The Fishers Arts & Culture Commission convened at 6:30 p.m.

A roll call was taken and those members present were: Cecilia Coble, David Decker, Jamie Follis, Kathryn Haigh, Chris Lingner, Marisol Sanchez and Jocelyn Vare.

Members absent: None.

Others present were: Leah McGrath, Ross Hilleary, Kelly Lewark, Kevin Stotts, Tony Bagato, Marissa Deckert, Stephanie Perry, Sarah Sandquist, Larry Lannan, Aili McGill, Shari Knox, Connie Nimmo Thorn, Mike Patrick, Tom Rich, Mike Fuerstenau and Marc Feeney.

As the Commission is newly formed, Leah McGrath called for the Election of Officers:

a. Chairperson: Ms. Sanchez made a motion to nominate David Decker as Chairperson. Mr. Follis seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.
b. Vice-Chairperson: Ms. Sanchez made a motion to nominate Cecilia Coble as Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Follis seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.
c. Staff Non-Voting Member Mayoral Appointments Designation: Ms. Sanchez made a motion to nominate Marissa Deckert and Kevin Stotts. Mr. Follis seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.
d. Recording Secretary: Ms. Sanchez made a motion to nominate Kay Prange and Kelly Lewark. Mr. Follis seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

Mr. Hilleary asked the Commission for a motion to approve the Minutes from the January 8, 2019 meeting. Mr. Decker made a motion to approve the Minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Sanchez. The Minutes were approved, 7-0.

Mr. Hilleary asked the Commission for a motion to approve the Rules of Procedure. Ms. Coble made a motion to approve the Rules of Procedure, which was seconded by Ms. Haigh. The Rules were approved, 7-0.

Mr. Hilleary asked the Commission for a motion to approve the 2019 Meeting Schedule. Ms. Haigh made a motion to approve the Meeting Schedule, which was seconded by Mr. Follis. The Meeting Schedule was approved, 7-0.

Staff Reports:


Ross Hilleary presented the staff report for Planning & Zoning.

Ms. Coble requested to be added to the Master Plan Subcommittee. Mr. Hilleary noted her request.

Ms. Vare inquired about the next steps for the Master Plan Subcommittee and the people that she suggested. Mr. Hilleary thanked her for the list of various community art leaders and members of the Community Art Master Plan (2013). Staff will make sure that everyone suggested is incorporated into the Master Plan Update later this year.

Ms. Vare commented she would like to see more lead time on grant opportunities.
Ms. Sanchez inquired on the number of participants for each committee. Mr. Bagato stated the number is to be determined. Ms. Vare stated the Community Master Plan taskforce had 20 members and she thought that amount worked very well.

Mr. Bagato provided an overview of the PUD Art Commitments for Riverview Health, The Yard at Fishers District and The Stations at Fishers District.

Mr. Bagato provided information on the Arts & Culture Commission Budget for 2019. The City will provide up to $50,000 in funding with an additional $2,500 provided by the Hamilton County Tourism Grant.

Ms. Vare inquired about the process by which developers selects artists. Mr. Bagato stated RFQs would be submitted and reviewed by the subcommittee.

Alli McGill – NP Arts:
Riverview Health and Nickel Plate Arts has released an RFQ for the public art feature at their new facility at 9690 E 116th Street. Nickel Plate Arts was about to push out the RFQ to hundreds of local artists through their various channels and received seven (7) submittals for the public art feature. Nickel Plate Arts and Riverview Health will do an initial review and take 3-5 proposals to the UDO Subcommittee for review. Staff will coordinate the necessary meeting(s) with the subcommittee, NP Arts, and the Riverview Health for April.

Ms. Coble inquired about giving money to the Fishers Arts Council. Ms. McGrath stated it is up to the discretion of the committee if they would like to spend their money on more projects or to give funds to other entities.

b. Parks and Recreation:  
Parks Staff-Report-March 2019

Marissa Deckert presented the staff report for Parks and Rec.

- Ms. Deckert stated they would like to add three (3) Saturday night concerts and would like feedback from the group on what they would like to see. Perhaps targeting the 25-40 demographic.
- Suggestions from the group were Sugar Ray, indie bands, up-and-coming artists, perhaps an Austin City Limits feel.
- Tuesday night concerts have been the most popular.
- Mr. Follis said he has a contact in the Indie music scene and would pass along to Ms. McGrath
- Ms. Vare would like to see more local musical artists. Ms. Deckert that Spark!Fishers had local bands perform.
- Ms. Vare suggested when local artists are booked, we make a big deal of it and actively publicize. Ms. Coble agreed.
- Ms. Deckert noted the dance groups were a big hit at Winter Wonderland.

c. Public Relations  
PR-Arts-Staff Report-March 2019

Stephanie Perry presented the staff report for Public Relations.

