



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Commission on Cultural Affairs

Monday, October 14, 2024
4:15 PM

Regular

City Hall
701 E Broadway
Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Spear called the meeting to order at 4:16 p.m.

Staff present: Sarah Dresser

Present: 8 - Kristin Gadsden, David Spear, Molly Froidl, Linda Helmick, Diana Moxon, Stacey Thompson, Kate Nolte and Ryan Hobart

Excused: 3 - James Melton, Kathleen Murphy and Vera Elwood

Unexcused: 1 - Cameron Dorth

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made. The Commission welcomed new member Ryan Hobart.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Nolte, seconded by Moxon; motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from July 22, 2024 made by Moxon, seconded by Gadsden; motion carried.

Minutes from July 22, 2024

Attachments: [7.22.24 Draft Minutes](#)

V. SPECIAL ITEMS

Commissioner Service Acknowledgement

Dresser stated that two current Commissioners have terms ending this month - David Spear and James Melton. She presented David with a special recognition frame for his service, November 2021 to October 2024. She also thanks Melton for his two full terms of service, from November 2018 through October 2024.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Nominees for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

Dresser referred to the handout that was sent ahead of the meeting and printed for people today that gives an overview of the officer positions and various committees. The first

order of business will be to select officers for the coming year. Each can serve two consecutive one-year terms. The Commissioners discussed the various duties of the positions.

Froidl nominated Thompson for Vice Chair. Thompson nominated Moxon for Chair, and she also nominated Froidl for Secretary.

Motion to approve the slate of officers of Moxon for Chair, Thompson for Vice Chair, and Froidl for Secretary made by Gadsden, seconded by Hobart; motion carried.

Funding Process Sub-Committee Membership

Dresser stated that the Funding Process Subcommittee will convene in the coming months. There can be three core members and two alternates. Typically the Chair of the Commission also Chairs this committee. The current members are Froidl, Helmick, and Thompson. With the addition of the new chair Moxon, Nolte volunteered to serve as an alternate.

Motion to approve the Funding Process Subcommittee members of Moxon, Froidl, Helmick, Thompson and Nolte made by Moxon, seconded by Thompson; motion carried.

Columbia Arts Fund Advisory Committee Membership

Since there are a few Commissioners missing today, Dresser suggested the group bring back this item to a future meeting. The Columbia Arts Fund Advisory Committee will not meet until the spring.

VIII. REPORTS

Commission

Secretary's Report

None.

Standing Committee on Public Art

Gadsden reported that the committee met last week to review applications for the Shops at Sharp End, which features artists work on a rotating basis. There was just one applicant for this cycle, from artist Weihua Zhu, who was recommended to move forward. The artists work was shown.

She also presented photos of the newly installed traffic box art by Battle High School students at Bethel and Nifong as well as the bug sculptures in Clary-Shy Community Park. Dresser stated that a ribbon cutting may be scheduled for later this month for the park, and she would let them know when there is a date set.

Nick Cave Recognition

Moxon reported that she has heard back from the manager/partner of Nick Cave. The reply email stated that the artist is honored to receive acknowledgement and would like to have a bit more information about timeline and proposed budget. Diana will be reaching back out to continue the conversation with Cave's manager. Diana and staff will also work to build some local connections to start the conversation about what type of project might be possible with Nick Cave.

Staff

Present: 8 - Kristin Gadsden, David Spear, Molly Froidl, Linda Helmick, Diana Moxon, Stacey Thompson, Kate Nolte and Ryan Hobart

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City Budget Update

Dresser reported that City Council passed the FY25 budget at its September 16, 2024 meeting. The increase in grant funding to \$200,000 was approved.

Celebration of the Arts Recap

Dresser thanked the Commissioners who participated in the Celebration of the Arts in August. It was a very successful event and beautiful evening. We were so glad to be hosted by the Boone County History & Culture Center, which was the ideal venue for this event. Artwork by Gloria Gaus was unveiled and the special recognition to Jo Stealey was presented by Mayor Buffaloe.

Overall, we had attendance comparable to past years. Our total net revenue was down slightly from last year, we were not able to recruit the additional \$2500 poster sponsor. We also did not have a silent auction this year, which brought in \$2,600 in 2023. Dresser said that the Columbia Arts Fund did have a bump in revenue this summer due to a number of memorial gifts (total around \$1400), plus there is an attendee who intends to support CAF during CoMoGives as part of their sponsorship, so those funds are still to come in. The committee will likely meet earlier in the spring to strategize some fund raising ideas and our overall vision for the event before the logistics of planning take place later in the spring.

Columbia Arts Fund Update

Current balance is \$393,611.47. This does not include the distribution of \$16,500 that will come out before the end of the calendar year. In addition, the net proceeds from the Celebration will likely hit in January.

CoMoGives

CAF will also be participating in CoMoGives this year in December.

Columbia Values Diversity Celebration

Planning is underway for the 2025 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration, which OCA coordinates on behalf of the City. It is scheduled for Jan. 29, 2025 at the Holiday Inn Expo Center. We are finalizing participants for the event and tickets will go on sale in November.

Also, please consider submitting a nomination for the Diversity Awards, deadline is Nov. 15. This year, the public will help with the selection during a voting period in December.

Agency Assistance

This past weekend was Artist Inc. Express workshop both Saturday and Sunday, 12-5pm at the Armory. This was presented by the Mid-America Arts Alliance with support from OCA and Missouri Arts Council. There were 22 artists who registered (a few less who attended) for the professional development weekend. Ages ranged from college students to seniors. Overall, success opportunity that OCA was happy to help promote and to get scheduled in Columbia.

No set plans yet for Spring 2025 opportunities, but possibly something related to audience engagement that OCA can target to our funded arts agencies.

Moxon commented about if there is a way to better connect our local arts agencies with BIPOC community organizations, in particular as it relates to audience engagement. She noted that most of the agencies OCA funds talk about being diverse and inclusive, yet there is often not as much diversity as wished. Dresser also stated that she is meeting with various City department staff about ways to bring our arts agencies together to address some of these issues along with ways to reach other organizations and their programming who may not currently be served by City resources.

Status of FY24 & FY25 Funding

Dresser noted that final reports for FY24 grants are coming in. FY25 grant agreements will be on the Oct. 21 City Council agenda. We will also hope to meet with the Funding Process Subcommittee in the coming months to determine process for second grant opportunity this year and any changes to FY26 application, process, etc.

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Dresser noted that there will be two vacancies with James and David leaving. Those openings will be posted at the end of this month, for appointments to be made in November.

A guest to the meeting gave remarks about promoting artists and their work in Columbia and overall in the state of Missouri. He was interested in a more robust effort for marketing and promotion.

Commissioners talked about past and upcoming arts events.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

Since Nov. 11 is a City holiday, Dresser will send an email to the group to inquire if Nov. 12 would be a suitable alternative date to meet next month.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Gadsden, seconded by Froidl; motion carried.