

**MINUTES**  
**City of St Charles**  
**Visitors Cultural Commission Meeting**  
***Wednesday, June 17, 2020***

**1. Call to Order at 5:17 PM**

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Chairwoman, Anne Becker; Kathy Melone; Sharon Spero; Sally Stancati; Larry Maholland; Jodi Manthei; Scott Corbin called in at 5:21pm

Member(s) Absent: Sue Klinkhamer.

Also Present: Chris Minick, City of St. Charles; Carylie Forte, City of St. Charles; Tracey Conti, City of St. Charles.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of May 15, 2019**

Becker asked for a Motion to Approve the Minutes from the May 15, 2019 meeting. Motion by Sally Stancati, seconded by Anne Becker to approve the Minutes. The Minutes were unanimously approved by the board by voice vote.

**4. Public Comment** - Becker asked if there was Public Comment by anyone from outside the commission. Joe Bilquist, executive director of Steel Beam Theater, made some brief comments of gratitude to the commission.

Becker asked if any board members had comments about the applications. She commented that the COVID 19 restrictions had severely curtailed the activities of many of the applicant organizations and it was sad to see that happening, but in the face of that, many have attempted to make adjustments, but not in the robust way they are used to and through having their usual participation in the City and its events.

Becker reminded that once public comments end and funding discussions begin, there can be no further public comment from anyone, outside of the commission members.

**5. Discussion of Funding Applications received and consideration of approval of Visitors Cultural Commission Funding Allocation recommendations for FY 2020-21**

Becker turned over the discussion to Minick to briefly explain the scoring system and the summary sheet (see below illustration) that is used to finalize scoring and funding allocated.

Ten organizations applied for funding from the Visitors Cultural Commission for FY 20-21. There was a discussion about the application of Kane Repertory Theater and that they have been in existence in St. Charles for one year, but one of the requirements for eligibility is to be in operation for a minimum of two years in St. Charles. It was agreed that since they did not meet all of the requirements this year, they would be excluded from funding for FY 20-21, but could reapply in 2021 for FY 21-22. Based on the matrix scores by commission members and the percentages resulting from those, it was recommended to look at what the funding amounts would be, respecting the percentages, and see how that calculated, and reallocate the funding that Kane Repertory Theater could not receive this year, by equally allocating those funds

amongst the other organizations that had applied who met all the requirements. It was then realized that this method would give Sculpture in the Park more funds at \$10,887 than they had requested (\$10,000). It was agreed that the commission did not want to set a precedent by funding more than was requested, so \$887 was removed from their total to see how that could be reallocated to the remaining 8 organizations. Kathy Melone recommended it be given to Steel Beam Theater. Becker noted that funding in this way appeared to look very close to what these same organizations received last year, and given the economic climate everyone has now been placed in with COVID-19, it is fortunate that they can receive these funds from the City, Becker advised the commission that because this teleconference is preventing them from being in the same space for this meeting, she wanted to informally poll each commissioner to give their approval or not on how they have discussed the final awarding of funds. Larry Maholland voiced reservations about the method of arriving at different totals and revising them away from the matrix method of scoring. All other commissioners approved.

Becker called for a motion to approve final funding allocations for the organizations. Motion by Becker, seconded by Spero. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

<b>FINAL FUNDING 20-21</b>										
<i>Summary of Average Scores</i>										
Organization	Rating Criteria					Total	% of Total	Calculated Award	2020-21 Funding Requested	Final Award
	Economic impact	Enhance Community Culture	Resident benefit	Enhance St. Charles Reputation						
Fineline Creative Arts Center	7	9	8	7		31	12.15%	10,932	15,000	10,932
Sculpture in the Park	7	7	8	9		31	12.10%	10,887	10,000	10,000
St. Charles Singers	7	7	8	8		29	11.55%	10,397	12,000	10,397
St Charles Art Council	6	8	8	7		28	11.16%	10,040	14,400	10,040
Steel Beam Theater	7	7	7	7		28	11.16%	10,040	20,000	10,927
Preservation Partners of Fox Valley	6	8	7	7		27	10.66%	9,593	12,500	9,593
Norris Cultural Arts Center	6	6	7	7		27	10.66%	9,593	10,000	9,593
Marquee Youth Stage	6	8	7	6		26	10.46%	9,415	19,902	9,415
Fox Valley Concert Band	6	7	7	6		26	10.11%	9,103	10,000	9,103
Kane Repertory Theatre	6	6	6	6		0	0.00%	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>123,802</b>	<b>90,000</b>

## 6. Adjournment

Motion by Manthei, seconded by Swenson to adjourn the meeting at 6:21pm. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Minutes prepared by Carylie Forte.