** URBANA ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

**Date:** June 14, 2022

**time:** 4:30 P.M.

**place:** City Council Chambers, 400 S Vine St., Urbana, IL 61801

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lori Fuller, Barbara Hedlund, Sarah Buckman, Gonzalo Pinilla, Marc-Anthony Macon

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Heather Rose, Howard Schein, Frank Monica

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rachel Storm, Arts & Culture Coordinator; Bourema Ouedraogo, UPTV Station Manager; Stepheny McMahon, Economic Development Supervisor

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jean Mendoza, Jim O’Brien, Patricia Leon Quecan

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

The Urbana Arts and Culture Commission was called to order at 4:30 P.M by Hedlund. Storm took roll and a quorum was declared present.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Rachel Storm noted to move the minutes from the previous meeting to the next meeting for better Quorum, and give the board some more time to review them.

1. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Jim O’Brien will be presenting the 2020 Arts Grant, the Urbana Poetry Walk.

1. **PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

1. **PRESENTATIONS**
   1. **Grant Presentations**
2. Jean Mendoza presented the final report for the 2021 Urbana Arts Grant, *Juxtapositioned: The Life and Words of Durango Mendoza*
3. Lori Fuller presented the final report for the 2021 Urbana Arts Grant, *ARTMade*
4. Patricia Leon Quecan presented the final report for the 2021 Urbana Arts Grant, *Enacting Hope and Togetherness Mural*
5. Jim O’Brien on behalf of CU Poetry Group presented the final report for the 2020 Urbana Arts Grant, *Urbana Poetry Walk*
   1. **Staff Report**

Due to the Arts and Culture Coordinator, Rachel Storm, being unable to attend in-person for a medical issue, Stepheny McMahon advanced slides for Rachel Storm, who was attending the meeting by phone.

Storm reported that due to Covid-19 guidance the coordinator continues a hybrid schedule to limit the number of staff working in the office working at one time. Per the applications for the Part time Program specialist have come in, interviews and applications have been delayed. The Illinois Arts Council Summer Youth Employment Grant received ($4,500) allowing for hiring two high school students to be able to work part time over the summer. Frank Monica even though not able to attend this evening meeting, will be recognized at the next meeting in July 2022 for his services on the Arts and Culture Commission retirement. Two vacancies are remaining for the Arts Commission full time seats and teen seats still need to be at the forefront. Updates on current projects; neighborly software for grant tracking starting 2021 and forward. In 2022 funded 30 projects, theater, dance, film public murals, visual arts and festivals which will be in downtown Urbana this year. Orientations offered for grant recipients with the Arts coordinator covered reporting expectations, program support marketing efforts and increased accessibility with best offer practices. Recipients from 2020 and 2021 were able to complete their projects finally with the reopening from Covid 19. 2022 projects have been underway which include; *Urbana Pops Orchestra, Fiddle Weekend and Poems Across Urbana*. Rose Bowl in downtown continues to offer free concerts after the Market on weekends. The Urbana Sculpture project has moved to renew several sculptures; *Peek Between the Trees, Ice Pops* and *What is the Good*? are being repaired and restored the month of July 2022. *Stranger Reduction Zone* is getting a new label as well. *Races* was renewed with a generous donation from Eric Robeson. The long-term plan is for *Races* to be moved to the corner of Illinois and Vine sts. later this year. The Great ARTDoors in collaboration between CPD, UACP and 40 North starting a new cycle of awarding for artists involved. This project also benefits local artists, underserved neighborhoods and ensures accessibility. 11 artists selected receive a grant for 11 different locations.

Several 2020-2021 Urbana Arts Grants recipients were able to finally complete their programs with these grants due to the opening up of functions from Covid-19. Many 2022 projects are underway.

The rose bowl continues to promote free weekend after market concerts due to their grant received as well. The Urbana Sculpture project has been paused but we have renewed the sculpture agreement to repair and upgrade our sculptures around town. There have been 11 artists chosen to use $1000 grants to create a bridge between Champaign and Urbana to spark dialogue and connection. These installs will be occurring this month through November. 6 artists have been selected for Urbana. Kathy Micek will have her acrylic art on display at the City Building from the funding of the Urbana Arts Commission. Cinema and Sound will premier July 14th 2022. Poet Laureate of City of Urbana mention of Danyla Nash and all of her accomplishments. Update on Young Artist Studio Kids to learn workshop. Art now will feature Danyla Nash. UPTV was awarded The Award of Merritt which is the second time UPTV has been granted this accomplishment. July 29th and 31st several events will encourage recognition for the end of gun violence with artwork transformed. Art is transit will be selected on an Urbana bus shelter. Art thrive banners will be on display featuring several recognized artists on the street pole display in downtown Urbana. Sponsored Murals in Urbana can be seen on several downtown Urbana businesses. A new mural is going up at the Rose Bowl Tavern in Urbana. This mural will highlight the diversity of the Urbana Adult educations student body. Imagine Urbana and Americans for the Arts were mentioned with the importance and key insights for each organization and upcoming events. RAWTools is visiting Champaign-Urbana collaborating with many local organizations to turn guns into garden tools. Projecting love, light with recognition of grief and loss towards the ending of gun violence within our communities.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. **2022 Tier III Urbana Arts Grant Funding Recommendation**

**The Arts and Culture Coordinator will present the Funding Recommendation for Tier**

**III Urbana Arts Grants to the commission for discussion.**

* 1. **2022 Tiers I and II Urbana Arts Grant Funding Recommendation**

**The Arts and Culture Coordinator will present Tier I and II 2022 Urbana Arts Grants.**

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Storm adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.