

# Kalamazoo County Public Art Commission

## MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** March 23, 2023 | 5:30 PM -6:30 PM

**Location:** Epic Board Room 359 S Kalamazoo Mall

**Purpose:** Regular Monthly Meeting

**Attending:** Patrick Hershberger , Kristen Chesak, Ann Videtich, Anna Lee Roeder, Patrick Jouppi, Jared VanderWeele, Dana Wagner

**Absent:** Nicole Lee, Brent Harris, Lori Knapp

1. Call to order
2. Welcome Guests
  - a. Rebekah Kik
    - i. Imagine Kalamazoo masterplan recap – feedback and engagement included public art preferences, locations, types
    - ii. Downtown Economic Growth and Downtown Strategic – did an economic plan and forecast and discussed placemaking
    - iii. Infrastructure needed discussion on how to run events, spaces and organizations needed
    - iv. Facilities – mall, arcadia, future events, Bronson park, bates alley, creek. Pockets are not cohesive in experience
    - v. What 2d and 3d installations would help connect infrastructure
    - vi. significant infrastructure needs
      1. Exchange Alley – rose street to bates
        - a. Address plaza by movie area, and along alley
        - b. Snow melt coming b/w rose and mall
      2. Rose Street Plaza at arcadia creek
        - a. Creek begins; ideas: pop up event infrastructure, landscaping, public art, lighting; connection to event center
      3. North Mall
        - a. Michigan ave to Eleanor Street – the part closed to traffic currently
        - b. Open up and create festival street atmosphere
        - c. Overhead lighting, landscaping, trees, curbside drive, flex seating, lighting
        - d. Connect to arcadia – strong connection to festival site potential
      4. South Mall

- a. State theatre area – end of mall
      - b. Extend vibrancy further south
      - c. Retractable bollards, overhead lighting, seating, outdoor festival engagement
    - vii. What art installations will contribute to interconnecting these infrastructure priorities
      - 1. O/H grid, power, cable system to help mount interchangeable installations
      - 2. 2d art – murals on walls, street, snow melt enabled year round features
      - 3. Use art to convey 2-way traffic and bike lane/pedestrian enhancements
      - 4. Parklet pop-up
    - viii. Request – walking tour to brainstorm infrastructure – pencil in 4/27 at 7pm
    - ix. Request preparation of RFP for art installations
    - x. Request recommendation for art budgets
    - xi. Request assistance preparing art strategy
    - xii. Request assistance for long-term O&M budgeting
    - xiii. Request for Public Art Festival cost
    - xiv. City of Kalamazoo – budget for year one on board; prepared to fundraise around a strategy
    - xv. Patrick Hershberger suggested building toward a public art festival
    - xvi. Noted pixel stix countywide roll out, and desire to grow
    - xvii. Dana Wagner discussed other voices to invite that’s not at table
      - 1. Treystar? Aerick, Tyree local artists
    - xviii. Consider downtown graffiti garden
    - xix. AT&T building brainstorm for public art
    - xx. Identify real opportunities
      - 1. Pedestrian bridges on farmers alley
      - 2. Spiral ramp parklet on theatre parking ramp
    - xxi. Reasonable outcome:
      - 1. 1 issue RFP this year
      - 2. Identify 2024 and beyond projects to encumber funds by 2024
  - b. Kim Shaw – programs director at arts council
    - i. May art hop – public art theme
    - ii. Group show in Westin Gallery - combo of public artists in community that have small pieces to display.
    - iii. Question – do we have something in the gallery that connects to pixelsticks? Information panel?
      - 1. Explanation panel with QR code to download app and get started.
      - 2. Kim to ask Pixel Stix for a canned flyer to print/mount map or info
      - 3. Epic center to play loop on digital wall
  - c. No other guests
3. Agenda approved; minutes approved
4. Regular Business
  - a. budget report – \$3,755.83

- i. reflects commitments to pixelstix that have not been invoiced for
    - ii. considering requesting pixelstix NOT perform travel portion of contract, but consider graphic/promotions in lieu of travel
    - iii. ~\$1,000 remaining to pay pixelstix in contract
  - b. Slice of heaven
    - i. \$2,500 to solicit new art piece in place
    - ii. Rebekah Kik to provide letter of encumbrance to allow KCPAC to receive moneys and prepare RFP
    - iii. Step 1:
      - 1. Recommendation to de-access; Patrick J has started draft, will share with Jared
    - iv. Step 2:
      - 1. Discuss art pieces available to transport to site, OR prepare RFP, OR swappable piece
  - c. Shannon Carrol, director of communication and community engagement, KIA; joining as KCPAC KIA rep
- 5. Subcommittee report
  - a. pixelStix update
    - i. Memorandum of Understanding review. Suggestion to clarify cost for removal to be born by KCPAC
    - ii. Kristen to send memorandum of understanding to Rebekah
    - iii. Motion submitted, seconded, and approved to move ahead using this with property owners
    - iv. Living list of desired pieces. Subcommittee working on priorities. Takes 2 weeks min. to get printed; hard to capture prior to art hop; realistic to target round to for additional pieces
- 6. Round Table
  - a. LaCrone park – missing section is being rehung by parks and rec when rehab done
  - b. Richard Light preparing video info for content for pixelstix piece
- 7. Next meeting confirmed.
- 8. adjourned