

The Murray Arts Advisory Board  
Minutes for March 15, 2022

Attendance: Matt Jacobson, Clark Bullen, Nancy Buist, Haley Oliphant, Jeff Evans, Robert Wyss, Peter Klinge, Cami Munk  
Staff: Katie Lindquist, Lori Edmunds, Jeff Martin

- I. The minutes for February 8th were passed as written.
- II. There were no citizen comments.
- III. Staff reports –
  - a. Resident on Display: Julie Jacobson will be switched out at end of month. Ruth Johnson artwork will be installed first week of April.
  - b. Arts Education update: Storytelling will wrap up this month with the showcase in April. After School Musical performances are this month at Parkside, Horizon, Liberty, Grant, and Longview.
  - c. City Hall art –Jeff used a power point to show the architectural and design plans for new City Hall. He showed three potential spots for public art. Lori expressed that they are not going to discuss the actual projects at this meeting, instead the board would simply be shown the chosen spaces so that they can go and start thinking about potential types of artwork. They are:
    - Above the doors leading into the Council Chamber Room. This is a potential place for stained glass or type of glass work, however stained glass is most likely too expensive.
    - North side of building, outside wall space built with masonry brick. This is a large space where a structure/sculpture or screen mural could hang. Matt mentioned an artist who works with metal installations and will provide his contact information to Lori. Clark was concerned about the parking along the street blocking the art. Cami said cars should not be a problem. Jeff mentioned there is green space and sidewalk between the space and parking lot, and most of those spots will be designated for handicap parking.
    - Gathering seating in the plaza area, south of City Hall. This area is composed of three tiers and could have some sort of creative or interactive artwork

The city will send out an RFP for each space but would like to set some parameters for the artists without stifling their creativity. Funding will be allocated once proposals are submitted. The Arts Advisory Board will meet

next month to discuss potential types of artwork they would like to see in those spaces. Peter asked about parking for city hall. Jeff explained Police will have a designated section on the southwest corner, along with spots along the west stretch. The rest will be for public use. The parking lot across the street on the east side will be used for city hall and the mansion. Clark asked about some sort of logo or sign for city hall. Jeff showed the northeast corner where a monument sign will be placed with the city logo and city hall direction text. Matt asked Lori about the public art collection and if that will be used in the new building. Jeff responded potentially uses could be in the offices. Lori does not like that idea; she feels there is a higher chance for the artwork to “walk off”. She said the architects (GSBS) do not want to use the artwork and put up new and matching pieces throughout, but that within their scope. It is the people’s building and should have resident artwork throughout it. Jeff pointed out there are walls and spaces in the lobby and hallway areas that could be used for that collection. Lori mentioned Doug started the public collection and he is supportive of it remaining in City Hall after the move.

- d. Murray Theater safety update: Lori asked Jeff Martin, the City Facilities Manager to update the board on the safety of the Murray Theater. Jeff told the board that the theater had been updated to code by the previous owners and the building was in remarkable condition. He said the walls are block and concrete reinforced by rebar. He said the roof was in remarkable condition and nothing will need to be done except for the part that is over the office space towards the front (west). He told the board that testing had been done to the building pre-covid and there were no real structural problems. The marquee will be removed and rebuilt to match the original. The current marquee is not original. Clark wondered if it would be cost effective to keep the current marquee. Jeff responded that part of it was damaged after a windstorm and lots of work would need to be done to make it safe and usable. The new marquee will have led lights. Clark asked if the color scheme was going to remain the same with turquoise. Clark also suggested that we give the marquee to the Wrights. Peter wondered if the board members heard about the Wright’s proposal for a new arts facility and plans. He wanted to know if the city was confident in the Murray Theater’s plan to be financed and restored. Jeff Martin reiterated that the theater structure is in great shape. Lori responded that the city has full confidence and is already well invested with Pathway LLC. Lori told the board that at this time, it is not feasible for the city to create a 501(c) for the Theater. She has requested a full time House Manager and Tech Director for the theater in her upcoming budget. They would like to hire the house manager beginning of July and the tech director beginning of January. Budget still needs to be approved by the city council in the next few months. Peter asked if we are still

planning to collect donations from the public to help fulfil the cost. Lori responded that that is being overseen by Pathways still. It is projected to have the theater open in about one year. Cami asked if a construction company has been hired yet. Lori said CRSA is meeting this week to go over the updates they had to do and from there they will send out an RFP by May.

