



Minutes
CITY OF YPSILANTI
ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, June 8, 2023 @ 6:30 PM
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

I. CALL TO ORDER (6:33pm)

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Seagraves, McAtee, Thompson, Wolfe (6:40pm)

Absent: Baxter

Staff: Jekabson

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Staff requested that Election of Officers be moved to new business. Since posting the agenda, staff realized that June is the organizational month for the commission. Commissioner McAtee pointed out that the agenda states that the meeting is at 7pm and that is a mistake that should be changed.

Commissioner Seagraves moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Commissioner McAtee. On a voice vote, the motion carried. Yes - 3; No- 0; Absent - 2 (Baxter, Wolfe)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Seagraves moved, seconded by Commissioner McAtee to approve The March 9, 2023 minutes. On a voice vote, the motion carried. Yes - 3; No- 0; Absent - 2 (Baxter, Wolfe)

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE -none.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bylaw Update

Staff informed the commission that this item is to be reviewed this month, and needs to come back for a vote at the next meeting according to the commission's bylaws. The commission discussed changing the minimum membership from 5 to 3 in order to continue meeting if someone needs to drop the commission.

B. Election of officers - upcoming

Commissioner McAtee nominated Commissioner Thompson as Chair. Commissioner Thompson accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Wolfe motioned to appoint Commissioner Thompson as Chair of the Arts Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Seagraves. On a voice vote, the motion carried. Yes - 4; No- 0; Absent - 1 (Baxter)

Commissioner Thompson nominated Commissioner McAtee as Vice-Chair. Commissioner McAtee accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Seagraves motioned to appoint Commissioner Thompson as Chair of the Arts Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Wolfe. On a voice vote, the motion carried. Yes - 4; No- 0; Absent - 1 (Baxter)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Poet Laureate Program

Staff is in the process of creating an MOU with the Poet Laureate Program. Staff asked the Commission to review the MOU and provide input. Staff will be moving the document to the City Manager this upcoming week.

The Commission discussed expectations of the Poet Laureate and provided some input on the agreement.

B. Artist Survey RFQ

Staff updated that the RFQ had no applicants. Urged the commission to share amongst their networks. The commission discussed removing requirements for application such as the resume for the work. Staff will edit and reshare the RFQ.

VIII. UPDATES

A. Arts/Events around Ypsilanti

The Commission discussed Spark in the Park happening this weekend. Big names (Method Man, Red Man, and Ying Yang Twins etc) will be performing at Riverside Park.

Embracing our Differences and Ypsi Pride was a success. Juneteenth celebration is coming up.

The Gallery at Stone and Spoon has their annual Queer art exhibition opening on June 9th at 5pm.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE -none.

X. PROPOSED BUSINESS -none.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE July 13, 2023

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:48pm by Commissioner McAtee, supported by Commissioner Wolfe. On a voice vote, the motion carried. Yes - 4; No- 0; Absent - 1 (Baxter)