

**City of Brighton  
Arts & Culture Commission Minutes  
Regular Meeting – May 9, 2011**

1. **Call to Order**

Chairperson Roblee called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and the roll call was taken:

Claudia Roblee – Present                      Larry Lawrence – Present  
Tim Cusick – Absent (arr. 5:10 p.m.)      Kris Tobbe – Absent (arrived at 4:10 p.m.)  
MJ Takagi – Present

Also present was Lauri French and Matt Modrack from City Staff and an audience of five.

2. **Approval of the April 11, 2011 Agenda**

Ms. Roblee requested that approval of the April 11, 2011 meeting minutes be moved to Item 5a. on today's agenda. The meeting minutes could not be approved since MJ Takagi was not at the meeting and without her, there was not a quorum present to vote.

***Moved by MJ Takagi, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to approve the May 9, 2011 agenda as amended. Motion carried 3-0-2.***

4. **Approval of April 2011 Financial Report**

***Moved by MJ Takagi, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to approve the April 2011 financial report as presented. Motion carried 3-0-2.***

5. **Call to the Public**

Call to the public was made at 4:10 p.m. Hearing no response, call to the public was closed.

5a. **Approval of April 11, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes**

***Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to approve the April 11, 2011 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0-2, with MJ Takagi abstaining.***

**New Business**

6. **Envision Brighton World Café Presentation to BACC (Claudia Roblee)**

Claudia Roblee reviewed the World Café presentation she has given to the other City Boards and Commissions (with the exception of the ZBA) and emphasized those items included in the BACC report handout that should be considered as we move forward with our goals and objectives. Claudia asked if anyone on the BACC or in the audience had any questions. Joyce Powers asked if a community vision had been developed yet out of all the raw data from the World Café. Claudia responded that the subcommittee has not yet finished that part of the World Café.

7. **Optimists Club Sculpture Donation and Approved Location (Claudia Roblee)**

Claudia Roblee noted that the Optimists Club made a surprise donation at the April 21, 2011 City Council meeting of a fish sculpture to commemorate their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their Club's sponsorship of the annual Fishing Derby in the Millpond. Mike Monroe, a local artist, is making the sculpture, which will be located adjacent to the Imagination Station facing the Millpond. There was discussion about possible vandalism and whether the sculpture location is in view of one of the security cameras. Chief Wightman, who was in the audience, noted this area is not within view of a camera and that it would be very expensive to run a fiber optic line to an additional camera. MJ Takagi suggested the sculpture be moved one space over from the proposed location in the photograph and instead of mounting it on the grass it should be moved back toward the fence in the wood chips to make it easier to mow the lawn. There was also a discussion about whether the sculpture could be flat-mounted on the fence itself, put in the water like "Hot Landing" or mounted on the Tridge.

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*Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to recommend the alternate site on the wood chips next to the Imagination Station fence (to the right of the site proposed in the photograph provided) to City Council in order to meet the June 11, 2011 installation date timing and to discuss the possibility of mounting the sculpture in the water or on the Tridge in the future. Motion carried 4-0-1.*

### 8. **Vandalism prevention strategy for sculptures with Police Chief Wightman**

- **Hastings Art Show** – Matt Modrack discussed his recent visit to Hastings, MI for a Michigan Downtown Conference and passed out an art exhibit brochure from their city. They have 16 sculptures on display and the Hastings DDA Director indicated they have had no problems with vandalism in over a year. Matt noted that this could be due to the pieces being very large and very visible, with most of them mounted along the main street in town. Claudia Roblee was interested in learning from the Hastings police chief what type of deterrents are used to protect their sculptures from vandalism and requested that Chief Wightman contact him to find out. Chief Wightman noted that some of the first pieces in Brighton's art exhibit were made from materials that were easily damaged (plaster of Paris, ceramic, etc.) and some were located in out-of-the-way places that made them easier to vandalize without being seen. He suggested we exhibit larger pieces and make sure they don't have small pieces that can be broken off. It was noted that the BACC has taken the vandalism into account the last few years when selecting new pieces, even moving some smaller pieces indoors.

### 9. **Consider participating in DIA's "Inside/Out 2011" program (Lauri French)**

Lauri French advised that Brighton has been invited by the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) to participate in a program called "Inside/Out" where paintings by the masters are reproduced and framed for outdoor exhibition in selected cities. She reviewed a Powerpoint presentation that she attended two weeks ago that explained how the program works; the DIA is responsible for all installation costs, they hire a company to install the artwork on buildings throughout the city and cover all liability. The program is offered at no cost to the city, and a Participation Agreement asking for our first and second choice of dates is due to the DIA by May 12, 2011. Claudia Roblee will talk to City Manager Foster to get administrative approval to submit the Agreement.

*Motion by MJ Takagi, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to direct Staff to complete the Participation Agreement and return it to the DIA to participate in the "Inside/Out 2011" program with our first choice Summer 2012 (July-Sept.) and our second choice Sprint 2012 (April-June), subject to administrative or Council approval. Motion carried 4-0-1.*

### 10. **Approval of quote from Corrigan Towing to return "Landscape Sunset"**

Matt Modrack advised that the original agreement with the artist provided that the City would return the piece to him when the exhibition was over. Due to the size of the piece, Matt determined it would take a professional to return the piece safely to Williamston, and he asked Corrigan Towing for a quote to return it. The cost quoted was \$425 or \$550 worst case if they had to haul a lift machine to lift it off in Williamston. The sculpture has to be returned before the artist leaves for a trip out of the country on May 21; we also need the space to pour two new concrete bases for the two grant pieces that will be put in the Cobb Hall site. Matt is asked for approval to spend up to \$550 to return "Landscape Sunset" this week.

