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McMahon Memorial Auditorium : Arts and Humanities Committee

Minutes Monthly Meeting Arts and Humanities Committee a committee of the McMahon Auditorium Authority March 5, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.

Lawton Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce

Teresa Abram
(Chair)

Alison Offield
(Vice Chair)

Melissa Beck
Leah Chaffins
Natalie McCabe
Indie Michaels
Darius Monroe
Dr. Charles Owens
Reginald Ramey
Max Sasseen

Jason Poudrier
Arts & Humanities
Administrator

Andrea Morman
Deputy Arts &
Humanities
Administrator

Michell Rosario
Arts & Humanities
Community Events &
Outreach Coordinator

Haley Moore
Arts & Humanities
Digital Media &
Records Specialist

Reagan Phillips
Arts & Humanities
Administrative
Assistant

Nicholas Sasseen
Arts & Humanities
Technical Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL – 4:00pm

PRESENT: Abram, Offield, Beck*, Chaffins, Ramey, McCabe*, Monroe

ABSENT: Micheals, Owens, Sasseen

STAFF: Poudrier, Phillips

VERIFY POSTING OF MEETING

Action: Verification of posting time, place, and date

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered to be routine by the Arts and Humanities Committee and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

1. Consider approving minutes from February 5, 2025.

2. Consider approving financial report for February 2025.

Motion by Ramey to accept the minutes from the February 2025. Second by Chaffins.

Offield, Chaffins, and Ramey voted yes, motion carried.

Motion by Chaffins to accept the financial report from the February 2025. Second by Offield.

Offield, Chaffins, and Ramey voted yes, motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

3. General announcements and updates

Poudrier reported that the State of the Arts luncheon went well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Receive reports and take action as necessary.

4. Sub Committees

*Beck entered

The committee decided that the Arts and Humanities awards and the Art Purchase competition need to adhere to the following timeline: push for nominations starting as early as May, have a submission deadline of September 30, choose winners in October, ratify winners in November, contact winners in December.

*McCabe entered

Beck suggested making flyers and distributing them throughout the local communities, specifically in Medicine Park seeing as there is a large community of artisans that live out there. Poudrier confirmed that the Art Purchase competitors do not need to be from Lawton.

Abrams reported that Rosario has contacted the US Citizens and Immigration Services Oklahoma City office and they are prepared to have a naturalization ceremony at the 2025 International Festival.

Poudrier reported that he is moving forward with the Tuesday Farmers Market performances. He reported that they have all the equipment and are ready to assist the artists. He asked if the committee knew of any performers that would like to take part in this program, to please send them his way.

Poudrier reported that he streamlined the subgranting application and created a budget template. He stated that his office will email the google form and budget template to the committee for review before the next meeting.

Chaffins and Poudrier reported on the visiting writers event with Constance Squires. They stated that she will be coming back into town for the third Saturday Open Mic. Chaffins reported that the First Friday open mic will take place on March 7 at Cameron University. The third Saturday Open Mic will take place on March 15 at the Unitarian Universalist church. She reported that the Perfect Brew held an Open Mic on March 1st and that it was well attended.

BUSINESS ITEMS

5. Consider updated MAA sub-grant application and guidelines and take action as necessary.

Motion by McCabe to review the new subgranting process that is to be emailed out to the committee and give feedback. Second by Ramey.

Offield, Beck, Chaffins, Ramey, McCabe, and Monroe voted yes, motion carried.

6. Consider grant proposal from Arts for All in support of Black History Month and take action as necessary.

Poudrier introduced this item, explaining how the event went and why they are applying after the fact, discussion ensued.

Motion by Chaffins to approve Arts for Alls grant proposal up to \$1500 to cover the costs of security and tech personnel. Second by Monroe.

Offield, Beck, Chaffins, Ramey, McCabe, and Monroe voted yes, motion carried.

7. Consider proposed scheduled dates for CLTH Arts Classes and take action as necessary.

Motion by Beck to approve the proposed Summer 2025, Fall 2025, Winter 2026, and Spring 2026 Carnegie Library Town Hall Art classes session dates. Second by Chaffins.

Offield, Beck, Chaffins, Ramey, McCabe, and Monroe voted yes, motion carried.

8. Consider contracting with Discovery Outpost Theatre in support of their Spring Break Youth Theatre Broadway Camp and take action as necessary.

Poudrier introduced this item. He explained how contracting with Discover Outpost Theatre would fulfill the student theatre instruction for the Youth Performance grant received by the Arts and Humanities office from the Oklahoma Arts Council.

Motion by Offield to support entering into a contract with Discovery Outpost Theatre in support of their Spring Break Youth Theatre Broadway Camp. Second by Beck.

Offield, Beck, Chaffins, Ramey, McCabe, and Monroe voted yes, motion carried.

9. Consider support of Fort Sills MWR Warrior Run, March 22nd and Take action as necessary.

Poudrier introduced this item. He asked if any committee members were available to volunteer with his Arts and Humanities staff at a motivation station on March 22nd.

10. Consider providing support April 8th, first Tuesday evening Farmer's Market of 2025.

Poudrier introduced this item. He suggested that since the McMahon Memorial Auditorium is closed due to the construction, he has been looking at ways to include programming throughout the City of Lawton, one of those ways is to team up with the upcoming Tuesday evening Farmers Market and provide different musical acts. As discussed previously, he will choose the first act on April 8th, and then the committee will help with the following months' acts.

OLD BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS - none

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MCCabe announced the upcoming freshman scholarship auditions for the Cameron University Theatre program. She stated that these auditions will occur on March 29 at 1pm. She also announced that the final show for the Cameron University Theatre program will be on April 17-20. She stated that it is a devised production that the students have been working on in class with Jean Tartiere.

Beck announced that the upcoming performance dates for Lawton Community Theatre's production of Batboy the Musical is April 4-6 and April 11-13.

Monroe announced that Bigger than Music's 5th annual Praise Party in the Park will take place on September 20 in Elmer Thomas Park.

ADJOURNMENT – 5:07pm