

## **MINUTES**

Leawood Arts Council

May 26, 2020

Conducted via Zoom and livestreamed on YouTube

Present: Anne Blessing, Stephanie Hamil, Michael Shirley, Julia Steinberg, Dave Hazen, Kim Hinkle, Burton Dunbar, Carl McCaffree, and Jessica Chanos; Chris Claxton and Holly York, staff liaison; Council Liaison James Azeltine

Anne Blessing called the meeting to order at 4:25 p.m.

### **STATEMENT**

Staff Liaison Holly York stated, “To reduce the spread of COVID-19, Leawood City Hall is currently closed to the public. For the Leawood Arts Council May 26, 2020 4:30 pm meeting, the Committee members will not be physically present in City Hall and will instead be using ZOOM, an online virtual meeting tool and livestreamed on YouTube.

A link to the livestream is posted on the City’s website and notice of any future meetings using this, or a similar virtual meeting tool, will be posted at [www.leawood.org](http://www.leawood.org).

Each Committee Member, Staff Member, or Presenter must first state their name and title prior to speaking or voting. Please also ensure that your microphone is muted when not speaking. Public comments will not be allowed during this meeting.

The Chair is reminded to clearly state each motion prior to voting, and will announce the results of the final vote.”

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Anne thanked the Council for being flexible to meet virtually. She mentioned that there was a misspelling on page four of the January LAC minutes that will need to be amended.

Stephanie Hamil moved that the Minutes of the LAC meeting of January 26, 2020, be approved pending the amendment. Burton Dunbar seconded the motion and the motion was approved with 6 votes and two abstentions by Carl McCaffree and Dave Hazen.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Anne reported the LAC did not meet in March due to the closing of City Hall. At that meeting, we were scheduled to consider and vote on the annual LAC recommendation regarding the Public Art Impact Fee.

The City of Leawood imposes a Public Art Impact Fee on all commercial development as a means of funding the acquisition and maintenance of public art in the city. The rate of this fee is currently \$.15/square feet of finished commercial floor area. This rate has remained unchanged since August of 2006.

Section 12-609 of Leawood City Ordinances requires an annual review of the public art impact fee and, as part of this review, asks the Leawood Arts Council for its recommendation regarding the amount of the impact fee in light of public art needs. The City Council was scheduled to take action on the impact fee at its meeting on May 4. On April 28, Anne emailed all LAC members and liaisons and asked for a vote via email to recommend that the impact fee remain unchanged in the current year, consistent with the recommendation of the City Administrator. The minutes of this meeting reflect that the members of the LAC voted unanimously to recommend that no change be made to the public art impact fee for the current year, and that this action was communicated to the City Administrator via email on April 30, 2020.

### **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Council Liaison James Azeltine reported that City Council recently approved opening the Leawood Aquatic Center in June to residents by appointment only. The City Council is also working with staff to coordinate possible viewing locations around the city for the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks show. City Council also approved suspending a portion of the planning code to allow the City Administrator to approve additional outdoor seating for restaurants during the re-opening phases due to the COVID-19 crisis.

### **APPI REPORT**

Holly York reported that on March 3, 2020, the APPI, acting as a selection panel, unanimously recommended the purchase of *Sky Writing I* by John King to LAC. Per the loan agreement, \$2,500 was paid to the artist. If purchase is approved the loan amount would be applied to the purchase price of \$40,000, meaning \$37,500 would be owed. Burton Dunbar asked Holly to show an image on the screen of the artwork for those who may be watching on YouTube. Holly held up a printed image to the screen.

Stephanie Hamil moved to accept the recommendation to purchase *Sky Writing I* by John King for \$40,000 less the \$2,500 already paid and to recommend this purchase to City Council. Julia Steinberg seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Anne mentioned that APPI also approved to recommend *Sky Writing I* be installed on the berm located between Tomahawk Creek Pkwy and west and center of the South Lake. Holly showed a photo of the recommended site location. Kim Hinkle moved to approve the recommended site on the berm located between Tomahawk Creek Pkwy and west and center of the South Lake for the installation of *Sky Writing I*. Julia seconded. Stephanie voiced concern that there would not be sufficient wind for the kinetic sculpture along Tomahawk Creek Pkwy. Chris Claxton suggested working with the Planning Commission to conduct a wind study at the temporary loan site along with the recommended site.

Per the discussion, Anne amended the motion to recommend the placement of *Sky Writing I* on the berm between Tomahawk Creek Pkwy and west and center of the South Lake pending a review by staff that wind flow will be sufficient to activate the kinetic piece. If wind is determined to not be sufficient, then location installation will come back to the APPI selection panel for another recommendation. Stephanie moved and Jessica Chanos seconded the motion. LAC unanimously approved the recommendation.

The recommendation to purchase *Sky Writing I* and its possible location will proceed to the Planning Commission.

## **CULTURAL ARTS REPORT**

Holly York reported the following:

- Leewood Stage Company made the difficult decision to cancel their spring production of *The Civil War* and summer production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* due to COVID-19 concerns.
- Grinning and Grooving Children's Concerts were rescheduled from June to July
- Staff is increasing Parks and Recreation's social media presence. Holly has drafted a Public Art Scavenger Hunt to be posted in June. Kim Hinkle requested that Holly send out an email listing Parks and Recreation's social media platforms and handles.
- June summer camps were cancelled due to the closure of City Hall. However, Holly is working on a virtual story time with an art activity to be posted on social media in June. July Art Camps, Art Party for ages 6-8 and Little Artists for ages 4-5, are going on as planned with 4 and 6 campers enrolled, respectively.
- A contracted conservator is inspecting and cleaning artworks in the Collection. A contract is pending for Zahner Metal Conservation to maintain *Dancers (Tango)* and *The Weight of your Heart/The Weight of a Feather* along with an estimate for repairing *Llooppi*. Julia inquired about the face masks that have appeared on a few of the bronze sculptures and possible signage about touching the art. Chris agreed that there should be signs near the bronze sculptures about respecting the art.
- KC Banner will begin replacing banners on streets running east to west, with those that we have in reserve. They are not able to do "full coverage" printing due to problems with the ink cracking over time. So the current designs we have would not be able to be produced.
- Opening bids for installing *Women of the Word* and *Inspiration* along with footings will be public in a few weeks. John Forsythe, working on *Women of the World*, has been in the hospital, but he has a few more areas to refurbish.
- Holly is coordinating a bid from a photographer for the Public Art Collection.
- Holly is continuing to condense information and write content on artworks in the Collection.
- August Sundays in the Park will proceed as planned.

Michael Shirley asked Holly to speak about a few of the outdoor sculpture exhibitions throughout the KC Metro this summer. Holly reported that Overland Park canceled the Seward Johnson exhibition and that there is a sculpture walk in downtown Lee's Summit.

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2020, at 5:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Submitted by: Holly York, Cultural Arts Supervisor