

**CITY OF WARRENVILLE
TOURISM AND ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, September 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
In the Gallery Conference
at City Hall, 28W701 Stafford Place, Warrenville

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Johnson at 7:02 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Monica Johnson, Commissioners Linda Osborn, Brian Owens and Sue Piscoran.

ALSO PRESENT: Council Liaison Clare Barry and Staff Liaison Leonardo Beltran.

ABSENT: Commissioners Judy Wilkie.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 25, 2022 MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Osborn to approve the August 25, 2022 Minutes as written; seconded by Commissioner Owens and unanimously approved by voice vote.

D. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

E. STAFF REPORT

Staff Liaison Beltran reported a list of upcoming meetings and important dates. He reported that the Art on the Prairie/Musical Festival will be held September 17th and 18th. Demolition and street light relocation for the trail head project has started. Also the City is looking to hire crossing guards.

F. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

1. Distribution and Discussion of FY2024 Hotel Tax Grant Applications

Staff Liaison Beltran handed out the FY2024 Grant Application binders. Fifteen applications were received with requests for funds totaling over \$144,000. This is down by one from the 16 applications received last year with original request for funds totaling \$131,000. Staff Liaison Beltran advised the group that the Warren Tavern also submitted a funding request for the Commissions' review and recommendations, which is outside of the Hotel Tax Grant Program, for \$9,990.80. The criteria to evaluate this request will be distributed at the next meeting, but in general, the funds should be granted only for Capital Expenses to repair and maintain the property (note: some of the requests were for operating expenditures, which cannot be considered). Funding requests from Warrenville in Bloom, CoffeeCon, and the Multicultural fest were up from last

year. It was also noted that there appears to be calculation errors in the Warrenville in Bloom request and some of the attachments are missing for CoffeeCon.

Commissioners are tasked with reviewing the applications prior to the October meeting. Chair Johnson requested that the group read through each application prior to the next meeting. Special attention should be focused on possible omissions and calculation inconsistencies. Staff Liaison Beltran will prepare a spreadsheet to track requests and grants for our next meeting.

In regard to repeat programs, Chair Johnson reminded everyone to look for increased expenses to help identify areas where funding may be reduced due to the perceived need and scope of the request.

2. Discussion of Aesthetic Enhancement Program

Chair Johnson highlighted four possible initiatives for consideration for FY 2024. Artist Matthew Placzek has created a flame sculpture that could be duplicated to replace the aging Veteran's fountain. Cost estimates range between \$20,000 for a smaller sculpture and \$30,000 for a 7 x 3 foot design. Chair Johnson will ask Mr. Placzek to forward a photograph of the illuminated sculpture for consideration.

Secondly, the Mexican Cultural Society of DuPage has acquired several of the Alebrijes artwork pieces. These smaller pieces have been kept indoors and might be available for display at the library or perhaps a local school, maybe Johnson School. Commissioners Osborn and Owen volunteered to work with Sara Phalen to see if any of the pieces might be acquired. Chair Johnson showed a picture of an owl that the Commission felt could symbolize learning and might be a nice edition for either setting.

Chair Johnson described interactive percussion instruments she saw on a recent trip where people could interact with the instruments. The group thought this idea was worth pursuing.

Finally, the Commission was waiting for the Warrenville city logo to add to plaques describing the various commissioned artworks. This can possibly be achieved in FY 2024.

3. Final Reports

The Commission reviewed the Final Reports for the Multicultural Festival and the Alebrijes Artist workshop.

G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS

Commissioner Piscoran asked if we need to actively address the possibility of inflation effecting grant requests; this will not be addressed during our review. There were no additional comments.

H. ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Piscoran, seconded by Commissioner Osborn to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Piscoran, Commissioner
Tourism & Arts Commission