

Cultural Commission March 14, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The Cultural Commission of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in special session at 6:35 p.m. at the Bedford Public Library, 2424 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford, TX on the 14th day of March 2016 with the following members present:

Tom Jacobsen, Chair
Alicia Chick
Sonya Hood
Debbi Savage
Dr. Paul Davis
Roger Gallenstein
Barbara Speares

Constituting a quorum

Others present included:
Jeff Florey, Staff Liaison
Ray Champney, Council Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. Consider approval of the following Cultural Commission minutes:**
 - a) February 8, 2016 regular meeting**

Motion made by Roger Gallenstein and seconded by Paul Davis to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sonya Hood a new member of the Cultural Commission, was introduced to the group and introductions all around the table.

2. Cultural District Master Plan update and discussion.

Mr. Florey shared a cultural district rendering was designed by Kimley-Horn, and a traffic study is under way for Forest Ridge Drive, and a Harwood Road renovation, which may include a bike lane. The design also includes wayfinding. There are three phases in the Bedford Boy's Ranch redevelopment.

There was discussion about making sure the Cultural District is in line with the park plans.

Mr. Florey shared the ideas about signage, pavilion, and arts center have been in the discussions with Kimley-Horn.

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Roger Gallenstein shared that he had made a trip with Tom Jacobsen to the Old Bedford Schoolhouse.

There were questions and discussion regarding the survey of Bedford Commons and a spinoff to preserve and revitalize Central Bedford. As a segway to the survey, "What is the best use of what we have?" is the question the Commission has. Bedford Commons is proposed mixed use – maybe use City Hall - have town homes, walking areas, residential, retail and nice amenities, and is adjacent to the cultural district.

The Commission has been around for five years. There are renderings and ordinances. There is not a lot of property near Bedford Commons available and eminent domain is not an option.

3. Summer Concert Update.

Twilight Thursday was discussed. The question was posed "Are there are limited funds to offer artists?" Mr. Jacobsen and Mr. Gallenstein have collected information about potential performers. Mr. Florey explained that the tourism fund is large. Mr. Gallenstein explained he had taken care of all arrangements with Danny Wright. He has covered all the details and background needed. The concern with the Steinway people has been addressed and taken care of. Mr. Florey stated that there is not a budget for this series but Danny Wright has been paid and he requires 50% down. The contract is signed and 25% of the proceeds of CD sales will be donated to the Old Bedford Schoolhouse. The event is scheduled for August 13. Beer and wine will be served before the event. Tickets are proposed to be priced at \$35 to \$40 per person. The Old Bedford Schoolhouse holds 149 seats. Performances will run two hours with a 20 minute break. Mr. Wright will sell CDs and will appear on Good Morning Texas. Jim Curry, another artist, was discussed. He is a well renowned John Denver performer throughout the United States. His normal price is \$7,500; his agent asked for \$5,500, and he reduced his price to \$3,500. He also requires 10% down. Mr. Jacobsen has penciled in August 19 as the performance date at OBS. Rooms are being looked at and there is a need for a sound board. Mr. Gallenstein also contacted:

- a. March Forth Marching Band who will perform for \$10,000.
- b. Kildares. This will be their last year as they will be splitting up.
- c. Ricky Derek, who appeared at Main Street Arts Festival and whose music is ratpack genre. He is normally \$4,000 but will perform for \$3,000. He supplies his own sound board and sound engineer.

Mr. Jacobsen contacted a violinist, Muriel Zurich, who is an electronic violin performer

Mr. Florey suggested that all requests for a series like this be submitted to the City so they can be built into the 2016 –17 budget. Mr. Champney stated that there could be a special allocation. There was discussion on putting together a proposal, including show performers and a PowerPoint presentation. To fill the gap, there will be a repayment with a special allocation from the Tourist Fund and it will be immediately be repaid. An allocation can be authorized. There was discussion on a need to get sponsors and setting the stage for the next budget, the process for which will start in May or June. Mr. Gallenstein and Mr. Jacobsen can make the presentation. Mr. Florey suggested this as a presentation in addition to the annual presentation from the Commission.

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4. Yearly Report to City Council discussion.

Mr. Jacobsen suggested Alicia Chick, Mr. Gallenstein, Mr. Jacobsen and Mr. Florey work on the presentation. The target date for the final draft is April 11 so it can be reviewed by the Commission members and be ready by April 12. There can be two topics on the agenda at once.

5. Report from the ArtsFest, Storefront Gallery and Arts Incubator Subcommittees with follow-up discussion.

Mr. Florey shared the status of the ArtsFest planning:

- 60 vendors
- Three food trucks
- Silver Dollar Winery
- Kid's Art
- There was an issue and not many fine artists
- Advertising includes Facebook, the main page of YELP, and ads in the community HEB paper

April 16 is the arts opening for the storefront project and there will be a battle of the bands.

Mr. Champney discussed the cultural momentum. He said the City has now taken responsibility for the application for the arts designation. The City needs to make sure that they do not duplicate Arlington's heavy focus on performers as they were denied their application.

Alicia Chick shared information about Waco's artistic growth as an artists' hub.

Mr. Gallenstein discussed a raffle for Danny Wright – he would write custom music.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:17 p.m. Debbi Savage made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Jacobsen seconded. Approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Approved:

Tom Jacobsen, Chair