

TOWN OF PARKER CULTURAL & SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Diane called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. She made note that there were two members of the public who wish to observe the meeting and would like to speak for a few minutes at the end of tonight's meeting.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Diane Roth, Elizabeth Lamonina, Andrew Hawkins, Katie Kendrick, Justin Raynor, John Diak, Susan Willis, Mike Edwards, Judy Bazile, and Kelly Gibson

Excused Absence: Lance Martin, Amy Holland

Town Council Liaisons: John Diak

Staff: Elaine Mariner, Shaun Albrechtson and Glenda Masters

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Edwards moved to approve the minutes from the July 18 meeting. Andrew Hawkins seconded the motion and the unanimously motion carried.

IV. INCUBATOR PROGRAM – Shaun Albrechtson, Assistant Director of Programs.

Shaun gave the commission a presentation of a future Arts Incubator program that may be implemented at The Schoolhouse once it re-opens in early 2018. The goal of the Arts Incubation program is to provide a supportive atmosphere where smaller and emerging cultural entities can strengthen their contribution to Parker's cultural and economic vibrancy. The program will activate the Schoolhouse Theater through artistic partnerships with local cultural organizations, businesses and artists, and invite more of the public into the facility. Selected partners will be able to focus on develop their programming, as well as receive mentorship and training in business and arts administration throughout their four year commitment. Partners will be selected through an application and interview process, similar to a grant application process. Trainings will be integrated into Parker Arts' current educational offerings and will be offered to the general public as well. Performances or gallery exhibits presented by partner organizations will take place at The Schoolhouse. The program is designed to not compete with current partnerships at the PACE Center or the existing presented season. There is also an opportunity to apply for a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to help launch the program. Andrew asked what precedence has been set for a program like this. Shaun referenced a similar program in Fort Collins and in Arlington County, Virginia. Incubation programs have shown to be very beneficial for artists as many have gone on to establish new creative businesses or have opened new venues in their local communities. Diane asked about the impact on staff time required to carry out this new program. Shaun has built staffing needs into the budget. Next steps for the program include finalizing the budget and timeline and conduct an evaluation of

the overall impact to The Schoolhouse Theater usage. Shaun and Glenda will then collaborate on funding opportunities available. Parker Arts will also begin to identify and connect with potential incubator partners to ensure interest in participation.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Art in Public Places – Elizabeth Lamonica**

The committee met in August and welcomed a new member, Marjorie Wilson. The “Say Cheese” sculpture has been installed at O’Brien Park as part of the Art Encounters program. Citizens have already begun talking about the new sculpture and taking their picture next to it. Elizabeth also noted that there has been some repairs made to the “Stage Coach” stone sculpture in Living Wheel Park. Andrew talked to Dennis Neiwoner, the original owner of Living Wheel Park, and got great articles on the history of the sculpture. Brief updates from Elaine included noting that the art inventory list is now complete and the final installment of the “Jacks” sculpture at Discovery Park has been paid. Kudos was given to Andrew and Carrie for working over the past several months to develop OTO Cast and launching the live app. People are now able to download the application to their mobile devices. The app provides a description of installed art pieces located throughout the Town. It’s currently promoted on the Art Encounters flier and it was announced in the Parker Arts weekly email newsletter and in the October Talk of the Town.

**Lecture Series – Mike Edwards and Katie Kendrick**

The Series recently hosted Plight of the Monarch Butterfly lecture. Attendance for the lecture was small but participants were dedicated. Mike noted that it was a good talk to begin the series with. A lecture that will include an update on Hess Reservoir will be next and should be well attended. November’s lecture will include a panel discussion on chronic pain. December’s panel discussion will be on depression. Both of these topics include a partnership with Parker Adventist Hospital and will engage several of their medical staff. Diane noted that she thought the panels are a good idea. Katie noted that the depression panel will focus on teens and on the various types of depression. Rack cards have been created and can now be used to promote the lectures. Early planning has already started for the next season.

**Programming Advisory - Kelly Gibson**

The committee recently held its first meeting and three more meetings are planned between now and the end of the year. A survey was sent to the committee to gather outside feedback on Parker Arts’ presented programming. Committee members were asked to share the survey with their circles of influence. Current members of the committee include Justin, Shaun, Jennifer Bustamante, Innovation Pavilion’s Community Director, Toby who is a choreographer, Stephanie Klein, Shelly Mango and a Parker Arts volunteer. The committee’s biggest area of interest is to figure out how to engage people who don’t already have a relationship with Parker Arts. Justin noted that it’s a challenge to get people who don’t know about Parker Arts to understand our purpose and what services we provide. Next meeting is October 5.

### **Finance – Elaine Mariner**

Elaine gave the finance report in Lance's absence. Parker Arts is currently 66% of the way through the fiscal year and is at 86% of budget for earned ticket revenue which includes pre-sold tickets for next year. Glenda provided an update on the Stage Dinner fundraising that Parker Arts is hosting on October 24 at the PACE Center. Invitations to the event were distributed to commissioners.

