

MINUTES

MCKINNEY ARTS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

August 28, 2010

The McKinney Arts Commission met in special session on Saturday, August 28, 2010, at 1:01 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 222 N. Tennessee Street.

Commissioners present: Chair Thom Chesney, Vice-Chair Nichole Belford, Carol Witt, Anne Royer, Linda Spina, Terry Prescott, and Barbara Johnson.

Absent: None.

Staff present: City Liaison Aretha Harvey and Secretary Mona Robinson.

City Council Liaison Geralyn Kever was absent.

Chair Chesney called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. after determining a quorum present.

Newly appointed McKinney Arts Commissioner Janet Farr was introduced by Chair Chesney. Ms. Farr will become an official member of the Arts Commission at the first meeting of the Arts Commission in October.

Chair Chesney requested acceptance by the Commissioners for the following liaison-approved 2009-10 Final Project Summary Reports: 10-36

- ❖ Teatro Dallas
- ❖ Drums Not Guns
- ❖ McKinney Summer Musicals
- ❖ Junior Players
- ❖ Chamberlain Performing Arts
- ❖ Texas Performing Chinese Arts

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Witt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Spina, to accept all of the Final Reports. Vice-Chair Belford requested an exception regarding the Final Report of Texas Performing Chinese Arts as she had concerns regarding the performance and actions, or the lack thereof, of Texas Performing Chinese Arts. Following a discussion, Commissioners unanimously approved Commissioner Witt's modified motion, seconded by Commissioner Spina, approving the disbursements and reports for the above groups with the exception of Texas Performing Chinese Arts Final Report. Commissioners further discussed specifics of the final 20% grant funding to Texas Performing Chinese Arts. They

unanimously approved the Motion by Vice-Chair Belford, seconded by Commissioner Prescott, to accept the report of Texas Performing Chinese Arts but not approve the funding of the final 20% grant amount with a letter from the City and Chair Chesney being prepared and sent to this organization stating the details as to why the final grant funding was not approved.

City Liaison Harvey opened the discussion to update the Arts Commissioners on the status of the City of McKinney public art policy. City Liaison Harvey stated City Council Liaison Kever and the Facilities Manager of the Collin County Government Center had met with the sculptor concerning his offer to create a piece of public art from the scrap metal when this building was demolished. At this time, no decision has been made as to the feasibility of his offer. City Liaison Harvey informed the Arts Commission that any public art policy would go through the City's Policy & Finance Committee initially, and Ms. Harvey is currently researching how other areas of the country handled their initial stages of public art. City Liaison Harvey will send the Art Commissioners the next meeting date of the City's Policy & Finance Committee meeting as well as the names of the City Council Members serving on that committee. 10-40

Chair Chesney opened the discussion on the City's participation in the *Arts & Economic Prosperity IV: The Economic Impact on Nonprofit Arts and Culture Organizations and Their Audiences* through Americans for the Arts survey. The cost of participating in this survey would be \$7,500 paid over 3 years, and the possibility of paying for it from the funds awarded by City Council to the Arts Commission for grant funding was discussed. If the City decides to participate in the survey, the contract to participate must be signed no later than September 30th. Chair Chesney provided extensive listings of what data and information would be made available to the City from participation of the Americans for the Arts survey. City Liaison Harvey stated that given the financial situation of the City and the status of McKinney Performing Arts Center, she was not sure how the request for survey participation funding would be received by the City Council, but the request could be put forth to the City. Chair Chesney stated if the City did not participate in the current survey, the next opportunity to take part would not be until 4 years from now. Commissioner Spina asked for additional clarification as to the process of the procedures involved with grant participation, and Chair Chesney 10-39

provided a detailed timeline as to the survey cycle with the final report being released in June 2012. Commissioner Prescott inquired if private donations could be utilized to pay for the survey costs, and Chair Chesney and City Liaison Harvey felt it would be necessary for survey costs to be paid by the City so the City would own survey results and reports. City Liaison Harvey mentioned there was nothing stopping the Arts Commission in asking surrounding cities to be a part of the survey and share costs. Commissioners unanimously approved the Motion made by Commissioner Spina, seconded by Vice-Chair Belford to table this item until later in the meeting following the discussion of the art grant funding decisions.

Chair Chesney opened the discussion on the content and scope of his presentation to the City Council on September 21, 2010 at their Worksession. Chair Chesney requested the other Arts Commissioners forward to him their views as to where the City is headed regarding the arts in McKinney and to have any items they want included in his report to the City Council to him by September 3rd. He will then send each of the Arts Commissioners an outline of his report by September 11 for the Arts Commissioners final review. City Liaison Harvey stated she would need a copy of his final report by September 14th for inclusion in the City Council packet. Commissioner Spina inquired as to what time frame should be addressed, and Chair Chesney requested their comments should cover where they feel the arts in McKinney should be in the next 5 years.

10-38

Chair Chesney opened the discussion on the recommendations the Arts Commission will submit to the City Council for the FY2010-11 art grants. City Liaison Harvey informed the Arts Commissioners that City staff had recommended the Arts Commission grant amount be reduced by 5%; however, she was not certain as to what the City Council's final grant funding will be. She stated the Arts Commissioners must make the decision as to how they wish to proceed with their grant funding recommendations to the City Council. Following lengthy discussions regarding grant amounts for fiscal year 2010-2011, Chair Chesney summarized the Arts Commission's final recommendations as listed below. Commissioners unanimously approved the motion by Vice-Chair Belford, seconded by Commissioner Prescott, to recommend the allocation to the Arts Commission of \$200,000, of which all but \$7,500 be used for arts

10-37

grants, with \$7,500 set aside for participation in the *Arts & Economic Prosperity IV: The Economic Impact on Nonprofit Arts and Culture Organizations and Their Audiences* through Americans for the Arts Survey.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Grant</u>
American Theatre Organ Society	\$ 15,000
Art Club of McKinney	\$ 7,340
Chamberlain Performing Arts	\$ 5,000
Elledanceworks	\$ 4,335
Junior Players	\$ 5,000
McKinney Area Christian Homeschoolers	\$ 2,250
McKinney Community Band	\$ 6,800
McKinney Community Concerts	\$ 25,000
McKinney Musical Arts Society	\$ 9,250
McKinney Repertory Theatre	\$ 25,000
McKinney Summer Musicals	\$ 25,000
McKinney Youth Theatre	\$ 25,000
Ollimpaxqui Ballet	\$ 15,300
PEN Texas	\$ 675
Southwest Celtic Music Assoc.	\$ 2,550
Word of Mouth Productions	\$ 9,000
Young Actors Guild	\$ 10,000
*Arts Economic Prosperity Study	<u>\$ 7,500</u>
Total:	<u>\$ 200,000</u>

Commissioners unanimously approved the Motion made by Vice-Chair Belford, seconded by Commissioner Prescott to take Item 10-37 off of the table. Commissioners unanimously approved the motion made by Commissioner Spina, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to participate in the *Arts & Economic Prosperity IV* survey.

Chair Chesney adjourned the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

Nichole Belford
Vice-Chair

Mona Robinson
Secretary