

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Cultural Commission (CCCC)
Monday, June 13, 2022 ● 6:00 PM
Community Center Robert “Bob” Crowell Board Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Commission Members

Chair – Barbara D’Anneo	Vice Chair –Sierra Scott
Commissioner – Karen Abowd	Commissioner – Christopher Leyva
Commissioner – Stan Jones	Commissioner – Susan Mowers
Commissioner – Bethany Drysdale	

Staff

Nancy Paulson, City Manager
Debra Soule, Arts and Culture Program Manager
Todd Reese, Deputy District Attorney
Danielle Howard, Public Meetings Clerk

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the board’s agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder’s Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

An audio recording of this meeting is available on www.carson.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER

(6:00:44) – Chairperson D’Anneo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

(6:01:10) – Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Barbara D’Anneo, Chair	Present	
Sierra Scott, Vice Chair	Absent	
Karen Abowd	Present	
Christopher Leyva	Present	
Stan Jones	Present	
Susan Mowers	Present	
Bethany Drysdale	Present	

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE-MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

(6:01:28) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 15, 2022

(6:01:47) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item and entertained comments, corrections, and a motion.

(6:01:57) – MOTION: Vice Chairperson Abowd moved to approve the minutes of March 15, 2022 as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Abowd
SECONDER:	Jones
AYES:	D’Anneo, Leyva, Abowd Jones, Mowers, Drysdale
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Scott

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

5.a FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION REGARDING AN UPDATE ON THE ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST CARSON CITY CULTURAL COMMISSION ("COMMISSION") MEETING HELD IN MARCH 2022.

(6:02:19) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Soule reported the following regarding Arts and Culture Program activities:

- The Great Western Steam Up, taking place on July 1 through July 4, 2022 in Carson City, is “a major cultural event” expected to attract large crowds and many out of town visitors, and there were approximately 1,600 tickets sold, most of which were purchased by out of town visitors. Additionally, this would be the largest reunion of the existing Virginia and Truckee (V&T) locomotives assembled in the last 75 years, with over 10 operating steam locomotives that were being brought to the City for the event at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, and there would be music and entertainment, food, merchandise vendors, other antique steam-powered vehicles, and lost arts demonstrations featured at the event.
- Ms. Soule completed the database for the Cultural Maps project, and the database was being converted into a map by a Michael Baker International geographic information system (GIS) specialist to then be imbedded into the Visit Carson City website (<https://visitcarsoncity.com/>) and made available to the City’s website. The database contains over 300 listings categorized under six categories, which include cultural organizations, cultural facilities, heritage sites, heritage properties, cultural economy businesses, arts and culture events and festivals, and public art.
- Ms. Soule and many other City staff and departments have been involved in developing a draft Public Art Policy, which would be presented to the CCCC for a future agenda item, possibly for a special meeting, and Ms. Soule commented that the Public Art Policy would be “an incredibly important step in moving forward on major public art projects here in Carson City.”
- The Environmental Art Demonstration project artwork had been destroyed, and the sign was pulled out of the ground and stolen, so Ms. Soule was reconsidering that project and how it should be undertaken in the future. She stated that the environmental art component could possibly be separate from the Art on the Trails Initiative, with one of the suggestions being experimenting with art in a more visible location, as the Environmental Art Demonstration project was on the Carson River Trail.
- Ms. Soule was planning the first outdoor art experience, Art on the Trails, for which art stations were intended to be situated along selected locations on the Carson River Trail, including for plein air painting and gourd art. Ms. Soule was working with the Great Basin Native Artists through the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum to encourage a workshop possibly for basket weaving on the trail, as

the materials are readily available, as well as natural art. The Art on the Trails program would include dinner and music entertainment at the Silver Saddle Ranch.

- The Planning Committee for the Mark Twain Days Festival was meeting on a regular basis, and a preliminary schedule of festival activities was created. Some of the proposed major activities would include “a Twain Train” to travel between the City and Virginia City on the V&T Rail, featuring Mark Twain’s favorite cocktails, and a Mark Twain and his wife, Olivia, look-a-like contest, which would be a judged runway event. “A Twain Path Tour” was being planned to be led by Mary Bennett that would feature places where Samuel L. Clemens frequented in Carson City and the stories involving those places. There would be several literary performances and activities being planned leading up to and during the festival with a Mark Twain headliner performance featuring McAvoy Layne. There would also be era-appropriate vendors and performers for the festival.

Ms. Soule also responded to clarifying questions.

