

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ARTS ADVISORY BOARD**

January 23, 2024

**THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF DENTON §**

Due to scheduling issues, the agenda was not followed in complete numerical order.

Call to Order and Announce a Quorum is Present

(Agenda Item 1)

Chairperson Sarah Hicks called a quorum at 5:37 p.m. Attendees were Board members Jennifer Austin, Tom Smith, Cristi Gomez, Jennifer Linde, Christi Martin, Mike Shepard, and Amy Farrelly. Also in attendance were Arts Center Manager Denise Helbing, Administrative Assistant Konni Cooper, and Arts Administration Assistant Shannon Fernandez.

Review and Approve the Minutes of the December 12, 2023 Meeting

(Agenda Item 2)

Board members reviewed the minutes of the December 12, 2023 Arts Advisory Board meeting.

MOTION: Jennifer Austin made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Cristi Gomez and passed unanimously.

Arts Project Grant Application Review and Determination: Astraios Chamber Music, Chamber Music concert at the Grant Theater, Presented by Ruth Ann Ritchie

(Agenda Item 3)

Ruth Ann Ritchie presented the Astraios Chamber Music grant application to the board and answered questions from the board regarding the proposed grant project. The group uses professional musicians and a professional actor to act as facilitator. The group's request for \$6,000 would come from a supplemental budget and would not affect the amount of money set aside for Arts Funding Grants. The group will charge a nominal fee for tickets and rely on social media and word of mouth to make the community aware of the concert.

MOTION: Christi Martin made a motion to accept the project grant proposal by Astraios Chamber Music. The motion was seconded by Mike Shepard and passed unanimously.

Committee Updates:

- a. **Public Safety Building-Finalist Artist Selection Review, Recommendation for City Council**
- b. **Library Artist Call-Review Three Finalist Artists, Update on Progress**

(Agenda Item 4)

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- a. The Public Safety Building subcommittee updated the board on the progress of their selection process. They first selected three finalists, all of whom presented their proposals for this specific call. The three finalists were Blessing Hancock, Gordon Huether, and Cliff Garten. The finalists were further reduced to Blessing Hancock and Gordon Huether. The subcommittee showed examples of both artists' proposals and answered questions from the board. Maintenance on both projects was discussed, as the lighting will have to be replaced or repaired in the future. However, the call did specifically request a lighting element, and Arts Center Manager Denise Helbing explained the budget procedure that is set aside for maintenance on all public art projects. Blessing Hancock was the artist selected by the committee to be considered for being awarded this commission.

MOTION: Mike Shepard made a motion to accept Blessing Hancock's proposal for the public art piece that will be in front of the new Tittle McFadden Public Safety Building, and to send that proposal to the City Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Cristi Gomez and passed unanimously.

- b. The subcommittee for the library public art piece presented their three finalists, although the artists haven't had time yet to complete their actual proposals. The finalists are Michelle Gutlove, Area C (Erik Carlson and Erica Carpenter), and Peter Hite. The subcommittee showed examples of all three artists' works and will update the board at the February meeting.

***Lung Thawng* Dedication Event Recap**

(Agenda Item 5)

Board members and other attendees shared their experiences at the dedication of the *Lung Thawng* sculpture on December 16, 2023. Arts Center Manager Denise Helbing also showed photographs of the event.

Finalize Support Grant Cycle Schedule and Other Details

(Agenda Item 6)

Arts Center Manager Denise Helbing presented the Arts Support Grant Cycle for Fiscal Year 24/25.

Friday, March 1, by noon – open application tool

Thursday, March 7, at 6 p.m.-mandatory workshop for all potential applicant groups (via Zoom).

Thursday, April 18, 5 p.m.-application deadline

Tuesday, May 7 and Thursday, May 9, 6-8 or so-applicant presentations to the board

Sunday, May 12, midnight-deadline for board members to submit scores into application tool

Tuesday, May 14, 5:30 p.m.-regular May meeting to determine awards

**Staff Report-Programming,
Public Art Master Plan, Other
Updates**

(Agenda Item 7)

Arts Center Manager Denise Helbing presented her report to the board and answered questions.

**Member Reports on Attendance
to Any Grant-Funded Programs**

(Agenda Item 8)

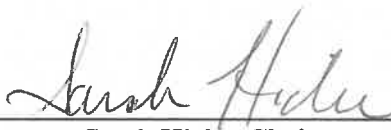
Sarah Hicks attended a Lewisville Civic Chorale concert in a private home. Cristi Gomez and Arts Administration Assistant Shannon Fernandez both attended the *Older Than Dirt* art exhibition with their children. Christi Martin and Administrative Assistant Konni Cooper attended the *Deconstructed* exhibition reception. Jennifer Austin attended the Lewisville Civic Chorale Christmas Concert.

Adjournment

(Agenda Item 9)

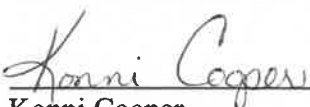
MOTION: Jennifer Austin made a motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Linde and passed unanimously.

APPROVED:



Sarah Hicks, Chairperson

PREPARED BY:



Konni Cooper
Administrative Assistant
Lewisville Grand Theater
City of Lewisville