

**ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Meeting of Tuesday, 06 May 2014  
Downtown Partnership Office, Storrs Center Transportation Center

MINUTES

**1.** The meeting was **called to order** at 5:05p by Kim Bova. *Members present:* Kim Bova, Tom Bruhn, Scott Lehmann, David Vaughan. *Members absent:* none. *Others present:* Cynthia van Zelm (Downtown Partnership), Brian Kent (landscape architect for Town Square), Jay O'Keefe (staff).

**2.** The **draft minutes** of the 01 April meeting were approved as written.

**3. MCC exhibits.** Before the meeting, Scott and David viewed photos (on Tom's digital camera) of works by **Roger Crossgrove** proposed for exhibit in the summer and agreed that they were suitable. **Pattie Tuite** has hung watercolors by **Richard Davis** in the hallways.

**4. Town Square art.** Cynthia van Zelm reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for sculpture or other art to grace the new Town Square had generated 28 submissions by the 01 May deadline, plus 2 that arrived shortly thereafter. There is space in the revised site plan for two artworks. (Fund-raising is on-going for two works at \$65K each.) Each should "celebrate the Mansfield community by reflecting at least one of the themes: culture, history, agriculture, or education," and at least one "should appeal to children." Some proposals have been designed specifically for the site; most appear to be 'off the shelf' works or adaptations thereof. The Committee is responsible for short-listing proposals by the end of May; it may recommend expanding the search if it is disappointed by the proposals submitted. Along with the RFP, Ms. van Zelm distributed information on the proposals in tabular form: "Art Submission for Town Square (May 2014)."

Brian Kent reviewed the plan of the Square for the Committee. The two sites for sculpture are about 100 ft apart. Neither is level; consequently, the larger a work's footprint, the more challenging its installation. Any work will be fully accessible to the public; it must not be fragile or unsafe. High-maintenance designs should be avoided. Panels in small structures in the Square (sun shades, performance pavilion) will be red, so neutrally colored works are probably best. One up-light is possible in the Square.

The Committee agreed with Tom that we should consider the two slightly late submissions, lest we rule out a superior work. Noting that careful consideration of proposals will take time, Scott suggested that the Committee proceed by having members look individually through the submissions and then assembling later to discuss them and arrive at the Committee's recommendations. It was agreed to do this, using the scoring sheets Jay has prepared. The Committee agreed to meet at 5:00p on Wednesday, 14 May, for discussion. Committee members then spent approximately an hour looking individually through proposals. Members should make arrangements with Ms. van Zelm to continue individual reviews in advance of the 14 May meeting,

**5.** The meeting informally **adjourned** at about 6:40p. On their way out Committee members viewed wall space in the Transportation Center lobby and bike room, which might be suitable for exhibiting large works (e.g., photos of the Tour de Mansfield).

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 08 May 2014; approved 03 June 2014.