

Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana
June 4, 2024

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at Jasper City Hall Council Chambers. Roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present in Person:** Jasmine Bosler, Emi Donato, Corie Eckerle, Jay Hamlin, Heath Kluemper, & Pat Thyen. **Non-Voting Student Representative:** Anna Uebelhor. **Observed Remotely via Zoom:** None. **Commission Members Absent:** Darla Blazey, Bibianna Green, Linda Kahle, Beth Seidl, & Selena Vonderheide. **Staff Members Present:** Kyle Rupert, Eric Herndon, Casey Uebelhor, Emily Peak, Danny Kopp, & Liz Book. **City Attorney:** Renee Kabrick. **Guests in attendance:** Mayor Dean Vonderheide and Jane Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Heath Kluemper moved to approve the minutes of May's meeting. **Emi Donato** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

City Financial Statement

Pat Thyen moved to approve the claims as presented. **Corie Eckerle** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Old Business

New Business

- Kyle requested permission for Danny to attend United States Institute for Theater Technology (USITT) Training in Logansport. The training is July 26-28 and would also require a hotel stay. **Heath Kluemper** made a motion for Danny to attend USITT Training. **Corie Eckerle** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Kyle asked permission to pay deposits for three artists for the 2024-2025 performance season: 50% deposit (\$6,750) for an artist performing on February 22, 2025, 50% deposit (\$7,000) for an artist performing on October 19, 2024, and 20% deposit (\$3,000) for an artist performing on January 31, 2025. **Jasmine Bosler** made a motion to approve the deposits as outlined. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Kyle asked permission to seek quotes for JCA rebranding. The rebranding is laid out as an action item in the 2024-2025 Strategic Plan. The rebrand will include a new logo and potentially a style guide that lays out the colors and fonts for JCA to use. Ideally, he would like the design work to cover Jasper Community Arts, Jasper Arts Center, and Thyen-Clark Cultural Center. The buildings will be listed as alternates. The largest printed item that will need to be replaced is the panel on the monument sign at the Arts Center. When it was installed several years ago, it was designed so that it could easily be changed. **Jasmine Bosler** made a motion to permit Kyle to seek quotes for JCA's rebrand. **Heath Kluemper** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Kyle asked permission to seek quotes for a fall guide. The guide will include the exhibits and other activities at the Cultural Center. The guide will also launch the celebration of JCA's 50th Anniversary and new branding. **Corie Eckerle** made a motion to permit him to seek quotes for a fall guide. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Danny asked permission to junk a cubicle that is no longer needed (asset #101566) and a desk chair (asset #101563). Both items are located in the Arts Center production office. Since a majority of the staff no longer works in the building the items are no longer needed. **Jasmine Bosler** made a motion to approve junking the two items presented. **Corie Eckerle** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Director's Report/Performing Arts

Kyle reported:

- Attendance is going well for this year's exhibit and attendance for all activities is on pace for last year's numbers. Many kids that have been in have enjoyed Linda Erzinger and John Begley's immersive exhibit.
- At last week's season announcement event, 43 subscribers were in attendance. At the event, he explained the changes to the season and is hopeful that those in attendance will be able to share the changes with family and friends. Many patrons were excited about the new flex ticketing option. Thirteen grand packages were renewed at the end of the event. Those who were not in attendance will be sent a letter along with their guides.
- 48 hours before the season preview event, an artist booked for a holiday show backed out. The artist will now be performing on Broadway. Kyle has contacted an agent to fill the date and should the artist accept, it would be an upgrade from the original artist. The proposed date is December 7 but the offer has not yet been accepted. The

season guides have already been printed. Once the artist and date are confirmed, labels will be added to the guides before they are sent to subscribers and past ticket buyers.

- Based on the few renewal ticket orders and strong spring ticket sales, he anticipates that it should be a good year for ticket revenue.
- Work on the 50th Anniversary celebration is ongoing. Oink/Carodella's will be catering both the recognition dinner and public fundraiser events. The recognition dinner will be on February 28 and the public fundraiser will be on May 3. Kyle is working with booking agent Opus 3 to find a classical pianist to play for the recognition dinner. The invite list has been drafted but needs to be finalized.
- Sydney Peters is JCA's summer intern. Her primary focus is digital marketing.

Building and Structure Report

Danny reported:

- There are a few service calls that have been placed for work to be completed at both the Arts Center and Cultural Center.
- There have been a couple of upcoming rentals. WBDC Showdown will be this Friday and Dance Central will hold its dance recitals in June.
- Both buildings have passed their fire marshal inspections.
- He is working on building maintenance and refreshing spaces at the Arts Center.

Visual Arts Report

Emily reported:

- *Angie Garner's* exhibit has closed. Emily received positive feedback from Angie about the space and patrons really enjoyed the exhibit.
- A couple of pieces have sold from the *Visual Arts Committee* exhibit.
- *John Begly and Linda Erzinger's* exhibit has been a big hit with kids.
- *The Dubois County Art Guild's* exhibit opens on Thursday. There are over 100 pieces in the exhibit. The Art Guild has secured a judge and winners will be announced at the reception.
- A Juneteenth Community Event will be held on Saturday from 11 AM to 1 PM. The event will be held in partnership with the Jasper Public Library. The open house will feature music, food, readings, and arts activities. 15 community organizations have agreed to participate and will promote their organizations along with featuring historical black figures.
- There are a couple of clay classes that will be held over the next several weeks. Corie Eckerle is teaching a kids handbuilding class, Jen Tolbert is teaching beginning and intermediate wheel throwing, and Monte Young and Clare Backer-Bies are teaching an adult handbuilding class. Open studio is held on Mondays and Thursdays.
- Darryl Halbrooks will be the juror for this year's Juried Art Exhibition. The deadline to apply is July 14.

Event Report

Eric reported:

- Since the May board meeting there were two Atrium rentals and one Black Box rental. For June there are eight Atrium rentals and one Black Box rental.
- Chalk Walk went well. The weather was great and the staff did a good job running the event. 285 participants registered for the event. There were a few new sponsors this year. Hoosier Hills Credit Union sponsored the balloon artist and Walmart donated the chalk. Eric worked to manage the expenses of the event and seek out sponsorships when possible. The cost savings greatly increased the profitability of the event. He would like to host a tie-dye event this summer to get rid of the t-shirts that are left over from previous years. The total number of registrations is down from previous years. He asked the schools about their preference of how they would like to receive information about the event and they asked the information be shared digitally through their newsletters. He thinks this may have contributed to fewer registrations. Next year, Eric plans to print a postcard that will be sent to all grade school children in the county.
- The 50th Anniversary events have taken a backseat to Chalk Walk. Now that Chalk Walk is over, he can work on the catering and menus for both events.
- Next year's Chalk Walk will be held on May 17 from 8 AM to 2 PM. The balloon and caricature artists have already signed contracts for next year's event and the bounce houses have been secured. He hopes to add a few more things to celebrate JCA's 50th Anniversary.

Jasmine Bosler left at 6:05 PM.

Education Report

Casey reported:

- She shared Camp Create bags that the campers will receive at the end of camp. There are a few spots available for the July camp. There are 26 campers for the June camp. Cubism will be the focus of this year's camp.
- Workshops start this week. There are a couple of new oil painting offerings and will be taught by a recent art school graduate. She has also interviewed two new instructors.
- The Kennedy Center Partners in Education is offering professional development webinars for team members this summer and she plans to join when possible.

Public Business

Adjournment

Heath Kluemper moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 pm. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mark Blaney

Selena Dondersheid