

MARION ART COUNCIL MINUTES

October 13, 2015, 6:30 P.M.

Lowe Park Art and Environment Center

ROLL CALL: Fuf Renfer, Angie Pierce Jennings (per phone), Pat Schmidt, Dennis Frevert, Charlene Briggs, Brenda Kowalsky

ABSENT: Patsi Gann

STAFF: Mary Ann Bries

GUESTS:

Art in the Alley

Fuf will email the cost per artist information from the last Art in the Alley meeting to the MAC members (attached to minutes). The committee is in the process of picking art pieces depending on how they fit into the plan. The committee is also working on the contracts for the art pieces. The City of Marion is paying for the infrastructure part only. Fuf will get a clarification from the Art in the Alley committee on how they will be presenting everything to the Marion Art Council.

Sculpture Trail Committee Update

Once the City finalizes their plans for the Irish Drive entrance, MAC can begin their process for the Sculpture Trail. The members would like to see the plans for the entrance from the landscaper the City has hired.

Other Art News

Fuf mentioned an artist out of Solon who goes to Africa and takes pictures for a possible future exhibit at the Art Center.

Exhibits

The reception for the Iowa Watercolor Society Traveling Exhibit will be Thursday, October 15 from 6:30 to 7:30. The school reception will be from 5:30 to 6:30 also on October 15. Fuf and Patsi will help at this reception. Jan Bell will pick up the watercolor artwork and bring to the next exhibit in Clinton. The following art exchange will be Saturday, December 5. The December/January exhibit is Julie Kulish and associates. The February 2016 exhibit will be from Mt. Mercy University and Cornell College. Fuf mentioned having an artist with small art pieces with Barb Weeks-Caudill for the March/April exhibit. The July / August exhibit artists have not been chosen yet. Mary Ann made a list of local retirement homes to send the exhibit postcards to.

MAC Budget

Mary Ann said the budget has an additional expense under account 6499 Other Contractual Services of \$170. This is for cleaning 20 table clothes that are used for Coffeehouse Night. The money budgeted for artwork purchases is under account 6727 Other Equipment. The amount budgeted for this fiscal year was \$1,500 with \$1,325 remaining in the account. Fuf mentioned the council should think of artwork they would like to purchase in the future. Mary Ann reminded everyone to keep in mind space where they will hang or place the art piece. Renters like to have blank wall space in the Oaks for taking pictures.

Coffeehouse Night

Their first Coffeehouse Night will be November 6. Craig Erickson will be performing. Charlene, Pat, Angie and her husband will be available to help at this performance. Dennis will pick up coffee and treats from Wit's End. Mary Ann will ask Karlene to pick up big coffee cups with lids, small plates, napkins and creamer from Sam's. Mary Ann will get the Coffeehouse start-up money in the same amount as last year. Bryce Janey and Freddy Jones duo will perform at the February 5 Coffeehouse Night. Lojo Russo will perform at the April 8 Coffeehouse Night.

Old Business

Brenda brought in two samples of the glass for the signage in the gallery and the different colors for the writing. The council decided to use a darker brown color for the lettering. Mary Ann will let Mike Carolan know the glass samples are at the Arts & Environment Center to approve before Brenda places the order.

The "School Exhibit" sign has been hung by the school exhibit wall. Brenda will make a sign to fit the glass. MAC also noticed finger prints on the glass which Mary Ann will clean.

Charlene talked to Amber Bisinger, City Communications Coordinator, regarding the City website. Angie will talk to Sarah Daricilar regarding moving everything from their current website www.marionartcouncil.com to the City's website. Angie expressed concerns regarding people finding the MAC on the City's website and all of the information that is currently on their website. Mary Ann suggested they talk to Amber or Amanda Kaufman, Assistant to the City Manager, regarding their concerns. Brenda noticed the City website needs to be updated to have the meetings the second Tuesday of the month instead of the fourth. Mary Ann will make sure this gets updated. Mary Ann explained instead of sending updates to Sarah the council will send them to either her or Karlene to be placed on the City's website. Karlene will add the information as the department receives it.

New Business

With the new City logos, all flyers need to be sent to Amber. This includes all flyers and postcards the MAC sends regarding Coffeehouse Night and upcoming exhibits.

Angie mentioned adding associate members to MAC. She included this information in the MAC email she sends regarding upcoming events.

Mary Ann mentioned Fuf and Patsi's term on MAC is up at the end of December. They need to send a letter of intent to the Mayor saying if they would like to stay on the council or not.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. at the Lowe Park Art and Environment Center.