

MINUTES
ARTS AND HUMANITIES ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
RIEGER CONFERENCE ROOM
July 6, 2017 – 11:45 A.M.

Present were the following members of the Arts and Humanities Advisory Board: Ms. Charlene Brownson, Ms. Hannah Kleopfer, Mr. Aaron Oleen, Ms. Julie Pentz, and Ms. Hilary Wahlen.

Absent were Dr. Wayne Goins, Ms. Rebecca Hackemann-Bahlmann, Ms. Livie Olsen, and Ms. Roshanna Robinson.

Visitors at this meeting were Dr. Michaeline Reay, Kansas State University; Mr. Gary Stith, Director of the Flint Hills Regional Council; and Ms. Janna Williams, Regional Planner with the Flint Hills Regional Council.

Employees present at this meeting were Mr. Randi Clifford, Recreation Director; Ms. Tarica Lare, Recreation Supervisor; and Ms. Ginny Pape, Recreation Supervisor.

MINUTES

Mr. Oleen called the meeting to order. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May meeting. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

FLINT HILLS REGIONAL COUNCIL – NEA GRANT PRESENTATION

Mr. Gary Stith gave a presentation on behalf of the Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) about a potential grant opportunity for arts organizations in the Flint Hills region. The FHRC would like to apply for the Our Town Grant Program, which funds arts engagement, cultural planning, and design projects. The Our Town Grant Program requires a partnership between a nonprofit organization and a local government entity.

For this grant, the FHRC is proposing the creation of an arts asset map of the seven counties (Chase, Geary, Lyon, Morris, Pottawatomie, Riley, and Wabaunsee) within the Flint Hills Region. Arts assets can be identified by type in the mapping (e.g. museums, galleries, theatres, historic sites, public art, etc.) The Geocentric web software and interactive services company has made a proposal to design the website and provide training for the cost of \$12,800. There will also be an annual subscription and server cost of \$3,600 which would need to be maintained. The website cost for the first year would be a total of \$16,400.

The Our Town Grant Program is a 50/50 match, which can also include in-kind donations. The minimum grant amount is \$50,000, so this project would be for \$50,000 (\$25,000 funded by the grant and \$25,000 funded by matching donations from local partners). After paying for the website design, training, and subscription, the remaining \$8,600 in grant funds would cover FHRC staff costs for administration and project support. The FHRC has offered to match the staff costs of \$8,600. Partners will be asked to provide \$16,400 in cash or in-kind match, as well as a commitment to help fund the annual subscription fee to Geocentric. This grant program requires a local government partner; Council Grove has offered to partner with the FHRC.

Benefits of the Our Town Grant Program:

1. Raise awareness and support of arts and cultural assets and events in the Flint Hills Region
2. Create opportunities for cross marketing
3. Increase tourism in the Flint Hills Region
4. Help protect and preserve unique cultural and artistic assets in the Flint Hills Region
5. Encourage the development of new arts assets in the Flint Hills Region

The FHRC would like the AHAB to ask the Manhattan City Commission for a one-page letter of support for their project. There will be a meeting about the project on July 18 at 10:00 AM at the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

Discussion was held after the presentation. Board members expressed concern about the large scope of the project, and that it could be difficult to document all pieces of public art and culture within the Manhattan area. Ms. Wahlen moved that the City Manager's Office write a letter in support of the grant project. Ms. Brownson seconded. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

SURVEY RESULTS – MEETING DAY/TIME

Mr. Clifford passed out the results of the meeting day/time survey. After review, Ms. Pentz moved to maintain the current meeting day and time for the monthly AHAB meetings. Ms. Brownson seconded. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Clifford explained the duties of the AHAB Chair and Vice Chair. AHAB by-laws below indicate:

SECTION 3. OFFICERS

- A. The advisory board shall organize annually at the first regular meeting after the annual appointment of new members.
- B. The advisory board shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson from among the appointed members at this meeting. Officers shall serve for a one-year period, and may be elected to one consecutive term of one year.
- C. The duties of Chairperson shall be as follows:
 1. To determine an agenda for meetings, in conjunction with the City staff liaison.
 2. To preside at all meetings and public hearings of the advisory board and shall decide all points of order and procedure.
 3. To sign documents of the advisory board.
 4. To appoint members to committees, with the advice and consent of the advisory board.
- D. The duties of the Vice-Chairperson shall be as follows:
 1. Assume the duties of the Chairperson in the Chairperson's absence
 2. Perform other responsibilities as requested by the Chairperson or the advisory board.

Mr. Oleen began discussions about the election of officers for the Board. After discussion, Ms. Brownson nominated Mr. Oleen for Chairperson and was seconded by Ms. Wahlen. On vote, motion carried 5-0. For Vice-Chair, Ms. Wahlen nominated Ms. Pentz and was seconded by Ms. Brownson. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

TAL STREETER LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

Ms. Wahlen and Mr. Oleen were able to meet with Mr. Jay Nelson to obtain plans for the Tal Streeter project. Ms. Wahlen then met with a Landscape Architect from Kansas State University, who informed her of some potential problems with the project and suggested alternate sites. Ms. Wahlen discussed these issues with Mr. Nelson, and he recommended that the AHAB submit the project to City engineers to get a second opinion on these issues. Ms. Wahlen gave a project summary to Mr. Clifford, who will give these documents to City Engineers.

Once City Engineers approve a site for the project, the Board will begin to explore funding opportunities.

DRAFT ACTION PLAN

Mr. Clifford informed the Board that the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce would also like to put together a proposal for public art policy and planning in the Manhattan area through the Our Town Grant Program. Mr. Clifford will talk with Mr. Lyle Butler, President/CEO of the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce, to obtain additional information about the proposal.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Pape gave the AHAB an update about the Summer Youth Theatre program and Arts in the Park. The Youth Theatre program is producing *Beauty and the Beast* with 166 participants enrolled in grades K-12, and Arts in the Park has seen increased attendance at concerts this summer.

Mr. Clifford will inform Board members of the decision on the meeting day/time via email. He is encouraging members to look at their schedules and decide whether or not they are able to commit to attending future AHAB meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.