

Columbia City Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2023

I. Call to order

Commission Chair Romano called to order the regular meeting of the Columbia City Arts Commission (CCAC) at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in the Common Council Chambers of Columbia City Hall, Columbia City, Indiana.

II. Roll call

The following people were present: Becky Walter (member); Greg Hockemeyer (member); Kay Fleck (member); Mike Thomas (member); April Frazier (member); Jennifer Romano (member); Doug Egolf (member); and Chip Hill(staff). Guest Jackson Longenbaugh (Columbia City Connect).

III. Approval of minutes from the last meeting

Kay Fleck moved to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023, as presented, seconded by Becky Walter, and approved by voice vote. (There was no meeting in April 2023.)

IV. Open issues

- WCCF Grant – Kay Fleck confirmed the submission of a grant request (attached) for \$2400 from the Whitley County Community Foundation. The grant application described the four events tentatively planned by the CCAC.
 - Art in the Alley, in conjunction with Columbia City Connect’s Third Thursday celebrations on June 15, 2023, and July 20, 2023, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm in the half-block alley north of Van Buren between Chauncey and Line Streets, featuring creatives from the area. April Frazier will coordinate a “Makers Space” in June, with Mike Thomas and Kay Fleck coordinating “Art in the Alley” in July.
 - Sample the Arts, in conjunction with Summer in the City, during the Farmers’ Market on July 22, 2023, from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm on the Courthouse lawn, featuring family-friendly activities and demonstrations with local artists. April Frazier agreed to develop and steer this event.
 - Artist Studios Tour on September 9, 2023, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the respective studios of area visual artists.
- Public Infrastructure Decor - Chip Hill reported that the City granted permission for the project and has identified three initial locations. Doug Egolf agreed to spearhead the endeavor and was empowered to select three initial participants by acclamation. Similarly, the CCAC authorized reimbursement of expenses incurred by the artists for basic supplies. The group also discussed the possibility that the initial works could feature the CCAC logo and similarly themed subjects.
- Third Thursdays – Jackson Longenbaugh clarified that the May event will involve a business-to-business Art Crawl featuring high school visual artists.

V. New business

- Becky Walter moved to confirm the date and times of the Artist Studios Tour on September 9, 2023, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, seconded by April Frazier and passed by voice vote. The body also authorized a stipend for refreshments during the Tour by acclamation. Ms. Walter also noted that she may circulate documents using Google Docs.
- Kay Fleck informed that the property owner on the southwest corner of Main and Jackson Streets (127 N Main) wants assistance placing a mural on the south wall of the structure there. Ms. Fleck also shared the availability of Indiana Arts Commission grants for such purposes but that such funding would require an entity like CCAC to participate. Following a discussion, the body agreed to help submit a grant if the property owner completes the paperwork and presents an acceptable plan to proceed to the CCAC.
- Becky Walter highlighted the desirability of a mural on the west wall of the building located at 109 E Van Buren Street. The group discussed possible guidelines for encouraging or regulating such public art endeavors.

VI. Adjournment

Greg Hockemeyer moved to adjourn, seconded by April Frazier, and passed by voice vote at 5:58 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: JUNE 6, 2023, @ 5:00 P.M.

MAY 2, 2023, MEETING MINUTES APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP

THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 2023.

Presiding Officer

Secretary