

**February 21, 2022  
Commission for the Arts  
Royal Oak City Hall, Room 122  
203 S. Troy Steet  
7:30 PM – Regular Meeting  
Minutes**

*The primary goal of the commission has been to encourage and promote arts and culture in the community. The City of Royal Oak recognizes the importance of arts and culture to a vibrant, healthy, and sustainable community. The city strives to promote and encourage arts and culture through the public and private display of art.*

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Jason Gittinger, Melissa Behring, Laura Bonnell, Jodie Ellison, Denise Reske, Alesha Beistline, Commissioner Pat Paruch

Members absent: none

Others present: Susan Barkman, Ex-Officio; Daniel Hill, Downtown Manager; Shelly Kemp, Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce (CoC) Executive Director; Peter Young, City Manager Fellow

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Agenda amendment request: Add the Celebration for the Arts to the agenda.

Motion to approve amended February agenda.

Motion by: Jodie Ellison

Seconded by: Denise Reske

Approved Unanimously

**4. [Approval of Minutes – January 2022](#)**

Motion to approve the January 2022 meeting minutes.

Motion by: Laura Bonnell

Seconded by: Mellissa Behring

Approved Unanimously

**5. New Business**

**a. Introduce new Downtown Manager Daniel Hill**

Daniel Hill introduces himself. Has been the Downtown Manager position for 6 weeks. The Downtown Manager works with the Downtown Development

Authority. Here to answer questions and make himself available. He's interested in place making, accessible to diverse populations, displaying more art in downtown. He would like to focus on collaborating. Can help to partner with businesses.

**b. Summer Concert Series**

How do we get a summer concert series again given new circumstances? Jason researched hundreds of city's concerts and most of them are organized by DDAs or the local Chamber of Commerce.

Jason asks if the Commission for the Arts would support transferring Summer Concert Series management to the Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce. Shelly Kemp, the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce is here to answer any questions.

Shelly says they have a background in doing events that last and will stick with it even if it doesn't go well right away. CoC has a director of events and can handle it. There is no intention to hand this over to promoters.

How do we maintain the original intent of the event?

Jason will still be involved in planning the event and he will keep the spirit of the event. This event can reinvigorate the community. The Commission of the Arts can curate future Summer Concert Series events. The chamber has experience with gathering sponsors and fees.

Can volunteer tee-shirts with the acts on them be made available?

The Summer Concert Series could have a charity component

Can we get in writing what the CoC is responsible for?

The chamber will send documents to staff to clarify responsibilities.

The library and farmers market would like to coordinate to avoid competing concerts.

The next step is to decide what documents we need for the agreement. Staff and chamber will work together to put these together.

Anyone who wants to host an event can submit a request and the DDA board will approve.

There was a past project for a live music day where downtown businesses coordinate their live music, so it falls on the same day.

The Commission for the Arts agrees to give the Summer Concert Series to Chamber of Commerce.

**c. Deaccession of Fractured Excavation**

This is an Art Explored piece on the parking deck side of the library.

It doesn't look it's best, it's unlicensed, and the library seeks to do construction where the artwork is. We would like to ask the artist to take back their art or donate it to the city and the city will take care of it.

Motion for Fractured Excavation deaccession.  
Motion by: Denise Reske  
Seconded by: Commissioner Paruch  
Approved Unanimously

**d. Celebration for the Arts**

There is a meeting with the school district in March to start the Celebration for the Arts. We will add an update to next week's agenda

**6. Old Business**

**a. Website Update**

The website is an ongoing process. The biography information will happen soon. We can add a page for Celebration for the Arts. Commissioner Paruch has been adding pictures. Please keep updating staff on things to add to the website. Is there a subpage with just the murals? We can make this page and integrate it with the art guide. We can use the webpage to show what people can do with their walls. There is an interesting mural at 13 and Main.

**b. Budget**

Art Explored program met as a subcommittee to discuss challenges. \$600 does not go very far and it's limiting the amount of art pieces. Increase to \$1000 and purchase pieces that are less than that. Add transportation and installation cost add \$3000.

The CfA agrees to raise the amount paid for Art Explored artwork.

Graphic design work: one quote \$9000 to do all things you want to do. Another was between \$6000 to \$9000. Editing will make it cost more. The artist will work with the print shop. Does the Commission agree with this expenditure? The design service is less expensive after the first initial service. The first order is the most expensive.

We can delegate design and advertising to a smaller CfA subcommittee. We can add graphic design to the budget request.

Is quote for just the design, or design and copy?  
It could be both.

Are there other departments dealing with a graphic designer?  
One of the quotes came from a graphic designer that has worked with the city. Set budget Place holder at \$10,000.

**7. Subcommittee/Program Reports**

**a. Share the Warmth Update**

135 items donated. Replaced the decorations once.

**b. #ROMakesArt**

Alesha wrote plans for #ROMakesArt. She would like to start it in April or May when she is more available.

Could we use the hashtag to promote other art activities?  
Yes, that would be great.

What do you need next?  
Alesha would like a subcommittee.  
Melissa volunteers to join the subcommittee.

**c. Art Explored**

We had a subcommittee meeting.  
Considering Evolution is in an odd spot.  
We need to figure out ownership for it.

**8. General Announcements**

None

**9. Community Engagement Message**

**a. Social Media**

Sharing the Warmth

Is it okay if we post artwork on our personal website?  
There's no problem with that.

Mural photos were very popular on social media.

**10. Next Meeting – Monday March 21, 2022**

Move to a Tuesday March 22, 2022 if the City Commission meeting moves to Monday March 21, 2022.

**11. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn.  
Motion by: Jodie Ellison  
Second by: Denise Reske  
Approved Unanimously