



**Des Moines Arts Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2019 • 6:00 p.m.
City Hall South Conference Room**

Present: Nicholas Fannin, Jerry Farmer, Shannon Kirchberg, Luisa Bangs, Marcus Williams, Susan Cesar, Tim George, Sarah Vogel, Nicole Nordholm, Ray Fernandez.

Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Marcus Williams.

Introductions

First 5 minutes of the meeting individuals took time to introduce themselves around the table and discuss how and why they are interested in the arts.

Role of the Arts Commission

- Vice Chair Fannin read the mission and vision that was created by the prior year's commission. Nick and Marcus both agreed that they would like to see the 2019 commission focus more on community engagement by adding new events and improving upon events that are already in existence but could use some additional funding to take them to the next level.
- Nicole Nordholm, Management Analyst, and Susan Cesar, CSO with the City of Des Moines will be staff support for the commission, along with continued integral support from Shannon Kirchberg, Events Manager. Luisa Bangs is the Arts Commission City Council Liaison.
- Susan reviewed the budget with the commission noting that they had a budget of \$90,000 for the year. \$55,000 for the Concerts and \$35,000 for sculptures. It was noted that the funds could be appropriated into other budget categories as needed.
- A motion was presented by Farmer to move the commission meetings to City Halls South Conference Room for the year. The motion was seconded by Fannin. All approved. All future meetings will take place on the second Monday of each month at 6:00pm and conclude at 7:30pm
- Tim George, City Attorney, was present to review the status of funds the Des Moines Arts Commission still has in the Legacy Foundations accounts. The City is still working to try and secure the money raised by the commission out of the Legacy Foundation.

It was noted that the City of Des Moines has the capability to take donations and sponsorships from the community and earmark all donations for the event they are requested to sponsor. All donation should be made payable to the City of Des Moines. The Arts Commission can also plan to partner with and have formal contractual agreements with agencies.

2019 Committed Events

Beach Park Concerts – Lead Fannin

Committee: Farmer, Vogel, Fernandez

- Looking to bring in a larger stage to be set up in the meadow on the Northwest side with sound and lights. Looking for bids from companies that can meet minimum requirements.
- The commission is interested in contracting a shuttle service to shuttle concert participants from

the Marina Floor to the Beach Park.

- Suggestion was put forth to create a new survey that attendees could fill out and return to the commission for future feedback and to get a better idea of the demographic we are trying to reach.
- Security at the concerts is a concern for 2019 due to the growing crowds at the concerts. It was discussed to liaison with Des Moines PD to see if they could have more of a presence in the park each week, utilizing Staff Pros to monitor the park and help mitigate rule breakers. The City has a contract with them, and the price is manageable.

Discussion around having the stage in a new location helping to divide the Beer Garden from the stage. This will help with security.

Seattle Shakespeare

- The performance for 2019 will be Twelfth Night. It will take place on August 4th at 5PM. The cost for 2019 is \$2,000.00.
- Williams motioned to approve to pay for the date and amount presented, seconded by Fannin. Kirchberg to secure the contract from Seattle Shakespeare by the next meeting in February.

Art on Poverty Bay

- American Venus, which was purchased last year, is still in storage at the Des Moines Marina and needs a home. George C. Scotts Kaleidoscope is finished and has been installed at South Marina Park. The Marina Crew is working diligently to finish the area around the sculpture. There will be additional bases made available for more sculptures in the future.
- Bangs inquired as to walking tours that had been given last year of the sculptures by Chair Verburg. Kirchberg updated that this was in conjunction with the Senior Centers Legacy Walking group. It was recommended that the commission consider continuing these in 2019.
- The commission requested a list of art work currently in the city. Kirchberg agreed to send a list of all art work in the city and note which are owned, on loan, donated and owned by the City. Kirchberg will have this for the commission by the end of January for review at the February meeting.
- There will be a call for artists in December, Janet Best typically runs. Nothing currently needing to be done.

Squid A Rama – Lead – Farmer and Kirchberg

- Kirchberg has had follow up meetings with the staff at MaST Center and is excited about the 2019 event. Russ and his staff have great ideas on how to increase capacity of the facility. They are working with South King Fire to have volunteers not be included in the head count for the facility during the event as there are over 20 staff and volunteers on hand during the event. This allows only 80 participants inside the facility and creates lines of people waiting outside to get in.
- There is an idea to possibly rent a HEATED tent for the outside of the facility for the squid discussion as this is the most popular and time consuming portion of the event. Farmer and Kirchberg to report more in late meetings.

