



City of Centerville
Arts Commission Minutes
Municipal Building
Kingseed Law Library
Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Jan Colson called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

Members Present:

Community Resources Coordinator Drew Simon, Jan Colson, Terry O'Brien, John Curran, Clara Wharton, Richard LaRue, Jan Kledzik and Emily von Stuckrad-Smolinski.

Members Absent:

Chairperson Jim Collins, Rosemary Eustace, Deogratias Eustace, Lana Guirieva, Councilman John Palcher,

Approval of Minutes:

Terry O'Brien made a motion to approve the February 7, 2024 minutes. John Curran seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Staff Report (Drew Simon)

Drew provided an update on Stubbs Park and Benham's Grove. The Stubbs Park renovation is expected to be completed later this year and the Benham's Grove Event Center will start soon and is expected to be completed mid to late 2025.

An eclipse glass giveaway will be held at Cornerstone on March 15th. There will be 2,500 glasses that will be given to the public free of charge. Drew passed a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help with traffic control at the event.

Committee Reports

Art Gallery (Drew Simon reported for Lana Guirieva)

The March artist is photographer Kate Slonaker. Kate did not choose to have a reception.

Art Events (Drew Simon)

The Arts Commission has met with Centerville-Washington History regarding a partnership opportunity involving providing 10 X 10 spaces on the lawn area outside of the Ashel Wright House at which artists would display and sell their artwork. This will be done once this summer as a test. There were suggestions regarding the timeframe (perhaps 5:00 – 8:00 PM) and the idea of having space for an art student from Centerville High School.

Terry O'Brien made a motion to pursue this partnership event. Jan Kledzik seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Classical Committee (John Curran)

John spoke with Shaun Yu, President/CEO of Discover Classical who offered to send John a list of potential candidates for performances for the fall. Sinclair in Centerville will be a potential location for performances.

Interactive Committee (Terry O'Brien and Drew Simon)

For the benefit of our new members, Terry explained that there are three Friday evening Party in the Park events each summer and described the events as having a carnival type of atmosphere that includes vendors, food trucks and music.

These events will be held on the St. Leonard's lawn this year and will be kicked off with Simply Queen.

Drew expressed the need for two volunteers to help with the stage that will be rented for both the Party in the Park events and the summer concerts. There was some conversation regarding what the volunteers would need to do and how strong they'd need to be, and Drew said that he'd have more details at the next meeting.

Drew discussed the potential of partnering with the Miami Valley Community Concert Association (MVCCA) by providing payment for performers and venue along with promoting the events. The first year would be on a trial basis. If it's decided to continue after the first year, it would transition to a City of Centerville event by the MVCCA. The performances would be during the fall/winter months, potentially at Sinclair Centerville. The performances would be more classic or easy listening music like the music of Michael Bublé or Celine Dion. As a City of Centerville event, the performances would be free of charge.

John Curran made a motion to pursue this partnership with the MVCCA on a trial basis and to sponsor one concert. Jan Kledzik seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Uptown and Cornerstone (Drew Simon)

Drew reported that we have over \$50,000 in sponsorships for our events, which includes \$40,000 for 2024. He added that hopefully Uptown will be approved as a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). (DORA is already in place for Cornerstone.)

Summer Concert Series (Drew Simon)

Drew reported that the first concert for this year's summer concert series will start with a tribute to Taylor Swift. We'll be providing programs and fans along with friendship bracelets.

Art Contest (Drew Simon)

Drew reported that the Art Contest will start around July or August.

New Business

Richard LaRue stated that Jim McCutcheon has expressed an interest in having a Guitar Fest.

Adjourn

Emily von Stuckrad-Smolinski made a motion to adjourn. John Curran seconded the motion and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM

Respectfully submitted by Clara Wharton