

MINUTES
City of St Charles
Visitors Cultural Commission Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2023

1. Call to Order at 5:20 PM

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Anne Becker; Harvey Miller; Sharon Spero, Lori Stahulak; Jamie Swenson; Jodi Manthei; Sally Stancati

Members Absent: Kathy Kortez

Also present: Bill Hannah, City of St. Charles; Carylie Forte, City of St. Charles

3. Approval of the Minutes of May 3, 2023

Becker asked for a Motion to Approve the Minutes from the May 3, 2023 meeting. Motion by Stahulak, seconded by Spero. The Minutes were unanimously approved by the board members present.

4. Public Comment - Becker asked if there was Public Comment. There was no public comment.

5. Discussion of scoring matrix and allocation and consideration of approval of Visitors Cultural Commission funding recommendations for FY 2023-24

Bill Hannah briefly described the scoring summary sheet and the scoring is based on the four rating criteria that Visitors Cultural Commission board members use to arrive at funding amounts for each organization that applied. Hannah reminded that the commission's practice has been not to award more funding than an organization has requested. There is one organization that falls into this situation. Sculpture in the Park requested \$10,000 and based on the calculated award (from scores), would potentially receive more if the funding was only based on scores. The commission would decide where the additional dollars could be disseminated that are more than the \$10,000 requested by Sculpture in the Park. Becker mentioned that it's not that they are against giving more money, but when it is above an amount requested it should be distributed to other organizations not receiving their full requested amount, to try to balance the funding.

Nine organizations applied for funding from the Visitors Cultural Commission for FY 23-24. Based on the scores by commission members and the results from the average scores in four categories (Economic Impact, Enhance Community Culture, Resident Benefit, and Enhancing St Charles Reputation), the discussion proceeded. The summary sheet also was projected on the overhead screen for visual assistance. Because of the plus variance created by Sculpture in the Park's score exceeding their request, the discussion proceeded by discussing how to disburse the additional money created by that variance.

It was noted that one organization's scores seemed a little low in two criteria that they had historically scored higher in previous years. Spero mentioned for the benefit of newer commission members that in previous years, the new organizations requesting funding typically

would start out with lower funding and grew in subsequent years, with respect to their funding, based on their creative growth and exposure in St. Charles.

Manthei asked if she was reading correctly if you look at the 2023-24 Calculated Award minus the Final Award, every organization is getting more, except Fine Line, and as they are rated as one of the top three in the scoring summary, would the variance of \$449.00 be appropriately added to Fine Line, as a discussion point? After some discussion, Becker asked if they might divide the \$449 in half and give half to Fine Line (\$225.00), and the other half to St Charles Arts Council (\$224.00). After some discussion, the commission agreed, and Becker added that the matrix helps to arrive at scoring and ultimate funding decisions.

Final Funding Summary:

**City of St. Charles
Visitors Cultural Commission
Funding for FY 2023-24
Summary of Average Scores**

Organization	Rating Criteria					Total	% of Total	Calculated Award 23-24	2023-24 Funding Requested	Final Award 23-24	2022-2023 Final Funding
	Economic impact	Enhance Community Culture	Resident benefit	Enhance St. Charles Reputation							
Fineline Creative Arts Center	8	9	7	7		31	11.61%	10,449	15,000	10,674	10,615
Fox Valley Concert Band	6	7	7	7		27	10.11%	9,101	10,000	9,101	7,417
Preservation Partners	6	8	8	8		30	11.24%	10,113	17,500	10,113	9,332
St Charles Art Council	7	8	8	8		31	11.61%	10,449	20,000	10,673	9,606
Norris Cultural Arts Center	7	7	7	8		29	10.86%	9,775	20,000	9,775	8,620
Sculpture in the Park	6	8	8	9		31	11.61%	10,449	10,000	10,000	10,000
St Charles Singers	7	8	8	9		32	11.99%	10,788	11,000	10,788	9,513
Kane Repertory Theatre	7	8	7	7		29	10.86%	9,775	20,000	9,775	7,126
Marquee Youth Stage	6	7	7	7		27	10.11%	9,101	14,200	9,101	8,573
Steel Beam (Did not apply for FY 23-24)											9,198
TOTAL							100.00%	90,000	137,700	90,000	90,000

Evaluation Instructions
Use the below scale and correlate the rating criteria to each organization.
1 = Remote
3 = Moderate
5 = Strong
7 = Direct
9 = Direct and strong

267
Funds to Allocate 90,000
Remainder to Allocate -

Becker asked for a motion to approve final funding for FY 23-24. The funding recommendations were approved by a unanimous vote by the VCC board members. Motion to approve by Swenson, seconded by Miller.

6. Adjournment

Becker asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Miller, seconded by Stancati to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm.

Minutes prepared by Carylie Forte.