

**CITY OF SURPRISE
ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2012 / 6:00 PM

**COMMUNITY & RECREATION SERVICES
15960 NORTH BULLARD AVENUE
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374**

CALL TO ORDER:

A. Roll Call

Sandra Staehle (Chair), Kathie Morgan (Vice Chair), Margaret Lieu, ellise hayden, Fred Ramsay, Loretta Warner, Susan deJong, (absent), Julie Richards (absent)

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events Reports

Sandra Staehle (S. Staehle) reported that the Diamond Ball took place and was very well attended. She also reported that the Art is Alive in Surprise Festival took place along with the Plein Air contest where there were 14 artists entered with a total of 19 or 20 paintings submitted.

Kathie Morgan (K. Morgan) advised that she has more artists' names for a call to artists for other events to give to staff. She advised that the Art is Alive in Surprise festival competed with the Tempe Art Festival. She advised that she thinks the City should extend an invitation to the community to launch the anti-graffiti project so that it affiliates and becomes protected by the entire community. T. Combs said that we can advise the Police Department to send out a press release letting the public know about the launch. K. Morgan suggested looking into duplicating some of the acquired public art on different mediums throughout the City. She also suggested an invitational for a tour of public art.

Margaret Lieu (M. Lieu) advised that she is now a member of WHAM, and therefore she will be abstaining in the future from voting on anything directly related to that organization. She reported that she helped with the Diamond Ball. She attended the WVAC gallery showing with a student choir. She attended the Art is Alive in Surprise festival on both Saturday and Sunday. She advised the Board that she has a possible donation from Glidden for the anti-graffiti program. She suggested having a tour such as the previous historical society tour conducted on a City bus to view the historical sites and art in the City of Surprise.

ellise hayden (e. hayden) attended the Litchfield Art Festival, Art is Alive in Surprise and the Tempe Art Festival. She made a suggestion that the Board all forward their suggestions and recommendations for the Art is Alive in Surprise festival moving forward to Heather Donaldson so that she can prepare a spreadsheet for a debriefing with Connie Whitlock at a future meeting. She also suggested bringing Benevilla, the Original Town Center Group, Roy Villanueva, and the Master Gardener Group from the Community Garden into the collaboration for the anti graffiti project.

Fred Ramsay (F. Ramsay) attended the Sun City Grand Spring Crafts Fair and the Art is Alive in Surprise Festival.

Loretta Warner (L. Warner) attended the Art is Alive in Surprise Festival and reported that the Sun City Grand Spring Craft Fair was well attended and sales more than doubled what they were a year ago.

D. Staff reports

Tara Combs (T. Combs) reported that the attendance for the Art is Alive in Surprise Festival was greater on Sunday than on Saturday. She reported that Connie Whitlock advised that she would prefer to have the festival in April moving forward rather than in March. S. Staehle commented that this may be coming from the fact that she had heard of a few councilmembers stating that they want to have the event take place in April, however she thinks that the event should be held earlier in March rather than in April as many people leave town in April. e. hayden agreed as she said that April is when the art show season picks up in the Midwest, and our vendor turnout could/would be affected. The Board agreed that the event should happen earlier in March rather than in April for the reasons stated above as well as for weather purposes. T. Combs advised that this coming Saturday is when the Opera in the Park will be taking place. Gates open at 6:00 p.m. and the show starts at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 8:45 p.m. She also reported that the next Second Sundays in the Park will take place on May 13th where the Ballet will be performing. T. Combs reviewed the task list item by item with the Board.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Andy Cepon, Surprise resident, advised the Board that he thinks they need to take a more active role in the City. He also said that he believes there is no reason to start from scratch with a new Public Art Hanging Policy as plenty of other cities have them and we could research how their policies are drafted.

CONSENT AGENDA

E. Approval of items on the Consent Agenda

No items were identified as consent agenda items.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the March 5, 2012 Arts & Cultural Advisory Board Meeting.

Motion to approve minutes – ellise hayden, 2nd Fred Ramsay. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

Item 2 – CITYWIDE – Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Hosting a West Valley Arts Commission Breakfast Forum this Spring.

S. Staehle addressed the board and let them know that staff has received a request from the City of Goodyear to host the next West Valley Arts Commission Breakfast Forum. The Board agreed that hosting the forum on a Saturday would be best. The Board asked staff to find out if they could have the forum in a space at Communiversity. The Board proposed a date of September 22, 2012 and directed staff to coordinate the proposed date with the City of Goodyear representative. S. Staehle would like to have a future agenda item to discuss the details, i.e. the agenda, speaker, etc.

Item 3 – CITYWIDE – Discussion and Possible Action of Plein Air Recommendations for City Purchase of Selected Artwork.

S. Staehle reported that the Plein Air contest produced phenomenal artwork. There were fourteen artists registered with nineteen or twenty paintings submitted. There were several artists at booths who mentioned that they will participate next year in the Plein Air contest if there is one. S. Staehle suggested that the Board get a thank you letter out to the participants to thank them for participating as well as that a database be maintained with all their information for a future contest. L. Warner suggested that at any future Plein Air Contest the contest categories and dollar values should be re-examined. She feels that all the different mediums should receive the same monetary reward with the exception of the Best in Show reward. S. Staehle presented a proposed write up for council of the Plein Air recommendations to the Board. M. Lieu will e-mail pictures to the Board and staff. Staff will attach the pictures to the write-up for Council.

Item 4 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and possible action to reduce the previously approved budget for FY13 due to recently disclosed financial issues of the City.

S. Staehle advised the Board that she wanted to discuss an option to reduce the previously approved budget in light of the City’s current financial situation. Loretta Warner (L. Warner) said that recognizing that there is the possibility of no funding she believes the Board should stand by what they have proposed and let council direct them if reductions need to be made. M. Lieu suggested the possibility of creating a “Plan B” in case council rejects the proposed budget. K. Morgan said that she thought the Board could make any requested changes if and when Council directs them to. The entire Board agreed that the proposed budget should be left as it is.

Item 5 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and Possible Action to Place Items on a Future Agenda.

Suggested items for May’s Agenda:

- Debriefing session with Connie Whitlock to discuss Art is Alive in Surprise Festival
- Review and revise existing Public Art Hanging Policy
- Presentation by Communications Department on the Surprise 365 Calendar

Suggested items for future Agenda:

- Review Service Agreement for Grant Process once received by staff from Legal
- Discuss and plan details of West Valley Arts Commission Breakfast Forum

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT – Motion by ellise hayden, 2nd Loretta Warner

ATTEST:

Mark Coronado, Director
Community & Recreation Services

CERTIFICATION:

I, Heather Donaldson, Administrative Specialist for the City of Surprise Community and Recreation Services Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Board meeting held on April 2, 2012.

Heather Donaldson, Administrative Specialist

POSTED:

TIME:

Linda Stevens, Deputy City Clerk

SPECIAL NOTE: Individuals needing reasonable accommodations, such as large print materials and oral/ ASL interpreters, should contact the Disability Advocate at **623.222.3821** (Voice) or **623.222.3802** (TTY/VP) at least three (3) business days prior to the event so arrangements can be made.