**Kirkwood Arts Commission**

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting**

**The meeting was called to order at 5:07 PM by Zoe Perkins, Chairperson. In attendance: Zoe Perkins, Jim Erwin, Glenda Hares, Deanna Stevenson, Gary Hochberg, Stefani Kirkland, Ellen Edman, Andrew Smith, Kyle Henke (Staff Liaison), Rick Duplissie (KPAC Manager), Art McDonnell (Ad Hoc Kirkwood Arts Foundation).**

1. **CITIZEN COMMENTS –** There were no citizen comments.
2. **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2021 MEETING MINUTES –** Jim Erwin moved to approve the January 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Glenda seconded the motion. Deanna Stevenson corrected the time of her joining the meeting and the spelling of Linda Norbutt Suits’ name. Her title is Capital Development Board Arts in Architecture Coordinator in Illinois. The minutes were unanimously approved as corrected.
3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** 
   1. Kirkwood Arts Foundation ––Art McDonnell reported that the Kirkwood Arts Foundation will meet next Thursday to vote on the budget. There is a commitment by Kirkwood Electric to support Concerts in the Park with the amount dependent on the number of concerts. The KAC request is expected to be approved. KAF has a balance of $60K+ with restrictions on some funds.

b. Sculpture on the Move – Re: Transitioning to new selections. The current locations of the new selections are: Stellated Bronze by Mike Herr is in Lee’s Summit, and *Gotta Practice* by Lee Leuning is in Manchester.

Kyle will need the existing contracts to work with Joe Chesla, *Cloud Cutter* creator, and Craig Snyder, *Exuberance* creator, to facilitate removal of these two works. He will also ask for current contracts to be sent to the new artists. Zoe volunteered to work with these new artists.

* 1. Making Music –Gary Hochberg is continuing to monitor the pandemic restrictions and the vaccine rollout and is increasingly optimistic about our possible band schedule.

The usual date for publishing the summer calendar in early May will be too early this year and the $800 cost cannot be justified in light of uncertainty. Gary will buy ads for individual concerts, which are also helpful to the performers. WKT will give KAC color for the black and white rate. Zoe suggested promoting on the KAC Facebook page.

* 1. Percent for Arts—The subcommittee will have a virtual meeting March 8 with Alexandra Elias from Renew Moline.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**—There is no unfinished business.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Placement Selection of Sculpture on the Move

Stellated Bronze will be located in the Garden Club garden in Kirkwood Park near the Lions Pavilion. The pad will require a hole in the center. This sculpture can rotate if the installation allows this.

b. Outdoor Sculpture at KPAC Priority Discussion --Reservations about an outdoor PAC location were raised prior to the meeting through email by Stefani Kirkland. Rick Duplissie, who now has a contract for a sculpture entitled *Bear*, for an interior PAC location, stated his desire to avoid any community controversy. A discussion followed raising points that equity and diversity must be essential considerations for selecting public art, KAF would have considered paying for a third statue outside KPAC, KAC should stay with original contract terms for *Cloud Cutter* and limit funds for the Sculpture on the Move program.

Deanna moved that Stellated Bronze be located in the park and *Gotta Practice* be located outside KPAC. Jim seconded the motion. A discussion about equity in opportunity to perform at KPAC followed. Deanna withdrew her motion. Jim moved that Stellated Bronze be located in the previously identified location in Kirkwood Park. Stefani seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim moved that *Gotta Practice* be located at KPAC. Ellen Edman seconded. The motion passed 4 to 3.

c. Other Matters – KAC has an opportunity to use the Kirkwood utility flyer distributed with mailed paper bills as a no cost way to reach citizens. Zoe told Freddy Doss, Communications Coordinator, that there is not enough new for February. The utility flyer, Webster Kirkwood Times, and the Eye on Kirkwood (local news spotlight and no cost) are potential ways to promote interest in KAC participation as a commissioner or volunteer.

1. **KPAC GM Report** 
   1. Upcoming Events/New and Exciting –Current art exhibits include oil paintings and porcelain. People can walk in. Monitor displays recent happenings.

Something is programmed for every week.

Staff has been added: Allie Gant, who has painted murals in the Green Room and the Bride’s Waiting Room, and a guest relations associate.

The indoor outdoor festival for April 24 is pending St. Louis County approval. There will be 25 artists from across the St. Louis area, with possibly small competitions to select 4 postcards for possible use in the grand opening tentatively slated for October. (Performance possibilities for that month are unknown.)

On the Fly continues to use KPAC.

Upcoming events and developing relationships include: Jazz in May (highlighting diversity), The Bach Society Gala, Winter Opera, St. Louis Academy of Dance, St. Louis Rep, KPAC’s first and second weddings, 2 Nutcracker versions (one hip hop), concessions maybe later in the year.

Rick expressed gratitude to all who have helped with KPAC giving him time to working on programming: Kyle Henke, Parks Director, other staff volunteering for extra duties, Lily the sanitizing “House Mom,” Dave Johnson who keeps the facility so clean.

* 1. Gateway Foundation Update – Rick Duplissie reported that KPAC is collaborating with the Gateway Foundation. The sculpture *Bear* is ready to be installed in the upstairs interior.

**VII. ARTS COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT**

a. Mel Bay Memorial – Zoe spoke with Bill and Susan Bay to clarify the understanding about KAC’s initiative. They are ready to work with KAC. Kirkwood High School has a scholarship committee who could supply a nomination pool for KAC’s selection.

b. Conservation – Brother Mel’s sculpture will be sand blasted and repainted for re-installation in March.

**VIII. ARTS COMMISSION STAFF LIAISON REPORT –** Kyle reported that he will be out of town for the next regularly scheduled KAC meeting. The commission can meet on the earlier or later Tuesday.

**IV.** **ADJOURNMENT- –** The meeting was forced to adjourn when the Zoom platform became unavailable at 6.35.

Next Meeting Date – March 23, 2021 (decided unanimously by email immediately after the meeting adjourned.

**Staff Liaison:** Kyle Henke. Phone: 314-822-5856 Email: henkekk@kirkwoodmo.org

**Chair:** Zoe Perkins

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