Paint and Sip Night – Lead – Williams

- Williams will be the Lead for the Paint Night this year. He worked with Kirchberg on the event last year in marketing the event and helped fill it to capacity using Facebook. Anyone interested in helping with this event should reach out to Williams. Will need at least 2 commissioners.

Waterland Parade – Lead Fernandez, with Fannin

In 2018 the Arts Commission participated in the Waterland Parade as they have in past years. Fernandez will be the main lead for this year with Fannin. The commission should contact Destination Des Moines to confirm their participation. Please let Kirchberg know if you need help with this.

Prospective Commissioner

Artist Ray Fernandez has submitted an application to become a member of the Des Moines Arts Commission. He has done a lot of projects in Des Moines, has donated to the Arts Gala, as well as donating a painting that he worked on live at this year's Gala. *After discussion, Farmer moved to approve Fernandez as a commissioner and to recommend to Mayor Matt Pina that he be appointed. Fannin seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Bangs was asked to help expedite Fernandez' appointment.*

New Events/Partnerships to be Reviewed

Below is a list of events that were discussed in 2018. The listed events in bold were not voted on but were just a starting list to help the new commission with planning in 2019. Please take a few moments to review the list, add to it and ready questions you may have about any of these or any of the existing annual events. Bring your notes to the February meeting.

- **Scholarship Program**
- **Micro Grant Program**
- Kid friendly Paint Night
- DMAC Art Exhibition/Gala/Auction
- Movie Night in the Park
- **Children's Theater**
- Monthly Art Classes for Children
- **Multicultural Festival**
- **New Mural for Marina Wall**
- Golf Cart/ Ride Share

Art on Poverty Bay

Williams reported that the sculpture installation project at City Hall is looking good, and that he will e-mail with details when it is more finalized. He also noted that the South Marina Park, including the Anita Corby mural, would be re-done and upgraded with the installation of "Kaleidoscope."

Squid-A-Rama

Williams provided a "State of the Squid Address," which summarized this year's Squid-A-Rama. One problem is the limited occupancy of 100 people. MaST is considering possible solutions and is working with the Fire Department. Andrews commended everyone at MaST and all those involved. He recommended holding Squid-A-Rama a week later next year, as it had been hard to catch enough squid for the aquarium in early November. (See attached report for additional details.) Williams was also commended for his work organizing the event and the kids' art exhibition, as well as for creating the looping video of the art in the exhibition.

Quarterly Report to City Council

The Commission agreed to update City Council each Quarter. Kirchberg will send a request for the commission to be on the agenda in the following months; March, June, September and December. Kirchberg to report back dates to the commission when scheduled.

Other Business

The commission needs to focus on filling the four open positions on the commission. The application is on the City Web site and the Arts Commission web site. If you have someone interested in being a commission have them fill out the application and send it via mail or e-mail to Bonnie Wilkins the City Clerk.

The commission discussed using SLACK as their new communication tool to cut back on the number of e-mails sent back and forth. SLACK discussed to be efficient and user friendly. This platform was discussed with George, City Attorney and it was approved as a communication tool. Kirchberg and Cesar will need to be set up as administrators to ensure the City of Des Moines can have full access to the sight for any Public Record Requests.

Williams to ensure that the Gmail account is forwarded to skirchberg@desmoineswa.gov so that all e-mails can be archived for public records.

Commission currently uses Facebook as it main Market Platform. Williams would like to start using other platforms such as Instagram and Facebook Live. City Attorney George agreed to look at and work on the communication plan for the City of Des Moines and report back if these will be acceptable.

Destination Des Moines has cancelled the Wine and Art Walk in February. However, the other events are still anticipated to take place. The commission needs to decide if it will be participating in these future events and if so, Destination Des Moines will need to be contacted to set up a partnership agreement.

There was a discussion as to the partnership with Destination Des Moines for the Beach Concert Beer and Wine Garden. The current split was 50/50 for profits. The Arts Commission made \$2,700 in total from the beer and wine garden during 2018's concerts. This will be discussed and voted on in February of 2019. The Light House Bar and Grill has stated that they are interested in hosting the Beer and Wine Garden for 2019.

An Art and Wine event was discussed as a platform for artists to display and sell their art with a sponsorship of the auditorium/Beach park of the Commission. The Commission would look into a partnership with Total Wine or BevMo for the wine tasting.

Fannin discussed potentially attending other Arts Commission meetings for support/ideas. Kirchberg mentioned there are South King County joint committee meetings that can be attended.

Wrapping utility boxes in graphic art was also discussed. Susan mentioned interest and spoke to another area city doing this. Staff needs to further investigate and will follow up.

Fannin motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Williams at 7:35pm