There was a conversation about staffing and types of programs in the theater. Clark suggested looking into something like how Hale Center uses the building they are in and can receive donations and run like a separate entity. Lori again reiterated that the city is not in the position to do that at this time. It takes a lot of work and staff to create a 501 (c) 3. Clark mentioned other theater examples. Cami responded that even the outside organizations that run programs for theater entities, are still overseen by the county (herself included). She said there is a lot more work than you think when running a theater or working with other groups. Peter is concerned the theater will fall on the backs of the residents and taxes will be needed to subsidize it. Lori reiterated that we must work within our budget and cannot support bringing in large names or shows. We are not trying to compete with the large movie theaters or the Mid-Valley performing center. She plans to have classic movies, three musicals, small performances, and rent out the space. Clark was concerned that some of the new board members would not be able to go over previous plans for the theater that were discussed pre-pandemic and bring their thoughts to the table. Lori said CRSA will be presenting the updates next meeting. It was mentioned that the theater design was already well on its way, with colors and seats already being picked out, when the pandemic halted things.

#### IV. Business:

- a. Code of Ethics - Lori provided the board with a copy of the Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct from Murray City's code as a yearly reminder. She noted that there have been no issues at this time regarding ethics but was a good refresher for them to read through. She wanted each member of the board to review it.  
Bylaws edits – Lori explained to the board the edits she made to the document which were the 1) attendance – each member will need to attend 9 of the 11 yearly board meetings, unless excused 2) The addition of forming committees 3) the update of the revision printed on the document for information. Lori then found a mistake that she will correct. The board voted unanimously accept the changes. Peter motion, Cami seconded to approve the changes.
- b. Murray Arts Council Thank You – Lori reminded the board that the Murray Arts Council had disbanded, and she would like to publicly thank them at a City Council meeting. She brought pictures of a few ideas that she wanted to give

them a thank you gift. The board voted and selected. Lori will follow up with the project. She identified Michelle Bartmass and Viola Murray to be recognized. Clark added that Lynn Chatterton should also be included.

- c. Spring Writing Challenge – Haley reported to the board that she and Christy would like to do a spring writing competition called Cotton Tales similar to Haunted Tales that we do in the fall that provides students opportunities to write stories or poems and have them judged. She mentioned that Christy had already created marketing and prompts. They suggest having a fairy tale and creature's theme. Winners would meet and perhaps some would tell their stories or condensed versions and possibly compose a book of the winning pieces for each winner. Clark made a motion to accept the idea and Peter seconded. All were in favor of adding the competition to the Cultural Arts, Arts Education menu.
- d. Summer Schedule Season Pass - Lori pointed out the season brochure draft and asked board for recommendation on season pass cost. She said that "Toast", the "Carpenter" tribute band, and "One Voice Children's Choir" concerts would not be included in the season pass. The rest of the performances total to \$76. \$45 was first suggested and after discussion, it came down to \$50 or \$55 dollars. Robert suggested \$54 because it looked better, like a better deal. Katie brought up the point that the city covers the tax when selling tickets. Cami also pointed out that it is easier to give change if it was \$55 over \$54. It was motioned to sell season passes at \$55. Robert asked the possibility to provide a Murray resident rate. Lori mentioned that tickets prices were already cheap, and that it is not a bad thing to bring nonresidents to the performances. They end up buying dinner here and visiting our facilities. Clark asked if there could be a family season pass. Lori pointed out that the pass is usually used by the older community, and we hold a family discount night for each of the musicals. The board voted unanimously to accept the season pass price at \$55.
- e. Murray Park Centennial - Lori told the board that the centennial for Murray Park will be coming up and the history board is planning on compiling a book to publish. She recommends members to be part of the committee to help plan some sort of event or activity to celebrate in collaboration with Fun Days. The board will talk more about this at another meeting, but just to start thinking. Cami recommended we start soliciting for photos and memories about Murray Park from the residents. Katie will start working on that suggestion.

#### Local Grants –

- Murray Symphony was asking for \$2,500. They were last awarded half the asking price due to their large cash reserve with no explanation about use of their cash reserve in the grant. The board would like to have a clear explanation from the symphony. Robert asked how many Murray residents

were part of the symphony. Lori did not know. He would like to see some sort of percentage of Murray residents. Cami pointed out that that would be difficult to demand from a group, especially for a grant that is only \$2,500.

Clark and Robert both agree that they would like to see more recruitment from the Symphony – reach out to Murray residents about the opportunity to join the symphony.

- Ballet Center: asking for \$2,500. Lori pointed out that they do invite the elementary schools to attend their spring matinee show. We only cover the bus fees.
- Murray Concert Band: asking \$2,500. Lori mentioned that there have been some communication issues between the band and herself. There have also been some issues regarding the space they use at HJH (mainly they get pushed out when the schoolbooks over their rehearsal time). She also pointed out that they perform for the Sunrise Service at Fun Days and a lot of the members are used to perform for the summer musical orchestras. Clark mentioned their cash reserve was very low but would also like to see some sort of recruitment for Murray residents to join the band.

Clark motioned to award the full amount to all three applicants. Peter seconded the motion. All approved.

From here, the grants will be brought to city council who will have to approve the awards. Cami recommends the grant to be rewritten and more competitive in the future.

#### V. Other

Lori mentioned the Mansion tours that are being held in March and April by Rowan and Katie. Katie will email the members the dates of the tours.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2022