

# ***Columbia City Arts Commission Meeting Minutes***

May 7, 2024

## **I. Call to order**

Commission Chair Romano called to order the regular meeting of the Columbia City Arts Commission (CCAC) at 5:02 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, in the Common Council Chambers of Columbia City Hall, Columbia City, Indiana.

## **II. Roll call**

The following people were present: Doug Egolf (member), Greg Hockemeyer (member), Kay Fleck (member), April Frazier (member), Becky Walter (member), Jennifer Romano (member), and Bill Dittlinger (staff).

## **III. Approval of minutes from the last meeting**

Doug Egolf moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 2, 2024, as presented, seconded by Becky Walter, and approved by voice vote.

## **IV. Open issues**

- Change in City Staff Liaison—Jennifer Romano introduced Bill Dittlinger, who will replace Chip Hill as the Commission’s contact with the City. Bill has been employed by the City for about five weeks and previously ran Music Encounters.
- Underserved Youth Project –
  - Kay Fleck confirmed the review of the Commission’s application for 2025 by the Indiana Arts Council (IAC). The panel review was generally positive. They liked the concept and the fact we were paying artists but wished it were more. They liked the timeline, community engagement, and marketing. They pointed out we didn’t budget for snacks. The IAC should decide by June 24, 2024.
  - Dr. Sue Corbin of Whitley County Consolidated Schools will assist with accessibility issues for the 2024 event. This year, the workshop will run from 8:30 to 11:30 am, June 24 through 27, at the Dance ‘til U Drop Arts Academy (655 W Business 30 #1927, Columbia City, IN 46725). A gala to showcase efforts is slated for Friday, June 28, at 6:00 pm.
- First Fridays – Members shared a recap of the May 3 season-opener and shared that Mike Thomas wants a list of artists willing to participate in the August 2<sup>nd</sup> rotating canvases event.
- Taste of the Arts—The event will be held on the City Hall Patio at the northwest corner of Chauncey and Market Streets from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 8, 2024, as part of the City’s Summer in the City.
- Commission Retreat—In light of information requiring the event to be open to public observation, the Commission changed the venue to Common Council Chambers from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on October 26, 2024.
- Artists Studio Tour –
  - April Frazier shared “save the date” flyers for the event and presented an invoice from Espich Printing for \$40. Becky Walter moved to approve and remit payment

for the invoice, which was seconded by Jennifer Romano and approved by voice vote.

- Jennifer Romano, April Frazier, Kay Fleck, and Becky Walter volunteered to spearhead organizational efforts initially focused on identifying artists to participate.
- Following Bill Dittlinger’s suggestion, the Commissioners agreed to consider contacting the high school art department to identify mentoring opportunities. However, some Commissioners emphasized that the event should remain a venue for professional and semi-professional adult creators rather than a student exhibition.
- Street Art – Doug Egolf reported that Artist Zak Nogood didn’t like the orientation of the Dean Jagger installation he began. As a result, the artist painted over his prior effort and plans to start afresh.

**V. New business**

- Becky Walter noted her continued interest in a textile/fiber creation event.
- Doug Egolf urged the Commission to revisit Sunday events previously discussed as an alternative to Third Thursdays. Following some discussion, the Commission agreed to have a visual artists event on Sunday, July 21, 2024, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in and around the Morsches Park Pavilion with Doug Egolf steering its development. (Some Commissioners want to call the event “Sunday in the Park with Doug,” with a nod to the musical based upon *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* by Georges Seurat.)

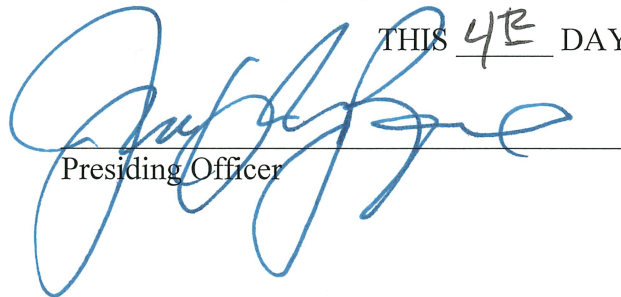
**VI. Adjournment**

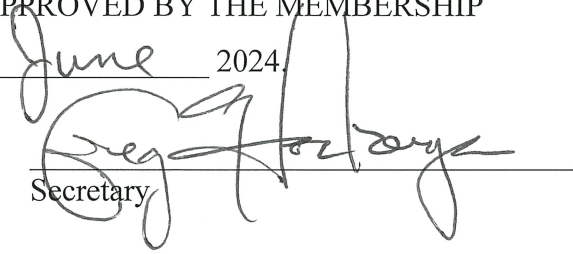
Greg Hockemeyer moved to adjourn, seconded by Becky Walter, and passed by voice vote at 5:54 p.m.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: JUNE 4, 2024, @ 5:00 P.M.**

MAY 7, 2024, MEETING MINUTES APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP

THIS 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June 2024.

  
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Presiding Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary



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April Frazier  
 Columbia City Arts Commission

April Frazier  
 Columbia City Arts Commission

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