

Galveston Commission on The Arts

Minutes from Feb. 12th 2019

Attendees: Ed Gearke, John Sullivan, David Collins, Surinder Aulakh, Becky major, Nick Barbee, Bobby Wilson, Greg Bruce, Sherrill Hilton, Barbara Sanderson, Kathleen DiNatale

Commenced: 11:02

Reviewed minutes from previous meeting

Minutes accepted

Invitation for public comment

Word On The Street

- 3rd annual Festival of the Beautiful coming up 1st week of Mardi Gras
- Mayor Jim Yarbrough sends his congratulations to this Arts Commission and recognizes our work
- Bobby Wilson is hosting a poetry show in Texas City
- Nick has an exhibition coming up in Ft. Worth

New Business

- Discussed an inner-artist studio tour names mentioned were Yani Langer, Doug McLean, Martha Terrill, Elizabeth PUNCHES, Ann Wood
- Could the bus for this tour be paid for by the Gal. Arts Commission so it would be free to the artist?
- 3-artists per tour, 30 minutes each studio, exclusive to the local artists community for the first 6 months and then go public after working out the kinks
- Patrons pay a small fee to cover gas and ins., misc. Expenses
- Help obscure artist studios get exposure
- Brochures?
- This Commission could consider partnering of some sorts, but have to remain autonomous
- Nick agreed that we should move forward with an inner artist studio tour
- Shoot for March, April or May
- Perhaps this should be in the ordinance, po# for these expenses separated out from others
- Discussed "conflicts of interest" pertaining to the bus expenses being paid for as opposed to other interests from other commissioners such as commissioners receiving compensation for events that promote this artist commission.

- Barbara suggested that we invite the city legal authority to a commission meeting
- Commission projects as opposed to personal projects
- We should merely act as advisory board as opposed to facilitators of events
- Transparency is paramount, but every event has opportunities to raise side funds for the commission
- David--"Commissioners cannot be compensated in any way by Commission"
- Nick--"Event is free--it gets complicated otherwise"
- How do we handle sponsors money?
- Barbara--City council will need 2-meetings to consider ordinance ideas--it will take some time
- Public art ideas--bring in local known artists to promote Gal. Arts Commission
- Kathleen offered that Alaska has a program of dedicating 10% of all building funds to public art
- Multiple small art projects around island was suggested
- Artists should contact us as opposed to us pursuing them
- Better Parks For Galveston is wanting more public art
- Art on walls of city buildings
- Artists in Education
- Local artists and crafts persons could do group presentations similar to "artists in education"
- Lesser known mediums like poetry and writing need to be promoted
- "Media" needs to be represented by commission
- John suggested that we keep the fields general rather than specific
- Commission language should change to less specific fields or positions represented
- More "at large" positions
- Remove "Fine Arts" from list of positions?
- Maybe less than 9-members on commission--difficult to make quorum
- Terms of commissioners was discussed--"til you are relieved"
- Nick--confirm spelling of "insure" or "ensure"
- Rewrite Mission Statement
- Define "public art"
- Define "access"
- David--"Establishing and maintaining a budget" is adequate language
- Barbara--We should meet with city attorneys to hash out suggestions, rules and to set up a budget
- David--Be careful about allocating percentages to specific items in budget--Ordinance is to define role of GCA to legalize our expenditure of tax funds i.e., money from? used for? etc.

- Ordinance will change over time
- Do not have to prove a project or GCA in general is “improving economy”
- We are an educational opportunity
- Section 2 of ordinance is priority
- Establish a call for proposals for allocating funds
- Establish guidelines for “public murals”
- Budget
- A committee meeting can be 2-persons
- Nick--send suggestions for sub-committee considerations by March 4th and for committee meeting by the 7th
- Nick--still need a list of public/private public art spaces

Adjourned: 12:30