6. ACTION ITEMS:

6.a FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CARSON CITY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ("AUTHORITY") FOR THE ALLOCATION OF FISCAL YEAR ("FY") 2023 REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE GRANT FUNDING OF UP TO \$50,000 AMONG ANY OR NONE OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICANTS/PROJECTS: BIRDHOUSE GROUP LLC/THE DOWNTOWN VINTAGE MARKET; BREWERY ARTS CENTER/ROCK N ROLL EXHIBITION; BREWERY ARTS CENTER/YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES; CAPITAL CITY ARTS INITIATIVE/VISUAL ARTS FOR THE COMMUNITY; CARSON CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/CARSON CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS; CARSON CITY SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION/FY23 SYMPHONY CONCERT SERIES; LAKESIDE STUDIOS, LLC/STREAMING CONTENT; MILE HIGH JAZZ BAND ASSOCIATION, INC./JAZZ & BEYOND CARSON CITY MUSIC AND ART FESTIVAL; PINKERTON BALLET THEATRE/THE NUTCRACKER BALLET; AND WILD HORSE PRODUCTIONS/A CHORUS LINE.

(6:09:47) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item and referenced the Staff Report and the accompanying attachments, all of which are incorporated into the record. She entertained presentations of the 10 agencies’ event funding requests, all of which are incorporated into the agenda materials. Ms. Soule instructed the Commissioners to score each of the applicants/projects after each presentation using the score sheet incorporated into the record. The representatives presented their agencies’ requests and responded to clarifying questions in the following order:

- David Bugli, Mile High Jazz Band Association President and Carson City Historical Society Secretary, appearing on behalf of the Mile High Jazz Band Association and the Carson City Historical Society
- Brewery Arts Center (BAC) Executive Director Gina Lopez, appearing on behalf of the BAC
- BAC Youth Advisor Erich Parker, appearing on behalf of the BAC
- Lakeside Studios, LLC CEO Lori LeClaire, appearing on behalf of Lakeside Studios, LLC
- Birdhouse Group LLC Manager/Owner Travis Legatzke, appearing on behalf of Birdhouse Group LLC doing business as (dba) Downtown Vintage Market
- Carson City Arts Initiative (CCAI) Executive Director Sharon Rosse, appearing on behalf of the Capital City Arts Initiative

- Wild Horse Productions Executive Director Carol Scott and Wild Horse Productions Executive Producer Michelle Van Geel, appearing on behalf of Wild Horse Productions dba Wild Horse Stage Company
- Pinkerton Ballet Theatre Director Theresa Chipp, appearing on behalf of the Pinkerton Ballet Theatre dba Nevada Dance Company
- Carson City Symphony Association President Elinor Bugli, appearing on behalf of the Carson City Symphony Association

(6:33:04) – Referencing Mr. Bugli’s presentations, Commissioner Jones commented that the agencies should start charging for some of the tours and events because of there being a lot of competition for Carson City Redevelopment District Arts and Culture Grant funds. He also pointed out that after a number of years, applicants that reapply for the Grant do not get the same, equal consideration for the allotted funds. Commissioner Mowers added that agencies could make certain events free while also charging for some that are “more VIP,” and agencies could market their “more big-ticket items and make them very special so that you do get the price that you need so that you can still offer the free events to the greater public.”

(6:49:19) – Commissioner Drysdale was in favor of the BAC’s Youth Engagement proposal and noted that there were many opportunities for partnerships. She suggested working with Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) programs in the high schools and the middle schools so classes could work on a project and possibly contribute to production of fliers. She also proposed a partnership with the Jump Around Carson (JAC) public transit system to provide free rides home for students with a student body card. Commissioner Abowd commented that she “applauded the initiative” of the BAC’s proposed Youth Engagement events and activities.

(7:03:11) – Chairperson D’Anne commented that the proposed streaming content by Lakeside Studios, LLC was “an interesting concept”; however, she stated that she “need[ed] substance, a plan, objectives, schematics.” Commissioner Jones stated that he did not believe that Ms. LeClaire had a plan or was prepared for what she was proposing, and he was “very reluctant to support this right now.”

(7:44:20) – Commissioner Mowers complimented the Wild Horse Production’s *A CHORUS LINE* proposal for being “very thorough.”

(8:33:32) – Commissioner Jones thanked Ms. Bugli and Mr. Bugli for “all you’ve done in the arts and culture field over the years.” Commissioners Mowers commended Ms. Bugli for starting the string instrument program in Carson City, and Commissioner Drysdale supported the Carson City Symphony Association offering free admission to youth concerts and free family passes to students in the programs. Commissioner Abowd also thanked Ms. Bugli for “all your hard work.”

