

SAGINAW ARTS & ENRICHMENT COMMISSION
120 Ezra Rust Dr
989.759.1362
June 19, 2024
Minutes



Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chair Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Present: Sonia Burklund, Ben Champagne, Kathy Couillard, Sarge Harvey, Kristin Karwat, William Keyes, Theresa Lister, Thor Rasmussen, Thelma Ruffin, Karly Schmidt, Pat Shelley

Excused: Craig Bell, William Ewald, Suzanne Skrelunas, Joe Turner

Absent: Indigo Dudley, Bob Gilmour

Staff Present: Marsha Braun, Demetrios Scott

Approval of Minutes

Pat Shelley moved to approve the May 2024 minutes. Kristin Karwat seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

May 2024 treasurer's report was presented by Commissioner Rasmussen. Director Braun noted nothing unusual in the report for May with all expenses tracking well toward year end. Largest expenses for the month were Saginaw Celebrates Summer marketing and employee costs. Pat Shelley moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Kathy Couillard. Motion passed.

Finance Report

Commissioner Rasmussen reviewed the 2024-2025 operating budget in the amount of \$155,250. The proposed budget was reduced approximately \$60,000 to reflect the elimination of income from the MACC Regranting Program. The budget will be reviewed in 6 months to see how revenue and expenses are tracking per budget. Theresa Lister moved to accept the 2024-2025 Budget and William Keyes seconded. Motion approved. The report was received and filed.

Nominating

Committee chair Kathy Couillard reported that there will be one position remaining to be filled as of June 30. Several names were submitted by commissioners for consideration.

Michigan Arts and Culture Council

The Michigan Arts and Culture Council "Experience" grant applications are due by July 24, 5 p.m. Grant program has changed significantly, Director Braun will apply for a program grant, capital improvement and a professional development grant for FY25. If invited, the commission will also apply for a Partner grant, notification will not be made until after the July deadline.

Saginaw Celebrates Summer

The 2024 event calendar has been distributed and extras are available for anyone who would like some. Director Braun encouraged commissioners to take calendars for



distribution to friends, family, co-workers and others. WNEM TV5 morning event coverage is underway and will continue for 13 weeks through the end of August.

Art @ the Andersen

Demetrios Scott announced that *Women Behind the Lens* the photographic works of Nyesha Clark, Jessica Grefe, Alexandria Jones, Tricia Lewis, and Anita McKeith will close on July 8. *Beyond Boundaries: Saginaw Arts Commissioner Unveiled* will open July 11 and run through September 6.

All Area Arts Awards

The 35th Annual Awards was held at the Dow Event Center Red Room on May 7, 2025.

Chair Report

Chair Rasmussen noted that in light of the upcoming MACC changes it will take some shifting in how we do business but that shifting can be good. It can provide new opportunities and new relationships with the community, businesses and sponsors.

Director Report

Thank you to all who volunteered for the Art & Garden Festival. Jazz in the Garden concert series that will begin July 10 and run through July 31 on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., we are looking for gate volunteers. Commission committee list will be reviewed for relevance, and updated prior to the September meeting if necessary.

Announcements

Juneteenth Festival and Parade will be held in downtown Saginaw on June 15. SVSU singers will perform at Memorial Presbyterian Church in Midland on June 22. The Saginaw Choral Society will host a backyard bar-b-que and music fest fundraiser on July 18, call Choral Society office for tickets.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. Commissioner Shelley moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Champagne. Motion passed.

Recorded by:
Marsha Braun, Executive Director