrick seconded it, passed unanimously.

Porter suggested the nomination process be a digital and/or online application.

Phoenix Awards program evaluation

Michelle suggested that having Porter speak for the second year in a row was repetitive and requested that nominators should always speak about the nominee. The award artist should also be expected to speak about the award design. She stressed that the speakers should be given enough advance notice of their role at the ceremony.

Discussion turned to the protest improve that was attempted during the presentation. This prompted further discussion about program protocol and how to handle disruptions. Ideas about including emerging and posthumous artists in the nominations and doing the awards on a bi-annual basis.

9. Role of the LCAC

Discussion about the implementation of the Cultural Plan led to discussing the Coffee and Culture group that has been meeting every first Tuesday of the month to discuss and include other parties who could be involved. It was mentioned that the time of day should change from 7am to later and perhaps to change the name to Cocktails and Culture.

10. Director of Arts and Culture Items: Porter Arneill

Report submitted to commission. Porter asked that the commission go over the updated Final Friday survey questions and present feedback.

11. Committees

Kristina was assigned to the Public Art committee and the nominating committee was eliminated. Mission reevaluation and the committee assigned to it is to be placed on the February meeting agenda. It was decided that the monthly meeting for January is cancelled.

The LCAC meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.