

Arts Board Meeting  
Madison Heights, Michigan  
April 30th, 2024

An Arts Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 30th, 2024 at 7:00 PM at City Hall - Executive Conference Room, 300 W. 13 Mile Rd.

## **CALL TO ORDER 7:02 PM**

### **ROLL CALL**

**Council Alternate Bill Mier**

**Chair Michael Covert**

**Alianna Dorsey**

**Laurie Geraldts**

**Jillian McBride**

**Harley Mordarski**

**Sue Popp**

**Adam Owczarzak**

**Staff Liaison Harley Mordarski**

### **Absent:**

**Councilman Mark Bliss**

**Jennifer Nagle**

**Steven Dombrowski**

**Vita Palazzolo (arrived at 7:06)**

**Motion by Geraldts, second by Covert to excuse all 4 absent members.**

**Aye: All**

**Nay: None**

**Motion Carries**

## **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

McBride will be speaking on behalf of Adrienne Pickett under the ADA Celebration Event agenda item.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Covert noted that Popp's name is misspelled in the meeting packet and requested correction.
2. Geraldts requested to amend the Trail of Treats section by deleting the name Halloween Hootenanny, since it was an idea not officially confirmed by the subcommittee.

**Motion by Covert, second by McBride to approve minutes as amended.**

**Aye: All**

**Nay: None**

**Motion Carries**

## **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**No Public Present**

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Presentation from Adrienne Pickett from Idea39 ADA Celebration Event (July 13th)**

McBride and Pickett have been chatting regularly to discuss the ADA event in Madison Heights. Pickett and her organization want to celebrate in Madison Heights because they had a positive experience working here in the past. The official date is July 13th at Civic Center Park in the smaller pavilions – they determined this would be easier to find for out-of-towners and more accessible. The event will be from 1-5 pm. McBride noted that many event ideas have been proposed, but nothing is official. The committee still needs to narrow down ideas. Ideas are contingent on which community organizations are interested in coming to support the event.

McBride said there will be an emphasis on art, but the committee is unsure what that will look like. Since the bandshell is late, the committee might need to revise the ideas they originally had. McBride further noted that the Michigan Statewide Independent Living Commission (SILC) is a great organization to work with. Adrienne Pickett collaborates with this group to advocate for people with disabilities, and her team has been great.

Palazzolo requested borrowing a platform/stage and riser for this event from one of the local schools since the bandshell isn't ready yet. Another meeting is in the works.

### **2. Treasurer Report**

Mordarski reported that there was \$5,180.12 in the Arts Board Account, with \$146.45 reserved for the Halloween Event. \$2,397.52 is in the Trail Tunes account.

### **3. Social Media Report**

Covert will connect with Gerald's to discuss how to check social media statistics.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **4. Art Prom 2024 (Gerald's, Bliss, Dombrowski, Nagle, Popp)**

Gerald's said the committee is still in the process of finalizing the date. They are exploring ticket options that do not include fees. Natalie Malotke has been contacted and is happy to be recognized at the event. The event date was changed to November 8<sup>th</sup> from the 15<sup>th</sup> because Natalie had a scheduling conflict. The event will be held at the same venue – Club Venetian. Sue Popp joined the committee.

### **5. Halloween Event (McBride, Gerald's)**

No new updates. Gerald's confirmed the date will be the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>.

6. Trail Tunes (Bliss, Dombrowski, Palazzolo, Covert, McBride)

Palazzolo said there was a quick meeting between Covert and Bliss. Mordarski stepped off the committee, McBride was added to the committee. The committee discussed having the previous Battle of the Bands winners perform at the festival at the bandshell the following year. In addition, if a band won the Battle of the Bands the year prior, they cannot win the following year. They will be excluded from the battle to give other bands a chance to win the title. After the year gap, they may participate again.

The Battle of the Bands will happen in the bandshell, permitting the bandshell is finished. The projected date for the event is September 21<sup>st</sup> or September 28<sup>th</sup>. This will also give the event more exposure since the grant supplier and City Council are planning to have a large kickoff. Palazzolo summarized a note from Bliss stating that contractors feel confident with an August 30<sup>th</sup> completion date, permitting there are no other unexpected issues. The contractors recommend waiting a few weeks for the planted grass to grow before events are held at the bandshell.

Palazzolo also mentioned the committee is brainstorming performances that would not distract festivalgoers from the music. For example, martial arts performances or magicians. The committee is open to suggestions.

Concerning vendors, Covert reported that the committee plans to intersperse vendors between musicians instead of keeping them in one area. Feedback suggests that vendors would make more money this way. They plan to charge \$25 per table, but if they want a larger table it will be \$40.

Covert recommended no more than three food trucks (plus an ice cream truck) at the event because the trucks did not have much business last year. He suggested 1 truck per 1000 people. The committee is also considering charging trucks \$100 to be present (like the Juneteenth event) to discourage food truck cancellation.

Palazzolo mentioned that the committee is searching for ways to increase kid/teen involvement at the festival. Gerald said getting the word out earlier may help. Palazzolo called on Dorsey to help with the endeavor since she is the Student Representative.

7. Broadway Karaoke Dance Party (Bliss, Nagle)

No new updates.

8. Art and Pride (Nagle)

Pride is June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

9. Disability Pride Month (McBride, Gerald, Dombrowski, Palazzolo)

Already discussed under ADA Celebration Event under reports.

10. Amphitheater Grant, Consumers Energy Foundation (Dombrowski, Palazzolo, Gerald, Bliss)

Removed from agenda.

2. 2025 DIA Inside Out Program (Mordarski)

No new updates. Mordarski will continue to look out for applications.

Civic Center Hopscotch (Popp)

Gerald said Eve Sandoval estimates 4-5 hours of work is needed to repaint Civic Center hopscotch and requested \$150 to do it. Sandoval also requests a few people to help with the painting.

**Motion by Gerald, second by McBride to approve up to \$200 from the Park Mural Maintenance Plan budget to pay Eve Sandoval for her time/labor repainting the Hopscotch Mural.**

**Aye: All**

**Nay: None**

**Motion Carries**

Popp mentioned that wall paint would work to repaint murals and is cheaper than acrylic. Owczarzak mentioned that if the Board uses Home Depot, we might be able to get a paint discount through the chamber and contact him before ordering. Palazzolo thought that Councilor Emily Rohrbach had leftover paint from another event and Gerald agreed to contact Rohrbach to see if any paint was left.

**Motion by Gerald, second by Palazzolo to approve up to \$100 from the Park Mural Maintenance Plan to pay for supplies to repaint the Hopscotch Mural.**

**Aye: All**

**Nay: None**

**Motion Carries**

14. Park Mural Maintenance Plan (Budget: \$1,000)

Owczarzak mentioned that there have not been any calls about murals being in poor shape.

15. Opportunities to Collab with the Library Commission

No new updates.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

16. Submit that the positions of Secretary and Treasurer be combined into one (to be handled by the City Liaison) and that an official position be created for Social Media Coordinator.

The Board discussed what by-laws needed to be changed to reflect the current Arts Board. Firstly, the amendment in the meeting packet should remove “and culture” to any/all verbiage referring to the board. Secondly, section H needed to be rewritten entirely. Councilman Meir also noted that under the “membership” section, the Board’s composition under A and E did not make sense.

Mordarski will rewrite the amendment for the committee to vote on next meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT AT 7:48 PM**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM**

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