### **History – Andrew Hawkins and Judy Bazile**

Andrew Hawkins made the motion to preserve and protect Parker's written, oral and archeological history. Mike Edwards seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. The motion was open for discussion and the recommendation was made to form an ad hoc committee to explore options for creating a formal History Committee. John Diak asked how this committee might interact with Parker Area Historical Society. Judy noted that she recently attended one of their meetings and the idea would be to build on the relationships of those organizations who already work together. Andrew mentioned that the town could use some help in other areas, including better identifying the role of Preservation Park. There are people within Parker like Mark Keifer, who has no heirs and wants to give all of his early planning documents to the Town for preservation. Judy and Andrew also met with Dennis Neiwoner, one of Parker's original developers and he is extremely interested in the history of Parker. It was recommended to have a liaison with PAHS in order to maintain collaborative relationships. After discussions, the motion was called to vote. The vote to form a new History Committee unanimously passed. Andrew and Judy will be co-chairs. Initial projects will include identifying Schoolhouse alumni, figure out how to display the artifacts found in The Schoolhouse during rehabilitation and collecting oral history from the schoolhouse alumni.

### **Honey Festival – Diane Roth**

A very successful Honey Festival was held August 6 in O'Brien Park. Kudos were given to Susan and Judy for helping out at the event. The committee didn't know the full attendance for the event but Natural Grocers commented that they handed out 1,200 bags. Successful elements of the Festival including the addition of educational talks, having an emcee and PA system for the event and extending the festival an extra hour to coincide with the Farmer's Market. There were a good array of vendors present, 18 total. Several vendors indicated that they would consider coming back again next year. The event draws most of its attendance from the Farmer's Market. Katie noted the need to be larger signage and Glenda mentioned that Carrie would like to have an event banner next year at the park entry points. After the festival, Diane talked with Ann Atkinson (Beekeepers Club) and expressed an interest in being a part of the educational opportunities that they offer year-round. Ideas included classes, observation hives in a town building or within the town, and other public education opportunities. A comment was made by one of the members of the public attending the meeting that the committee might want to connect with Flat Acres Farm regarding their pollinator efforts. Diane noted that they were invited to the Festival but could not attend.

VI. DIRECTORS UPDATE – Elaine Mariner

Elaine gave an update on the future phases of The Schoolhouse rehabilitation and redevelopment project. The historic portion will be done in October, however the non-historic portion will not be completed until the end of January. Parker Arts will host a grand reopening in February 2018. A component of the reconstruction of The Schoolhouse includes redevelopment of the front plaza that connects Ruth Chapel to the Schoolhouse. Reconfiguring the plaza will provide photo opportunities for wedding parties and community groups, shopping opportunities tied to markets and craft fairs, as well as passive and self-activated elements that include chairs, benches and rocks that kids can climb on. There will also be the potential for performance and events area that can accommodate a tent for up to 200 people. The plaza can also provide Programmable space for Parker Arts and the south entrance can serve as an extension of the lobby. DHN Design is the landscape architect to redevelop the space. The plaza project will be roughly \$3 million dollars, however the department only has \$1 million in the capital budget. DHN will also be soliciting public feedback during the planning process. Andrew noted that some places made their fencing from concrete planters and shrubs. Implementation of the project will begin next year because that is when capital funding is allocated.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS UPDATES – John Diak

John noted that the Town has copied much of Dennis Neiwoner documents already. John also mentioned that Dennis would like to see a plaque installed on the Stage Coach sculpture. The Art in Public Places Committee will talk about the plaque at their next meeting. John encouraged Andrew and Elizabeth to circle back with Dennis throughout the process. He shared that Town Clerk, Carol Baumgartner believes that the 20 Mile Barn is still located within a privately owned barn in Parker but that the matrix documents to reassemble the barn are gone. Andrew is going to go look at the barn within the next few weeks.

Town Council appointed Michelle Kivela as the new Town Administrator. Parker Tap House development is scheduled to begin in September or October with a 10 month build out expected. The Recreation Masters Plan that is currently under development including Preservation Park. Andrew noted that he plans to attend those meetings. Red Bar is a high-tech campus and will be coming to Parker over the next few years. Parker Tennis is a new indoor tennis facility that is a public/private partnership for recreation.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Guest Speakers – Diane Roth

The Commission had two members of the public attend the meeting. Rick Sangora is a former City Council Member for Castle Rock and is a Castle Rock resident. (Ms.) Jamie VanDegrift is the Director of Professional Services at Envestnet Yodlee. They are a part of the Colorado Energy Freedom Tour Team which is focused on environmental issues and renewable energy sources. They asked if the commission makes recommendations to Parker Town Council regarding environmental initiatives. Diane informed Rick and Jamie that the Cultural and Scientific Commission is an advisory board to the Cultural Department and does not bring items to Council

for approval. Rick and Jamie mentioned that there was a meeting for the Colorado Energy Freedom Tour on the 21<sup>st</sup> at the Parker Library.

Elaine asked for an updated committee list from the commission. Diane asked for everyone to think about what committees they wanted to serve on and to let Diane know.

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be November 21, 2017 at Vines in Downtown Parker.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Andrew Hawkins moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. Mike Edwards seconded the motion and the motion passed.

  
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Commission Chair Approval

  
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Date

