

**MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON AREA ARTS COMMISSION
May 12, 2022 -6:30 PM
THE HAWK FARMINGTON HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER
MEETING ROOM C, SECOND FLOOR
29995 TWELVE MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334
(248) 699-6712 www.fhgov.com**

CALLED TO ORDER BY: Chair Ferencz

AT: TIME 6:48 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lesa Ferencz, Lindsay Janoch, Celeste McDermott, Ted Hadfield, Jeff Dutka, Cheryl Blau

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cindy Carleton, Claire Perko, Sean Deason

OTHERS PRESENT: Jessica Guzman, Cultural Arts Coordinator/Staff Liaison
Johnna Balk, Farmington City Council Liaison
Jackie Boleware, Farmington Hills City Council Liaison
Gianna Lampertius, Community Member interested in Arts Commission

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner McDermott support by Commissioner Dutka to approve the agenda with amendments.

Amendments: Chair Ferencz requested to add “Commission Funds Discussion” under COMMISSION FOCUSED PROJECTS

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

APPROVAL OF March 10, 2022 MINUTES:

Motion by Chair Ferencz support by McDermott to approve the agenda without amendments.

Amendments: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CULTURAL ARTS DIVISION REPORT

Seven weeks left in the fiscal year and revenue budget has already been realized with more classes than before. Approximately 60% of scheduled classes are running. Youth theater revenue has already far exceeded goals with more opportunity. 3000 tickets sold for Lion King, 300 tickets sold for Farmington Community Chorus. Dance program has grown greatly under the leadership of Sam Koepp and the program’s first performance was last weekend. Community Open House for the Hawk coming on June 16 from 4-8 PM with Makerspace activities; camp staff will be present. Official Makerspace open house coming sometime in mid-August potentially, with a September ribbon cutting. DIA Inside Out program is coming to the Hawk and will be installed on Monday. Art on the Grand is June 4 & 5 -we are still in need of volunteers, contact Lindsay Janoch if you are interested. Joan Sterling currently on display in City Hall. Ellen Stern will follow. Cultural Arts will be running 8 camps per week this summer. Yeti Fest is coming July 9, reach out to Karla Aren if you are interested in volunteering.

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Ferencz reminded the commission that there was a Public Art Mural study session with the Farmington Hills city council a while ago. No movement since that time. Chair Ferencz will review for a fall discussion.

COMMISSION FOCUSED 2021-2022 PROJECTS

Commission Funds Discussion

Chair Ferencz noted that the commission has \$818 to spend before the end of the fiscal year. Some suggestions include an event for the commission, the tree sculpture, the Mary Brooks art, and the Farmington City Hall art exhibition. With regard to the Farmington City Hall suggestion, there was a discussion regarding the appropriateness of money coming from Farmington Hills to be used to for a Farmington City Hall project. There was discussion regarding the length of time needed for a purchase order to use the funds in a timely manner. Councilwoman Boleware inquired about the spending requirements for those funds.

Motion by Commissioner McDermott to reallocate the funds previously committed, as well as all remaining arts commission funds, for a distribution of \$818 to the tree sculpture project with support by Commissioner Blau.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Farmington City Hall Art

Commissioner Blau discussed previous plan to coordinate opening with Art on the Grand and expressed concern that timing may be an issue. Chair Ferencz discussed the preparation of walls that would be necessary. Next steps are to discuss and prepare a proposal regarding the details of this project for City Manager Dave Murphy for consideration. Councilwoman Balk suggested that we move forward on this project soon. Commissioner Blau will prepare this proposal as soon as possible with the materials we have already produced, including Commissioner Hadfield's proposed sketches and Commissioner Perko's presentation documents. Commissioner McDermott expressed that she would like Chair Ferencz to be a part of this proposal and meeting preparation as a relationship-building practice between the two cities. Commissioner Blau suggested that Founder's Festival may provide better timing for the opening of this exhibition. Chair Ferencz suggested that the sub-committee meet once more before taking a final proposal to the city manager and the sub-committee agreed to schedule a Zoom meeting. Commissioner Hadfield reiterated his belief that his proposal regarding the space would greatly improve the ability to exhibit art in the space and he will send sketches to be a part of the presentation.