- Disability Awareness Month
  o Ms. Perry noted the Visual & Performing Arts Reception had a great crowd and was successful.
  o Ms. Coble thanked the Fishers Arts Council (Shari & Tom in attendance).
  o Ms. McGrath and Ms. Perry outlined more upcoming events in March.

- Spark!Fishers
  o Title Sponsor: First Internet Bank
  o A national performing act will be announced in April.
  o Mr. Follis suggested that students need service hours and could perhaps volunteer.

- City-Wide Instagram
  o A city-wide Instagram account will launch in the Spring.
  o How can we tell the story of arts and culture on Instagram?
o Mr. Follis shared details about the K-12 Art Show at FHS.

d. HOT TOPICS  Hot-Topics-March-2019

Leah McGrath presented the Hot Topics.

- Utility Box Art
  o Should the utility box painting project be limited to the Nickel Plate District or go outside the District borders?
  o Overall, the Commission was supportive of expanding the utility box paintings outside the District.
  o Mr. Follis suggested utilizing art students which would be less expensive than the $1,000 provided to the artists.
  o Ms. Haigh expressed concern on maintenance of the boxes. Mr. Follis suggested the boxes could be redone every two years to keep it fresh.
  o Ms. Coble suggested incorporating land markers or an identifier of a certain area within the art.
  o Mr. Follis suggested they could ask for sponsors or to “Adopt-a-Utility Box”.
  o Ms. McGrath stated staff could provide a map of utility box locations within the City.
  o Ms. Vare inquired if the expense would come out of the Commission’s budget. Mr. Bagato confirmed yes.
  o What is included in the $1,000 to artists? Time, Materials and Talent. Perhaps offer exposure instead of compensation?

- Master Planning
  o A subcommittee will be formed to update the Fishers Arts Community Master Plan.
  o How can we create a culture to foster artist success?
  o Ms. Vare would like to engage the local creative community to get a wide intersection of experience. She also suggested looking at best practices of other communities.
  o Ms. Sanchez suggested creating a goal chart. What do we want to be known for?
  o Mr. Decker suggested to create a mission statement/vision/purpose. Mr. Bagato stated that would be the goal for the first meeting.
  o Ms. Coble would like to see collaborative art projects. She also likes the thought of the unexpected/surprise on what she can find to see/do in Fishers.

- Curating Art Ideas
  o Private business owners are seeking ideas to incorporate art into their properties/businesses.
  o Would like to have ideas in the hopper from Commission. Perhaps we can utilize the HUB for those ideas.

Mr. Hilleary shared the General Assembly 10th Anniversary Resolution received by the State of Indiana.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Spark! Fishers Float – Ms. McGrath invited the Commission to make their own float for the festival. The Commission decided to pass this year due to the Commission being newly formed and the timeframe they have left before the event.

Nickel Plate Trail Presentation - Ms. McGrath provided an update on the Nickel Plate Trail project and shared some of the draft Master Plan. Over 1500 ideas have been submitted by the community including over 200 students from HSE schools. More information can be found at: https://www.playfishers.com/284/Track-to-Trail

Community Comment:


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Aili McGill, Executive Director of Nickel Plate Arts has been an advocate for Senate Bill 255 (see IBJ article “The Case for SB255: The Arts Drive Investment...And Need Investment”, February ‘19) and discussed with the Commission the importance of the State Legislation. She encouraged the Commissions to reach out to our local legislators to gain additional support for the Incremental Tax Funding System proposal. She also discussed the IAC Indiana Statewide Cultural District Consortium and their ongoing cultural district consortium work plan. This document collects the 10-district consortiums long term goals, short term outcomes, and long-term impacts. NP Arts has assisted staff in getting the NPD up to speed.

**Fishers Arts Council Presentation** —  FAC Accomplishments 2018  FAC Goals 2019
Shari Knox from the Fishers Arts Council outlined the Council’s 2018 accomplishments and their goals for 2019. Their long-term goal is to have an indoor space for the community to access a gallery and to also provide performance space. They are seeking approximately 5,000 sq. ft. of space.

Ms. Vare thanked the Fishers Arts Council for all that they do for the City of Fishers.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

[Signature]
Kelly Lewark, Recording Secretary