

Cultural Commission February 10, 2020

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The Bedford Cultural Commission met in regular session on February 10, 2020 with the following members present:

Thomas Jacobsen	Summer Finley	Alexis Perez	Terry Smith
Josh Santillan	Kimmie Hamm	Kim Brown	Sergio Santos

Wendy Hartnett – City of Bedford
Charlenia Castillo – City of Bedford
Cortney Beach – City of Bedford

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mr. Jacobsen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Consider approval of the following Cultural Commission minutes:**
a. January 13, 2020

The minutes were approved with the following changes by a motion by Ms. Hamm and Mr. Santillan seconded the motion.

BUSINESS

- **Discussion and update on Phase Next/Old Bedford School.**

Ms. Hartnett – Provided a quick update on the council meeting held last Tuesday (February 4th).

– Covered topics made in said meeting, mostly regarding the new park and building.

– Answered the commission’s questions concerning future use of the Old Bedford School building and parking.

– Mentioned the council meeting being held tomorrow night (February 11th) presenting the subcommittee options.

- **Update on Arts Grant Program.**

Ms. Hartnett – Talked about the occupancy tax which she said could be used for max 15% of art—for “city art”.

Mr. Santillan – Addressed the problem that may arise from citizens who trouble over where our “police and fire money” are being spent. Ms. Brown and Mr. Jacobsen would address other problems that may also occur, if not already exist, with our budget process.

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Ms. Hartnett – Said the program was at a standstill until we can figure out what is happening.

- **Discussion and update on City Council action on subcommittees.**

Mr. Jacobsen – Repeated what Ms. Sabol had told him regarding the debate on subcommittees, which are still under discussion at the council.

Ms. Brown – Reminded us of tomorrow night’s agenda the ordinance for cultural commissions, specifically on the language being changed so that they may grant us the ability to set up subcommittees.

Mr. Smith – Made the motion to have three categories: Events, projects, and planning. Mr. Santillan seconded the motion; in turn the motion passed unanimously.

- **Discussion, update and possible action on a Public Art Program.**

Mr. Santos – Brought up an individual he spoke with from North Richland Hills about the creative, clever use of their city’s [electrical] boxes, which we ourselves had similarly discussed in past meetings (and are trying to achieve). The electrical boxes would cost \$300-\$500.

Ms. Hartnett – Mentioned Sparkling Ice—a beverage company—reaching out to the City, looking to sponsor certain groups, such as the library or parks and rec. (However, we hope for their support toward a mural-type project.)

Ms. Hamm – Passed around pictures of the “homework” or optional task we were given last meeting, expressing five things each of us personally considered important.

Mr. Santillan – Made the motion to go ahead and wrap the electrical boxes program. Mr. Smith seconded the motion; in turn the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Brown – Decided, together with Mr. Santos, on six boxes we would like to see funded. Ms. Hartnett mentioned a mock-up of any mural needs to be provided to take for City Council approval.

- **Discussion, updates and possible action on upcoming art/cultural programming, including the City of Bedford Tree Lighting, ArtsFest, and Twilight Concerts.**

Mr. Jacobsen – Concerned over the number of craftsmen compared to artists this year, the latter of which we want more of but are often disproportionately low.

Ms. Brown – Suggested the use of any social media sites, such as Facebook, for outreach, especially Instagram since it is today’s most heavily used platform for promoting and marketing art.

Ms. Hartnett – Proposed we go over the following dates for the *Twilight Concert* series: Mr. Santillan was open for May 8th/22nd^(?), Mr. Santos for May 15th, and Mr. Smith for May 29th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, Mr. Santillan made a motion for adjournment of the meeting; Mr. Jacobsen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

Thomas Jacobson, Chairperson