

Minutes from Cultural Arts Commission Meeting

November 19, 2002

Approved

The meeting began at 7:00 pm, Present at the meeting were;

Karen Tasker
Bernie Danylchuck
Robyn Folsom
Sara Z. Abel
Cindy Christianson-Guest
Rob Saxton-Guest

City Representatives present were;
Kristen Carey Staff
Sterling Fox City Council

Meeting called to Order

Adjustments to Agenda

None. Sterling chaired this meeting in Tara's absence.

Approval of Minutes

Sterling proposed approval of minutes from March '02, April '02, June '02, July '02 and October 2002, by executive order, due to the lack of a quorum.

Sara Abel motioned to approve minutes, Bernie seconded the motion, all in favor. Motion passed.

New Theater/Facility Request Overview (Presentation to SURPAC 11/20/02)

Kristen, with the assistance of SCAC members, Sara, Robyn and Sondra compiled a draft proposal to present to SURPAC. The proposal consisted of an Option A and Option B proposals with needs for a performing arts theater/facility. See attached handout with specifics on these options. Robyn Folsom will be presenting this proposal to SURPAC on Nov 20, at SURPAC' monthly meeting.

Rob Saxton, Superintendent for the Sherwood School District was asked if the school district could benefit from one of these options. Rob noted that Option A was similar to what they have now at the High School, although the H.S. auditorium had some issues, it was ok for now. Option B would be a benefit to them if the facility could accommodate seating for 450 and had a larger stage than what is currently at the H.S., stage dimensions were not available. Rob expressed an interest in a partnership with the City on a facility, but also noted that if this was not the route the City would be interested in taking, that would be ok with him. Rob briefly spoke of some property owned by the School District as possible locations, but also noted that to use Urban Renewal money for the facility, the facility needed to be within the Urban Renewal District, and this would pose limits on the location. One location that was informally discussed was approx 3-4 acres at the edge of Stella Olson Park, next to the H.S. Softball Complex. Rob also pointed out the following benefits, with a facility close in location to the H.S:

- Shared use of the Wood Shop to build sets
- Cable access for filming/Video productions
- Computer Lab/Language Lab
- Theater Space

Sterling expressed his interest in having a school district representative attend the SCAC meetings, and asked Rob for suggestions. Rob noted he would think about who would be a good candidate, and it may be himself.

After more review of Option A and Option B Plans, Bernie noted the following from the perspective of a performer:

- Ideally, 100-150 seats would be sufficient for live performances, would prefer to have a packed house, rather than empty seats
- Round or semi-round seating around the stage
- Sound and electricity on the stage as well as the multi-purpose room. This would allow use of the Multi-purpose room for rehearsals and the ability to accommodated two groups at the same time. Multi-purpose room should be similar in size to the stage.
- Stage must have wings and a back stage
- Green Room could be optional
- Light and sound booth was a necessity

Sterling asked Kristen where we were with the New Library/City Hall Plan, and if SCAC still played a part in this plan, suggested that Kristen or someone from SCAC be part of this project.

SWOT Meeting on Dec 4, 2002

Tara Jones to do presentation to City Council, see attached Agenda. Kristen explained the scope of this presentation:

Strengths: Examples of increased attendance at events IE: Music on the Green, Movies in the Park

Weaknesses: Not having a facility

Opportunities: Urban Renewal District, New Library/City Hall Facility, Arts Festival

Threats: Timing, closure of Theater

Kristen to coordinate with the SCAC members to prepare presentation.

Missoula Children's Theater

Kristen showed a video explaining this program. Rob Saxton offered to work this program into the School Districts Summer Institute, and also offered to help with advertising. Program consists of two instructors from MCT, holding auditions for school ages k-12, for a specific play. The program is a week long of rehearsals and two performances at the end of the week. Discussion followed re: charging a fee for students to participate and or a fee for admittance to the show. Kristen reminded the commission of the funds still available in the budget, \$4100.00. The cost of the MCT program would be \$2400.00 and we would need to provide a location for rehearsals and the performances as well as lodging for the instructors. Sterling asked if this is something the commission was interested in.

Sara Abel motioned to spend the \$2400.00 on this program, and Karen Tasker seconded the motion, all in favor. Motion passed.

Kristen to contact MCT for available dates and coordinate the program.

Arts Festival

Kristen briefly mentioned the timing of September for this event may not be a good time. This agenda item would be addressed at a future SCAC meeting.

Community Calendar

Briefly discussed were the events that would be part of this calendar and posting the calendar on the City's Website. Would the calendar be a printed hard copy with 6 months of events, or 12 months of events, etc. Karen Tasker could possibly assist in creating this calendar.

Historical Society and RHTA Resolution

Kristen passed out a copy of resolution #2002-053. See attached.

Holiday Decorating of Old School

Brief discussion on how the Old School was decorated last year, no conclusions were reached for this years holiday season decorations. Karen to look into an artificial tree that can possible be used to place in the window.

Announcements

Sara Abel commented on the success of the Robin Hood Theater Association' recent performance, 40 Karats. Sherwood High School will be performing "Our Town" Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 21st through the 23rd.

Next Meeting:

The next SCAC meeting will be in conjunction with the December 4th, special Council meeting to be held in the cafeteria at Archer Glen Elementary at 6:00pm. See attached agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm