

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for June 20, 2017

Attendance: Michael Wall, Becca Spjute, Lori Steadman, Kevin Westenskow
Staff: Mary Ann Kirk, Lori Edmunds, Jennifer Broschinsky
Excused: Carolyn Milne, Clark Bullen, Deborah Daines, Wendy Richhart, Alisa Brousseau

1. Minutes for May 16, 2017 were approved as written with Carolyn Milne approving via email.
2. Past activities were reviewed.

Dance festival went well. The music for the Armenian dance was the only negative comment. The kids were noisy but it was hard to keep them quiet in that environment. Mary Ann received many positive comments from the public and the teachers thanking us for the experience.

The symphony concert was well attended.

Cemetery tours had one cancellation because of a bus conflict but went well.

The first resident on display is up. A suggestion was made to take photos and put it on facebook.

Summer programming has started. Lunch and children concerts are going well but the children matinee has had smaller attendance. Becca suggested we describe the location of the pavilion instead of just a number. The attendance could be related to the type of performance since the first two have been more classical music groups. The first amphitheater concert, Joshua Creek, was excellent but poorly attended partly because of the location change but could also be related to that fact that they were performing free the following Monday in Draper. Lori E suggested we include a clause that restricts performers from performing free within so many days and a certain geographical area. Mary Ann felt it is largely due to so many things going on. Band camp had 12 students march with the high school camp. Next year we will turn the program over to the high school teacher. The art camp was well attended but many kids did not show up and others who had not registered came. Board members agreed charging a small fee next year could help so kids are more committed.

3. Becca suggested we use Alex Boye next year. His fee is about \$10,000. Mary Ann thought we would never recover that amount. If we charged \$10 and filled the house with 550 individual gate sales and 100 season tickets, we would only bring around \$5500. Marketing to fill the house is very difficult. Becca thought he would have a big draw. Mary Ann felt attendance is largely tied to word of mouth and supporting those who are performing. Becca and Lori agreed to see if we could negotiate a lower price or a sliding scale based on attendance.
4. The amphitheater finish date is supposedly July 8 but we probably will move the ballet to the high school since it is still unsure. Becca thought the contractors should be paying for backup facility expenses. Mary Ann noted that the city can charge them \$500 per day past the finish date but the Parks superintendent didn't want to talk about it until after the project is finished .
5. The Murray Symphony had an issue related to their conductor and didn't follow their bylaws on how to consider replacing that position. A former symphony president asked Mary Ann to step in but Mary Ann declined, saying they need to handle their own internal operations. They have

worked through the complaints and hopefully will move forward in a positive way on how to communicate concerns between the conductor and the musicians in the future.

6. Six proposals were reviewed for the public art which were narrowed down to 2 pieces. One was an abstract sculpture and the other a sculptured "planter" that included seating. The abstract sculpture was very small. Michael recommended the sculptured planter. He felt it was elegant and art at its finest. Lori E felt it matched the design of the amphitheater itself. Board members agreed it is contemporary and tied into the plaza and park environment very well. However, both Kevin and Mary Ann questioned if donors would consider it as "art." Board members agreed we could include an interpretive sign about the art. Perhaps we could include a subtle art design stamped into the design that doesn't detract. Mary Ann was very happy that this was a local group. Over half of the artists were outside of Utah. The city would need to plant and maintain the vegetation.
7. Board members took a tour of the amphitheater.