

MINUTES  
ARTS AND HUMANITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
RIEGER CONFERENCE ROOM  
August 3, 2017 – 11:45 A.M.

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

Absent were Ms. Charlene Brownson, 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, and Dr. Jeff Ward, Kansas State University School of Music, Theatre, and Dance.

Employees present at this meeting were Mr. Randi Clifford, Recreation Director; Ms. Ginny Pape, Recreation Supervisor; and Mr. Wyatt Thompson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation.

MINUTES

Mr. Oleen called the meeting to order. Minutes from the July meeting could not be approved because a quorum was not present.

PARK AT LEE MILL HEIGHTS PRESENTATION – WYATT THOMPSON

Mr. Wyatt Thompson presented information about planning efforts for the Park at Lee Mill Heights, located in the southwest quadrant of Manhattan. At this point, the park is largely undeveloped rolling prairie with steep slopes and deep, wooded ravines. Community engagement began in 2015, and the City has developed a partnership with National Park Service (NPS) for assistance with the master plan process.

The planning process for the Park at Lee Mill Heights has included a number of community engagement interactions, including:

1. Four public meetings
2. An online survey
3. Three free events at the park
4. Student workshops with elementary school children

These community interactions revealed that the public is in favor of the park providing a large natural space with shelters, play areas for children, hiking and biking trails, and the preservation of the park's natural ecosystem.

Mr. Thompson asked the AHAB to provide feedback about potential artistic components to add to the master plan for the park. The Board provided answers to the following questions:

1. Are there locations you think are well suited for public art?
2. What kind of art are you interested in seeing in the park?
3. How can the plan be improved to better incorporate art elements?
4. Other comments about the two concepts?

When answering Mr. Thompson's questions, the Board expressed interest in:

1. Natural themed, smaller projects
2. Movement elements (kinetic sculpture) and sound sculpture, as well as musical play elements
3. A treehouse and/or cave
4. Shinto shrine (meditative gateway)
5. 3D sculptures rather than murals/mosaics
6. Amphitheater or location for live performances

For more information about the Park at Lee Mill Heights, Mr. Thompson directed Board members to the park's website at [www.mhkprd.com/leemillpark](http://www.mhkprd.com/leemillpark).

Mr. Oleen suggested that the Board spend the next couple of months discussing possible installation ideas for the park. Mr. Thompson will present a draft of the master plan to the board at a future meeting.

#### TAL STREETER LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Clifford informed the Board that the City Engineer indicated that the space at the intersection of Poyntz and Juliet is not an ideal location for the Tal Streeter sculpture. An alternate site at the Library was suggested, and the City Engineer will do a site study of that location. Mr. Clifford will follow up with City Engineers.

Mr. Oleen suggested that Board members begin thinking of alternate locations for the sculpture if it does not work at the Library.

#### NEA GRANT OPPORTUNITY – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. Clifford spoke with the Chamber of Commerce about setting up a meeting this month to discuss the NEA Our Town grant opportunity. This grant would be used to fund the development of an artistic master plan for the Manhattan area.

#### BOARD VACANCY – LIVIE OLSEN RESIGNATION

Mr. Clifford informed the Board that Ms. Livie Olsen submitted her resignation to the AHAB because of scheduling conflicts with meeting times. The Mayor will appoint a new Board member to fill Ms. Olsen's position.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Oleen communicated that Board members should email him if they would like to add items to future meeting agendas.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ward thanked the Board for the opportunity to sit in on the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.