

**DRAFT MINUTES
ARTS AND HUMANITIES ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
1101 POYNTZ AVE
MANHATTAN, KS
AUGUST 10, 2022
11:45 AM**

Present: Chair Doug Barrett Jr., Hilary Wahlen, Taylor McFall, Luke Townsend, Karen McCulloh, and Charlene Brownson

Absent: Michaeline Chance-Reay, Mike McCarty, and Sujatha Prakash

Staff Present: Jared Wasinger

- A. Call to Order.** Chair Barrett Jr. called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m.
- B. Consider approval of the Minutes for the meeting held on July 13, 2022.** Luke Townsend requested the meeting minutes reflect that during the Art Grants discussion, a motion was made and approved unanimously to add “Grant Opportunities and Potential Projects” to the next meeting’s agenda as new business. Townsend made a motion to approve the minutes as appended. Taylor McFall seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-1 with Karen McCulloh abstaining.
- C. Public Comment.** No public comments.
- D. Old Business**
1. **Art Inventory Update.** Received inventory document from Wahlen. Hilary provided inventory document. Some city related art. Jared will get lists from.
 2. **2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program.** Jared Wasinger provided an update on the 12th Street Aggieville Design project. Design is progressing and city staff will be able to present concepts for AHABs feedback in the future related to including space and infrastructure for art elements and musical performances (including busking) as part of the project. Chair Barrett Jr. requested design images of the project be available to review at that time. Wasinger concurred.
 3. **Karen McCulloh requested to discuss the Juried Art Competition.** McCulloh lots of work went into the 2019 Juried Art Competition and was it very successful, although COVID delayed continued progress. The pedestals are still in place and the documents were created for future competitions. Hilary Wahlen concurred. McCulloh acknowledged that in her conversation with City Manager Ron Fehr he mentioned staffing to manage such projects is limited. McCulloh recommended relying on an outside to group manage the project and proposed seeking \$20,700 from the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, which would consist of \$16,000 for sculptures (\$2,000 for each site), \$3,000 for staffing and management of the project, \$1,000 for installation and \$700 for printing costs for promotion. Chair Barrett Jr. asked how the 2019 process affected or conflict with the new donor-initiated public art policy. Charlene Brownson mentioned the possibility of doing

more pedestals along Poyntz Avenue but would need concurrence on locations from Downtown Manhattan Inc. Jared Wasinger said he would do some research on the 2019 contest and new art policy and how the process could potentially move forward and be recommended to the City Commission.

E. New Business

1. **Grant Opportunities and Potential Projects.** McCulloh spoke with Stephen Bridenstine at the Flint Hills Discovery Center who informed of possible sculpture garden at the facility and wanted to know where it would be located and if AHAB could be involved. Wahlen noted during her art inventory research on the cloud art in Pioneer Park, that limited mowing was occurring for the pollinator pockets. She mentioned the idea of sculpture gardens, other communities do them on the outskirts of town but it's hard to determine where one could go with the current boundaries of Manhattan. Wahlen also mentioned to potential for more festivals related to humanities and performances other than visual art, possibly in the City Park bandshell. Brownson recommended the pursuit of linear trail markers with associated sculptures at each marker. Townsend recommended combining efforts for such grant opportunities. McFall recommended pursuing an outside group to serve as a fiscal agent to receive funds and pursue such opportunities. He mentioned given the struggle to obtain city funds and the long budget process, the Board should plan to make a request for the 2024 budget process and identify partners as well as existing projects fitting identified grants where an existing match exists that concurrent approval with the city commission could occur, and this could be the start of a long-term approach to consistently accomplish projects. He mentioned the Reimagined spaces grant for pop staging for performances. Chair Barrett Jr. concurred. McFall recommended the group identify consensus on a project for 2023 where TGT could possibly be pursued along with a grant, that can be identified within the 2022 annual report when presented to the City Commission during their retreat.

F. Standing Items

1. **Donated Art Application Update.** No update.

- G. Staff Report.** Jared Wasinger introduced himself as staff liaison and provided background on his history with the city. Wasinger gave an update on parks and recreation staffing.

- H. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Next Meeting – September 14, 2022