

December 6, 2010

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Aretha Harvey  
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Dear Aretha,

In light of the recent discussion regarding any possible conflict of interest due to the fact that I am a member of an organization which receives public funds as recommended by the Arts Commission, I have chosen to resign from the McKinney Arts Commission.

When I was interviewed by Councilman Ray Ricchi, prior to being appointed by the City Council to the Arts Commission, I remember that he asked me, publically, if I had any "agenda" if I were to be appointed to the Commission. I really wasn't prepared for that question, because I never even considered any agenda other than to serve the arts community in McKinney, of which I am an active participant.

After pausing to think about his question, I replied to the Councilman that from the perspective of a 10 year resident artist in McKinney, I sensed a lack of communication between the city government and the visual artists. If city government was doing anything in favor of the visual artists, we were not hearing about it. And, if city government had any desire to hear from us, we were not aware of it. Surely someone needed to do a better job of communicating. That would be my agenda.

Two and a half years later, I now consider the lines of communication much stronger and more open between city government and the community of visual artists which I serve. Thanks to new initiatives by the McKinney Arts Commission, we have a growing voice in City Hall. It is my desire to continue to contribute to open communications between McKinney's public policy makers and the region's artists.

With great appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Arts Commission, admiration for the work that you and Mona Robinson do for the commission, and continuing support for this strong board of arts commissioners and its council liaison, I sincerely sign this

Anne Royer

