

Cultural Arts Commission Minutes

March 4, 2021

The Cultural Arts Commission met in the Richardson Room on Thursday, March 4, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Quirk, Vice-Chair
Anthony Pampillonia
Kevin Todora
Amy Taylor
Sandy Palisch
Elizabeth Gonzalez

MEMBERS ABSENT: Catherine Burdette, Chair

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Shanna Sims-Bradish, Assistant City Manager
Kyle Kepner, City Council Liaison

1. Vice-Chair Kim Quirk called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. for the purpose to discuss the following agenda items:
2. Review and Discuss Refinements to the 2021-2022 Arts Grants Guidelines and Evaluation of Submissions.

Cultural Arts Commission members reviewed a redline version of the draft 2021-2022 arts grants guidelines and discussed proposed changes including:

- Funding for arts organizations will be provided on a schedule recommended by the Cultural Arts Commission and approved by the City Council,
- Incomplete applications or applications not meeting guidelines will not receive an interview,
- Deletion of the evaluation criteria that included amount of funds requested and granted in prior years,
- Adding specific questions to be addressed in the narrative in the categories of applicant organization, impact on Richardson and artistic merit/season.

Cultural Arts Commission members provided feedback on the proposed changes. Assistant City Manager Shanna Sims-Bradish stated that she would continue to revise the guidelines based on this feedback and the Cultural Arts Commission could continue to review and refine the 2021-2022 Arts Grant Guidelines at the April 8, 2021 meeting.

3. Receive Update on Plans for the Spring 2021 Arts Workshop.

Assistant City Manager Shanna Sims-Bradish provided an overview of the April 14th virtual workshop which will focus on virtual fundraising strategies. The guest presenter will be Kaitlin Guthrow with Communities Foundation of Texas.

Ms. Sims-Bradish stated that the workshop is structured to include Ms. Guthrow sharing information on best practices, then a question and answer session between Ms. Guthrow and Chair Catherine Burdette, followed by time for questions from participants.

Cultural Arts Commission members inquired on what technology platform will be used. Assistant City Manager Shanna Sims-Bradish stated that she is working the City's Information Technology staff to determine the exact platform, but she wanted it to be easy for participants to join the virtual workshop.

4. Update on the City of Richardson Martin Luther King Essay Contest

Assistant City Manager Shanna Sims-Bradish thanked Vice-Chair Kim Quirk for serving as a judge for the City's Martin Luther King essay contest. Ms. Quirk stated that over 250 essays were submitted, and three winners were selected in the categories of 3rd-5th grades, 6th-8th grades, and 9th-12th grades. She stated that the essays were of high quality and enjoyable to read.

Vice-Chair Kim Quirk also recommended that the online platform used to organize and review the essays could also work for reviewing arts grants submissions. Assistant City Manager Shanna Sims-Bradish stated that she had scheduled a demonstration in late March and would bring back additional information for the Cultural Arts Commission's consideration at a future meeting.

5. Review and Discuss the 2021 Cultural Arts Commission Calendar.

The next Cultural Arts Commission meeting will be Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Richardson Room.

6. Review and Discuss 2020-2021 Cultural Arts Grants Recipients.

Cultural Arts Commission member discussed recent and upcoming performances of Richardson Symphony Orchestra. Vice-Chair Kim Quirk shared information regarding arts organizations receiving TACA's second round of resiliency grants. She also shared information regarding the dissolution of the Richardson Arts Alliance.

Assistant City Manager Shanna Sims-Bradish shared information she had compiled regarding performances held in Richardson by the twelve arts organizations receiving funding in FY2020-21.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business of the Commission, Vice-Chair Kim Quirk adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.