(8:05:56) – Ms. Soule instructed the Commissioners to provide their scores for each applicant/project out of a possible total of 30 points, and Ms. Soule calculated the final scores. She noted that the highest scoring applicants/projects were the BAC’s Rock n’ Roll Exhibition, the BAC’s Youth Engagement, the Birdhouse Group LLC’s Downtown Vintage Market, the Carson City Historical Society’s Carson City Historical Society Events, and the Wild Horse Production’s *A CHORUS LINE*. She indicated that the Commissioners may decide to allocate the Grant funds based on the order of the scores or based on the total amounts, or the Commissioners may make changes to the funding requests. Commissioner Abowd believed that the Lakeside Studios, LLC proposal was “premature” and did not suggest funding from that aspect. She suggested awarding \$10,000 to the BAC for Youth Engagement, the full requested amount of \$6,000 to the Carson City Historical Society, \$8,000 to the BAC for the Rock n’ Roll Exhibition, \$8,000 to Birdhouse Group LLC, \$5,000 to Wild Horse Productions, \$4,000 to the Mile High Jazz Band

Association, \$4,000 to the Pinkerton Ballet Theatre, \$3,000 to the CCAI, and \$2,000 to the Carson City Symphony Association.

(8:18:02) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained a motion.

(8:18:09) – MOTION: Commissioner Mowers moved to recommend to the Carson City Redevelopment Authority approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Redevelopment District Arts and Culture Grant funding as follows:

- **BAC Youth Engagement: \$10,000**
- **Carson City Historical Society Carson City Historical Society Events: \$6,000**
- **BAC Rock n’ Roll Exhibition: \$8,000**
- **Birdhouse Group LLC Downtown Vintage Market: \$8,000**
- **Wild Horse Productions A CHORUS LINE: \$5,000**
- **Mile High Jazz Band Jazz and Beyond Carson City Music and Art Festival: \$4,000**
- **Pinkerton Ballet Theatre *The Nutcracker Ballet*: \$4,000**
- **CCAI Visual Arts for the Community: \$3,000**
- **Carson City Symphony Association FY23 Symphony Concert Series: \$2,000**
- **Lakeside Studios, LLC Streaming Content: \$0**

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Mowers
SECONDER:	Jones
AYES:	D’Anneo, Abowd, Leyva, Jones, Mowers, Drysdale
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Scott

6.b FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A POTENTIAL MARK TWAIN MURAL PROJECT TO COMPLEMENT MARK TWAIN DAYS, A NEW CAPITAL CITY FESTIVAL THAT WILL BE HELD IN APRIL 2023 TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF MARK TWAIN IN CARSON CITY.

(8:19:52) – Ms. Soule referenced the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record, and clarified that the mural was intended to be a portrait of Mark Twain that would be a permanent art installation in the downtown Carson City area. She proposed that the Commission consider establishing a project panel and following the procedures that would be presented at the next CCCC meeting in order to undertake the project for completion before April 2023. She also responded to clarifying questions, and Chairperson D’Anneo entertained a motion.

(8:23:01) – MOTION: Commissioner Abowd moved to approve the Mark Twain mural project concept and direct Staff to move forward with an RFP as discussed on the record.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Abowd
SECONDER:	Drysdale
AYES:	D’Anneo, Abowd, Leyva, Jones, Mowers, Drysdale
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Scott

7. CULTURAL COMMISSION:

NON-ACTION ITEMS:

- CITY MANAGER’S ARTS & CULTURE REPORT

(8:23:33) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Paulson informed the Commissioners that the job description for the new Carson City Recreation Program Supervisor position was finalized and would be posted soon. She noted that the draft Public Art Policy was complete and would be presented to the Commission possibly during a special meeting of the CCCC. She also responded to clarifying questions.

- COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

(8:25:28) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item and entertained Commissioner reports and comments. Commissioner Abowd announced that all the flower baskets from The Greenhouse Project were hanging up in the downtown Carson City area, and she wished to thank all of the individuals who sponsored the watering of the flower baskets. She indicated that The Greenhouse Project “cut the ribbon” for the Native Plant Nursery and Compost Program at Carson High School during the previous Monday, and she explained that the program advances environmental education for the students. She stated that The Greenhouse Project started a “Grow it Forward” campaign taking place for sustainability, and The Greenhouse Project had a match donor until July 31, 2022. She also announced that The Greenhouse Project was putting out “a save the date” for September 19, 2022 at Nashville Social Club for the Grateful Harvest Dinner, which would include music.

- FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(8:27:19) – Chairperson D’Anneo proposed a future agenda item concerning the CCCC organizing an art contest in the City schools to “beautify” the bear bins on the trails and the replacements for the oil drum trash cans in the Lone Mountain Cemetery.

- UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

(8:28:07) – The Commission was in favor of scheduling a special meeting of the CCCC on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION (THREE-MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

(8:29:28) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained public comments. Mr. Legatzke thanked the Commission for “hearing us out and participating with us in this vision to do that” and invited the Commission to visit the Downtown Vintage Market to “make it your own.”

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ADJORN.

(8:30:33) – Chairperson D’Anneo adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

The Minutes of the June 13, 2022 Carson City Cultural Commission meeting are so approved this 25th day of July 2022.