

TRACY ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, 715 Central Avenue

Chair Reis called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll call found Commissioners Dhugga, Lees, Reis and Sandhu present.

Staff Present: William Wilson, Cultural Arts Supervisor
Anna Cross, Cultural Arts Division Manager

Recorded By: William Wilson, Cultural Arts Supervisor

1. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 13, 2023

ACTION Motion by Vice Chair Dhugga, seconded by Commissioner Lees to approve the minutes as submitted. Voice vote found all in favor; motion carried 4:0

3. DISCUSSION OF FY2023-24 FUNDING AND PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS

CAM Wilson provide the Staff Report and advised that CADM Cross will review and approve recommendations simultaneously with Tracy Arts Commission review and approval going forward. Commissioners agree to keep this discussion item at the full-Commission level, and not defer to the Budget and Special Events Subcommittees at this time.

CADM Cross provided an update on Open Mic Nights with Staff serving as Emcee and TAC funding to be use for guest curated featured performers, to begin in November.

In consideration of Arts Month in April 2024, Commissioners suggested new and more localized programming, citing the success of the Poetry & Jazz event presented in 2019. Ideas included a diverse talent show, weekly themed (dance, poetry/spoken word, visual arts and other performing arts) Open Mic Nights in the EK Theatre, an arts journal or publication, and an increased effort by Commissioners to connect and market the event to the community.

In consideration of the 2024 Granting Program, Commissioners suggested offering three grants at a larger amount, rather than four at \$1,000 each. Commissioners agreed to take additional time to determine what increase would be meaningful or valuable to applicants.

In consideration of 2024 Downtown Tracy Artwalk support, Commissioners agreed their efforts to provide hospitality to participants, and present six Emerging Artists in June remain valuable and well received by the creative community.

In consideration of the next steps in the development of a Youth Arts Festival, Vice Chair Dhugga suggested to keep it on the active projects list and to continue discussion with the Commission at this time. Chair Reis cited the success of youth components in the Earth Day event, and would like to see literary arts and drawings appear in print, either in a publication or in the Tracy Press. Commissioner Lees suggested that the Commission could purchase ad space in the newspaper to promote youth work, sponsored by the Tracy Arts Commission.

Regarding the Civic Art Program, CAS Wilson advised that minor expenses related to the reframing and display of works in the City Art Collection should be expected.

4. CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF DOWNTOWN TRACY ARTWALK PROGRAMMING

CAM Wilson provided the Staff Report. Commissioners Lees and Sandhu volunteered to provide hospitality services to participants at the September 16 event.

5. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioners gave brief summaries of their activities relating to arts and culture within the last month.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

CAM Wilson advised he will provide a new version of the 2023-24 Work Plan at the meeting in October. In addition, he announced that Staff has been approved to draft a needed revision of the Tracy Arts Commission Bylaws.

CADM Cross announced the Centennial Season is off to a great start with a near sell out for the Pablo Cruise concert on September 9. In addition, CADM Cross announced that she was elected to join the Western Arts Alliance as a Board Member at their Annual Conference, recently held in Seattle, WA.

7. ADJOURNMENT – Time: 9:06 p.m.

ACTION Motion by Commissioner Lees, seconded by Vice Chair Dhugga to adjourn.
Roll call vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered.

The above agenda was posted at the Tracy City Hall on September 7, 2023. The above are action minutes. Materials distributed to the majority of the Tracy Arts Commission, staff records and/or audio recording is available in the Cultural Arts Division located at 715 Central Avenue.