

**Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for April 18, 2017**

Attendance: Deborah Daines, Kevin Westenskow, Clark Bullen, Michael Wall, Carolyn Milne, Wendy Richhart, Lori Steadman, Mary Ann Kirk and Lori Edmunds (staff)
Excused: Alisa Brousseau, Becca Spjute

1. Minutes for March 21 were approved.
2. Past activities were reviewed. Concert band attendance was about 140. The concert band and symphony were instructed on the proper way to set up the shells. There is some concern about safety and Mary Ann will share that with the district. Upcoming schedule was reviewed. Board members agreed we could have a program for the dance festival. Board members will help greet people.
3. We received a \$50,000 donation for the amphitheater from the Wheeler Foundation. With the other large donations and legislative contribution, we raised \$450,000 to cover expenses over the budgeted amount.
4. The Parks Office has created an on-line purchase option for season tickets and summer camps.
5. The elementary school principals preferred an Arts Power performance next year instead of Arts Inc. or Steve James. We did secure the arts van by Clever Octopus at three park venues for \$500 each camp.
6. The public art fundraising campaign flyer will be inserted in the utility mailing in May. It is also on our on-line system. Clark felt the on-line mcreg.com system was not easy enough because it required several steps and you had to create an account. He felt the form is good for older people, but isn't geared to the younger set. It would be easier to use something like Paypal. Mary Ann wasn't sure if that would interface with the city. We do have a credit card machine but it hasn't worked well in the past.

Board members recommended we recognize the major grant funders of the amphitheater remodel at the opening concert and then invite the public art donors when the art piece is installed in August. Mary Ann is hoping to send out an RFP once we get close to our fundraising goal of at least \$20,000. The RFP could include a request for different designs and expense levels. It should feature something that celebrates the arts in a creative way, sturdy for the weather, and enhances the facility. We currently have raised about \$8000. Board members suggested we include an opening act with a focus on the fundraising campaign. Donor tables could be set up and we could have a flyer in the program with a pledge form in case people don't have cash. Clark said this would make it easier to follow up. Wendy suggested offering discount tickets at half price if they donate on the spot. Mary Ann explained you can't give a "perk" with a donation if they want a tax write-off. We had previously talked about presenting our community art awards at the opening concert since we didn't do that last October. But it was recommended to wait for the normal October time frame.

7. We have 8 music entries which is the most we have had in several years. We typically utilize Steve Broschinsky for judging but we could use one more. Clark said his brother might be willing to help judge.
8. The Heritage Center said they are willing to rent the center for ballroom dancing, but we would need to organize it or find someone who would do that. The cost for Heritage Center is \$50/hr which could cost \$150-\$200 a night. But Mary Ann wasn't sure how late they would be willing to stay open. It needs to be something consistent every week which rules out school facilities. Clark said they used to have two locations with west coast swing and ballroom which served different audiences. It is unsure the current buildings on State will be demolished soon because some of the development plans are unsure. Mary Ann wished we could get a local business to take it on. Clark wondered if the Murray 2nd Ward might work. However, the stairs would be a major deterrent.
9. Lori reported that she has had good response by artists for a resident on display. She shared a postcard that could be printed for each artist to share with their family and friends. Board members liked that idea but didn't feel we needed to print one for board members.