

**Murray Arts Advisory Board**  
**Minutes for January 17, 2017**

Attendance: Becca Spjute, Clark Bullen, Carolyn Milne, Alisa Brousseau, Kevin Westenskow, Deborah Daines, Wendy Richhart, Mary Ann Kirk (staff), Lori Edmunds (staff), Jennifer Broschinsky (staff), Sheri Gibb, Clever Octopus (visitor).

Excused: Lori Steadman

1. Minutes for November 15, 2016 were approved as written. New staff and board members were introduced. Lori (art assistant) and Jennifer (museum part time staff) will help the succession plan move forward. We are still looking for an art board member with background in visual arts. Clark made a suggestion and will send contact info to Mary Ann.
2. Mary Ann reviewed the art theft situation from our public art show at the library. The artwork was found using the library tracking system and security camera. We had placed a tag on all artwork which tracks if anything leaves the library. The library was able to view the theft and identify the car involved. Mary Ann does not know what happened to those involved in the theft but they were identified and called into the police.
3. A total of 1 family (6 individuals), 3 adult, and 7 sr passes for a total of 16 individual winter series passes were sold this year. The number of passes sold each year has gone up and down between 10 and 50 for the past several decades. Mary Ann thought it was worth continuing because it isn't a lot of work or cost on our part and it does allow us to coordinate, package, and advertise the winter performing arts programming in our schools and community.
4. The Murray Symphony had 478 attend their Christmas Concert. They involved the MHS choirs. The symphony has done some nice collaborations which increase their audience. The Martin Luther King Concert had approximately 300 attend in addition to the choir members.
5. Upcoming events included the concert band, choral fest, and Arts Power. Alisa, Wendy, and Kevin were willing to help with Arts Power to seat children coming in. All schools except Viewmont are sending students to the performance. The storytelling residencies are in progress and planning for the dance festival is moving forward. All elementary schools grades 2-6 have finally committed to participate. Mary Ann is trying to figure out how to handle the large numbers in the event of inclement weather. There will be nearly 3000 kids participating if they all show up. She is currently looking at splitting the schools into two performances. Mary Ann asked Carolyn if she could help with the movement for the opening and closing songs and the floor spaces for each group.
6. Two large grants were received for the amphitheater. We received \$75,000 from Sorenson Legacy Foundation and \$100,000 from George S. and Delores Dore Eccles Foundation. We did not receive funding from the Ashton Foundation request. We have submitted applications to the Wheeler Foundation (\$50,000) and an appropriation request of \$148,000 from the state legislature. We also kicked off a fundraising campaign for the public art piece for the plaza. Mary Ann will submit a call for proposals once we get close to our funding goal. Arts board members were encouraged to promote this effort. She is shooting for ten \$1000 donors and 200 \$100 donors. We already have four \$1000 donors.

7. A float design was reviewed using visual elements from the Wizard of Oz. The float title will be “Murray’s Vision: There’s No Place Like Home.” Kevin suggested it include a home and family. Others wondered if we could have the center building reflect IMC instead of the Emerald City. Mary Ann suggested they add wording around the yellow brick road that reflected recognizable business and community buildings. Wendy wanted to have a drawing rather than graphics so we can see what it would really look like. Mary Ann will get final approval from the mayor once we get these items finalized.
8. The summer season was reviewed. Mary Ann has spoken to Tad Calcara and One Voice Children’s Choir and neither are available. Gentry wanted \$15,000 which is too expensive. Kevin will talk to his contact for Gentry. Two other options were considered including Joshua Creek from Utah County and Octappella who has members from Murray. The board suggested we talk to each to see what they might charge. CityJazz wants to collaborate with a gospel choir for the August date. Since Tad Calcara was not available, CityJazz will work. The board liked the gospel choir collaboration. We have initial approval for The King and I but the director, Jim Smith, said he thought Seven Brides would be easier to cast. South Pacific is still an option. Board members wanted to move ahead with The King and I which had good appeal to families, even though it was harder to cast.
9. Grants for local art agencies were reviewed.
  - Murray Symphony asked for \$3000 which is an increase of \$500. Board members wanted to know why an increase was necessary.
  - Murray Concert Band asked for their normal \$2500. Their expenses appeared to be going down. There was an expense listed for facility rental which was confusing because they don’t pay for school facilities.
  - Murray High Art Fest requested \$1000 for artist stipends.
  - Murray Arts Council requested facility access for musical auditions and rehearsals without a funding request. Mary Ann explained that we have paid for rehearsal and performance space where applicable for all our local art groups but asked the Arts Council to specifically make that request. They did not make a request for a winter play.
  - Murray School District requested \$40,000 for school music specialist instruction, supplies, and professional development. The request did not specifically outline what instructional services would be provided. An option to provide grants for individual schools up to a certain amount based on application criteria was discussed. This mechanism would allow us to open funding opportunities to all public schools in Murray including the elementary schools in the Granite District. Board members liked the idea of allowing schools to use the funding for any art form in any funding scenario. Alisa expressed concern that the music component could collapse completely if we removed the funding.

Mary Ann will follow-up with these questions and the recommendations will be finalized next month since the budget isn’t due until the end of February.

10. Sheri Gibb from Clever Octopus explained they plan to lease the historic building just north of the post office. They are a non-profit agency that provides visual art workshops and instruction using recycled material. They are interested in partnering with us as well as the school district. She supported the idea of allowing schools to choose which art form they want to focus on. She also suggested focusing funding on one school who was really interested in developing an art focus, providing a model for others. Mary Ann indicated Horizon does

have a Beverley Sorenson visual art grant. She indicated the board had considered the traveling neighborhood art van provided by this organization. One-day art camps could easily be staged around in local neighborhoods and parks during the summer. Mary Ann mentioned that the visual art focus is included in our 5 year plan.

11. We will discuss our goals and long range plan next month.