

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for January 16, 2018

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

1. Minutes for November 21 have been approved as written.
2. Past months events included the following:
 - Resident on Display – Steve Stauffer/Jennifer Broschinsky
 - Missoula served 190 patrons
 - The December symphony program was attended by 356 people
 - The Historic Murray Theater – there have been several meetings concerning the usage plan for the theater. Under the direction of the City, the remodel will be geared to the needs of the community art groups.
The architects have decided on the following:
 - The inside will need to be gutted and rebuilt
 - There will be fixed seating of between 300 - 350
 - The wing sides will come down to permit a cross-over and restroom facilities.
 - Upstairs will be used for staff/office only. No public access.
3. The first draft drawing for the 2018 float was shown. The Days of 47 theme for 2018, Is “Pioneer Days, Foundation for the Future.” The board discussed what the foundation of Murray City was. More will be discussed, and updated renderings will be shown at February meeting with the addition of the Trax Station, and IMC as being the future part of the theme.
4. After School musicals are in full production. Parkside will perform *Lion King Kids* on Feb. 22-23 at 7pm. Twin Peaks is producing *Kicked Out of the Woods* which has been written and will be directed by Deborah Daines, a member of the Art Advisory Board. This will be on Feb. 27-28 at 7p.m.
5. Lori E. proposed that the board chair run the meeting instead of staff and would like to meet with the chair the week before to discuss and set the agenda.
6. Grant applications were received from the Murray Concert Band for \$2500, from the Murray Symphony for \$2500, and from the Murray School District for \$48,360.50. Lori E. said she had found an error on the Murray Concert Band application and will be sending it back, so they can correct the mistake. Lori E. suggested that since we were missing a few members, that she would like everyone to take a copy of the grant applications home and read through them and be ready for discuss during the February meeting.

Much was discussed about the school districts application as they had been granted up to \$30,000 last year and this year asked for \$48,360.50. This funding would be to help pay for a music specialist in each of the elementary schools. Each student should be getting at

minimum, 30 minutes of music instruction per week. Missy Hamilton, Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, stated in the application that she is looking forward to turning the STEM focused schools into STEAM – by adding the art component.

The art board is still very concerned about the quality of instruction and feel that we are not getting the necessary information that we asked for from the schools as to who the instructors are and their qualifications. It was stressed once again, that there seems to be very little accountability. While some of the schools seem to use the gift of art specialists wisely, others do not. Lori E. expressed to the board that the budget would not support a \$48,000 grant. Wendy said that she would stop by and visit with the schools to see how the programs are working and what kind of impact they have with our youth. She will report back to us in February when we will decide on funding. Michael suggested that we redirect our funding into the art programs that are working. We will make the final decisions on grant funding at the February meeting.

7. Lori E. decided that we would discuss the updates for the 5-year plan and goals in February as the meeting was going long.
8. The summer season was presented. We still need to decide on an opening #. Lori E. said that Alex Boye would charge 20K. She also talked about Michael Chipman that would cost us \$2700. Lexi Walker, Molly and the Mineshaft, and Octapella were other groups suggested. For the last concert it was proposed to bring it an oldies band.
9. The August musical will be Secret Garden. Lori E. has requested the license for this show. It will be directed by Brighton Sloan.
10. The date for next month's meeting is March 20, 2018.