Vacant Grand River Storefront Art

Chair Ferencz gave a brief review of this project with regard to Downtown Farmington and the Grand River Corridor into Farmington Hills. There has been no movement on this project and we may consider removing this as an agenda item in the future. Councilwoman Balk shared that these issues are on the radar of Farmington City Council. Councilwoman Boleware shared that there may be grant money available for this type of project. Commissioner Janoch shared that this project may not be a good fit for this commission with the current limitations regarding funding and zoning.

Tree Sculpture

Commissioner Hadfield explained budget limitations and building considerations for the project. He shared that Cultural Arts Supervisor Rachel Timlin will confirm cost and project estimates with the city regarding the companies handling the completion of the project. Commissioner Hadfield shared a sketch with the commissioners. Chair Ferencz shared a brief explanation regarding the background of this project and noted Commissioner Hadfield's valuable contributions to this project.

Mary Brooks Exhibit

Chair Ferencz provided a brief recap regarding the donation and current state of the work. The project is on hold at this time and the work is safely stored. Commissioner Janoch requested that the commission make this a high priority project for the next fiscal year for the commission with consideration of commission funds and focus. Commissioner Blau

suggested that we use some of the current display cases to allow for sooner display of some pieces. Chair Ferencz will follow up at the next meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chair Ferencz announced that Nora Mason and Don Fritz have both been appointed as arts commissioners for the City of Farmington Hills through City Council this week.

Commissioner Hadfield discussed Thursday evenings with regard to conflicting activities including KickstART openings. Thursday evenings seem to be a difficult fit for most commissioners. Commissioners suggested that maybe a Saturday evening or weekend afternoon might be an occasional option. Next KickstART show opening is June 16 from 5-8 PM for Jef Bourgeau.

Commissioner Janoch shared KickstART's free summer education plans and that promo cards were in process. Commissioner Blau suggested that we have enough promo cards printed for her to distribute at the farm market and the Farmington African American Parent Network .

Chair Ferencz and Commissioner McDermott shared that they attended an incredible lecture by a Michigan State Police forensic artist and founder of Missing in Michigan at the Livonia Public Library. At Chair Ferencz request, this artist expressed their willingness to give a similar lecture in Farmington Hills. Chair McDermott suggested that this artist may be a good fit for Art of the Matter. Missing in Michigan event is coming May 25.

Commissioner Blau shared about a creative history project that her school students are currently completing.

Commissioner Dutka shared that he had a great experience seeing The Flaming Lips at the Royal Oak Music Theater and that others should see them if they have the opportunity.

Commissioners decided that upcoming June Meeting would be a potluck. Chair Ferencz will email details to commissioners.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilwoman Boleware shared that the city council of Farmington Hills will be meeting on Monday to begin the process of budgeting. She expressed a need for an increase in the commission's budget to match inflation at a minimum. The city is using an outside company to look at budget and facility use. She also shared that a group of 50+ citizens shared their feelings that focus and funds have moved from the Costick Center to the Hawk and that those citizens feel that more effort should be made into programming at the Costick. Those citizens also expressed their fear that the facility might close without more attention from the city. It was noted that the Senior Division's programming has increased now that they are not sharing the facility with other programs. The city council will be looking at facilities, programs and public concerns as they develop the budget for the community. Commissioner Hadfield expressed his feelings that a gallery on the third floor would produce revenue for the city. There was discussion regarding potential uses for this third-floor space and grants to offset some of the costs.

NEXT MEETING DATE: June 9, 2022

LOCATION: The Hawk, 29995 Twelve Mile Road

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned by: Chair Ferencz Time: 8:44

Minutes drafted by: Lindsay Janoch