

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for July 21, 2020

Attendance: Matt Jacobson, Christy Anderson, Lily Ellingson, Clark Bullen, Haley Oliphant
Staff: Lori Edmunds, Katie Lindquist

- I. The minutes for June 16, 2020 were passed as written.
- II. Board Reports: There were no board reports.
- III. Staff reports –
 - a. Resident on Display: Katie
 - i. City Hall – Nicholl Vass
 - b. Concert Series – July 3, Jersey Street with a very small group of about 30. July 10, Foreign Figures had about 140 patrons, and July 17, Samba Rio was postponed due to high COVID case numbers and low-ticket sales. We will see if we can reschedule them in late August.
- IV. Upcoming events
 - a. July Concert Series
 - July 24 – High Society, 8pm - \$10
 - July 31 – Strawberry Fields, 8pm - \$10
 - Jenny Oaks Baker, August 7, 7:30pm – tickets will be \$10
 - b. “Little Shop of Horrors”, August 14-15, 17-22 8pm – tickets, Adults - \$10, Child/Senior-\$8
Jeff was concerned that the bands were not doing their part by advertising the performances and wanted to see them push it on their web pages. Lori said she would follow up with this.
- V. Business – Arts Education
 - a. The board discussed the present arts education opportunities and Lori wanted input from the board about how they felt about each item.
 - After School Musicals – The students and teachers really like this focus as it does not intrude on their classroom schedule. Missy Hamilton, the District Primary Education Director told us last month that it is a favorite of both teachers and the principals as it gives the kids a place to go after school. The board agreed that this is a great program that should be continued.
 - Ballet – each year the Wrights allow one grade level from each school to attend a performance during school time for free. The Cultural Arts department pays for the bussing. This will also continue.
 - Museum Tours –also a free fieldtrip for the students with bussing paid for by the Cultural Arts Department. Lori reported that the tours have not been well attended but feels that when the museum moves to a new space, the attendance will increase.
 - Haunted Tales – Haley has offered to come up with an idea to make this program work better for the students and the teachers. She offered to teach a class after school at the library.
 - Missoula Children’s Theater and Arts Power – Missoula is a very popular after school program that Lori and Katie report has been very successful. Because we are providing after school musicals to the schools, Lori has booked Arts Power for the spring which will be performed at MHS. Cultural Arts will offer to pay for the rental of one bus to bring students to the production. Lori said the performance is “Judy Moody and Stink” which is a book that teachers can use as reading and comprehensive tools in the classrooms. *Both Missoula and Arts Power* are about the same price.

- Storytelling – Storytelling has had some difficulties with coordinating the tellers with the schools. Again, to avoid being intrusive, it was decided to offer this program after school unless a teacher requests a teller during her class time.
 - Music Specialists – this is a complicated program it is required for each student to have 30-40 minutes of music education each week. The board felt strongly that this program should continue, however, how it will be taught during COVID is still a question which will be contingent on how often the students are in the classroom.
 - Secondary Art Show – Lori told the board that this was just about all we do for the secondary students and she felt it should be continued. The board agreed.
- b. The board discussed briefly the amount of the music specialist grant and decided to see if and how school was going to open and then decide on the amount requested/granted.
 - c. COVID – *Stay at Home Series* – Lori reminded the board that she would like each one of them to submit something for a COVID collection for the museum. She told them she is gathering various kinds of documentation from the residents for this specific collection since the pandemic is historical.
 - d. COVIDart – will be the theme of the adult art show. Since the library may still be closed, Lori said she would check with Fashion Place Mall to see if we could have it there. Matt agreed to help with the set up.

The meeting was adjourned until August 18, 2020 at the Murray Mansion.