

## MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES

December 6, 2016, 5:30 P.M.

Lowe Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Pat Schmidt, Dennis Frevert, Brenda Kowalsky

ABSENT: Charlene Briggs, Elizabeth Wilson, Angie Pierce Jennings

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS:

### Art in the Alley

Fuf updated the Council on the Art in the Alley Project. The stone compass is inlaid and the mural is painted. The three multi-colored light columns and bike rack are in place. The deconstructed train engine and tree with silver top are installed. City staff has decided to hold off on installing the "furniture" sculptures until the ribbon cutting / Grand Opening celebration in the spring. The Art in the Alley Committee encourages everyone to look at the artwork that is in place.

### Sculpture Committee

Brenda and Pat updated the council on the Sculpture Trail. They presented the 3D prototype of the two sculptures the committee decided on. The first sculpture is by artist Reinaldo Correa from Ames, Iowa and is called "Prairie Revival". The committee chose his piece to be the entrance sculpture for Lowe Park and will be approximately 17 feet in height. The second sculpture is by artist J. Aaron Alderman from North Carolina and called "Disappearing Culture". His piece will be placed on the trail to be initially viewed from a distance along a horizon line. The sculptures will convey the disappearance of our native culture with the use of several pieces diminishing in details. This piece will include a buffalo to scale approximately 6 feet in height and 11 feet long. The 4 human figures with diminishing features to follow behind the buffalo are each approximately 5 1/2 to 6 feet tall that portray the diminishing native culture of the region. The "Prairie Revival" sculpture cost \$55,000 and does not include concrete pad and proper lighting. The "Disappearing Culture" sculpture cost \$45,000 and includes installation and proper lighting. Brenda presented the contracts for both artists to the Marion Art Council. Dennis motioned to approve the sculptures "Prairie Revival" and "Disappearing Culture" for the Lowe Park Sculpture Trail, Fuf seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

### Exhibits

The school exhibit is by Westfield Elementary. The November/December/January exhibit is by Mary Weaver and Lynda Black-Smith. The artist's reception was Thursday, November 10 with 25 people in attendance. The exhibit will come down on January 28. February is the college exhibit of Mt. Mercy, Cornell and Kirkwood. Fuf has contacted the colleges. Karen Morehead, a ceramic artists, and another artist will exhibit in March/April. Ron Ginther and Jane Strnad Nelson will be exhibiting in May/June. Iowa Art Quilters will be exhibiting in July and August of 2017. Fuf has received several inquiries to exhibit at the art gallery and will be getting examples of the art work for the Art Council to view.

### Coffeehouse Night

Karla Ruth performed on December 2 with 52 people attending. The Bernemann Brothers Trio will be performing at the February 3 Coffeehouse Night. Awful Purdies will be performing at the March 3 Coffeehouse Night. The April 7 performer will be Acoustic Open Jam Session led by Lori Blattner. The 2017-2018 Coffeehouse Nights will be October 6, November 10, December 1, February 2, 2018, March 2, 2018, and April 6, 2018.

### Hotel/Motel Tax Grant

Fuf informed the members of the breakdown of cost for each item involved with the Prairie in the Picnic concert from her request for Hotel/Motel funds. Fuf was informed the City policy for outside events if cancelled due to weather is the City will pay the performer half of their fee and half of the sound person's fee. Dennis will check into different media ways to promote the concert and the timelines for them and present at the next meeting.

### Budget

Fuf updated the council on the 2017-2018 Marion Art Council Budget.

### Old Business

Fuf shared her response to The Butterfly Effect Proposal that was presented at the November 1 MAC meeting:

*Hi - thank you for presenting your idea for "The Butterfly Effect Proposal". The Arts Council gives our approval for you to pursue this art concept. You will need to find out any restrictions for putting artwork on uptown buildings & eventually re-present what the artwork would actually look like to the Art Council. You will need to detail your proposal, find out building & art mounting specifications, plus talk to businesses to see what is feasible. Let us know how this moves along for you. One of our members indicated that he would help you find out more information on some of the City Public Art specifications if you have trouble accessing the information from the City. Thanks so much Fuf Renfer Co-Chair Marion Arts Council*

Mike Carolan will look at the benefits of having a sign on County Home Road for the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center verses people using GPS to find locations. The council is waiting on his decision on this.

The council decided to wait with discussion of adding permanent artwork with the other projects the members are currently working on.

Fuf is working on the details of holding an Adult Plien Aire workshop in conjunction with the August Picnic on the Prairie. Gordan Kellenbeger from the Amana Artist Guild has agreed to instruct the Plien Aire Workshop and is working on the details with Fuf.

An art display from local schools during the Marion Arts Festival was discussed at the November meeting. The council decided to continue discussion at the January meeting.

#### New Business

The film group that approached the council in August regarding making a film at the Arts and Environment Center contacted the Parks staff again. They will be submitting a new script to be considered. Fuf suggested Mike Carolan look at any resubmitted script first since he has the final say.

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

**Next meeting - Tuesday, January 10, at 5:30 p.m.  
Lowe Park Art and Environment Center.**