*Motion by Kris Tobbe, seconded by MJ Takagi, to approve up to \$550 to return "Landscape Sunset" to the artist in Williamston. Motion carried 5-0.*

## **Old Business**

### 11. **BAFA 9/11 Memorial Update (Greg Mowbray and Piet Lindhout)**

Greg Mowbray from the BAFA gave an update on the piece of World Trade Center steel that he and four other firefighters picked up in late April. The piece is now in storage at the station on Dorr Road. He showed some additional photographs of the piece and advised that while they don't know which tower or

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floor the piece came from, they were able to identify it as part of the building known as a “sky lobby” which was located on one of two floors in each tower. Piet Lindhout has been working on preliminary sketches for a memorial. Greg noted that since word has spread about Brighton having the piece, other communities and the County have jumped on board to plan a 9/11 memorial and hold fundraisers to pay for it. The BACC asked Piet and Greg to keep them up-to-date on the plan and to let us know when they need the \$1,000 allocated for the memorial. Lauri French also thanked Greg Mowbray and his workers for agreeing to return “Centurian” to David Deming in Cleveland on their way to pick up the WTC steel piece and that it was very much appreciated.

### **12. Outdoor sculpture exhibit discussion**

- Status of three replacement pieces and “Winter ‘05” – Lauri French passed out a list of work that needs to be done by May 31 which includes pouring two new bases at the Cobb Hall site once “Landscape Sunset” is removed, de-installing and returning “American Beauty” to Todd Erickson and moving “Winter ‘05” from storage at DPS to the former “American Beauty” site. There was discussion about the proposed Nordin replacement sculpture for “I-275” on North St. (picked up by Robert Sestok when he dropped off his new piece for Cobb Hall, “Gone Wild”). Lauri and Matt Modrack saw the piece in person at the artist’s studio and they are proposing to add a glass ball to draw the eye to the sculpture. The artist would also like to raise the sculpture by two additional feet on the current base.

***Moved by MJ Takagi, seconded by Kris Tobbe, to approve the Detroit Design Center sculpture as the grant stipend replacement piece for “I-275” on North Street (number 33 on August 2010 art map). Motion carried 5-0.***

Lauri reviewed photographs of four possible candidates for the third replacement piece from Jim Ignash (fabricator for “Spiral”). His sculptures are made from reinforced aluminum, which should be sturdy enough for exhibit at Cobb Hall. The BACC unanimously selected the piece with three circles (large, medium and small). Lauri will get the dimensions and other details from the artist.

***Moved by Larry Lawrence, seconded by MJ Takagi, to select the Jim Ignash sculpture depicted as “1” in the photograph as one of the grant stipend sculptures for the Cobb Hall location. Motion carried 5-0.***

- Status of extension and/or replacement of pieces – Lauri French reported that most of the artists whose sculptures were scheduled to rotate out in 2011 have agreed to extend their exhibit either one or two years. Pictures of the Jeff Bohl replacement pieces were reviewed, and there was consensus that the BACC would accept those pieces for the August exhibit. There was discussion about whether they would be exhibited at the same three retail locations on Main Street. MJ Takagi suggested we send a note out to the merchants to determine if anyone else is interested in exhibiting a piece in their store. Lauri French will send out an email to the merchants. There may only be two sculptures that will have to be replaced – one is “Broom” (number 6 on the art map) and the other is “Play, Play, Play” (#13 on the map). In addition, John Piet has advised that he would consider making an additional work due to the favorable response of “City With a Halo” with the intention to link both sides of the City. Lauri will contact John to get the details of his offer.

Lauri introduced Bryan Barker, who was referred to her by John Sauve. Bryan works at Mobsteel and makes sculptures out of steel parts. He provided some photographs of his current work and noted he would be interested in submitting a piece for the August 2011 exhibit. He has already looked at the available spaces and will submit sketches to Lauri for consideration by the BACC.

- Approved stipend amounts for 2011 sculpture exhibit – ***Motion by Kris Tobbe, seconded by Tim Cusick to table this item until the June 13, 2011 BACC meeting to determine if the BACC has already approved amounts for this year’s stipends. Motion carried 5-0.***

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### 13. Pocket park sculptures and contract status

Lauri French advised that the contract had been signed by Detroit Design Center and is in City Manager Foster's office for signature. Matt Modrack and Lauri visited Erik and Israel Nordin's studio and discussed the three commissioned artwork pieces for the pocket park, including some design changes to prevent too much movement. A check for the first 1/3 deposit has been cut pending execution of the contract.

### 14. Confirm ArtPrize field trip date of September 26, 2011

Lauri French advised that ArtPrize starts on Wednesday, September 21, and ends on Sunday, October 9, 2011. The board had previously discussed a field trip, possibly on a Monday. The two available Mondays are September 26 and October 3. Lauri reported that the best day seemed to be Monday, September 26, and asked that everyone put it on their calendars.

### 15. Staff Updates – None.

### 16. Call to the Public – Call to the Public was made at 6:20 p.m. Hearing no response, Call to the Public was closed.

### 17. Adjournment

*Moved by MJ Takagi, seconded by Tim Cusick, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.*

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Lauri French, Administrative Assistant  
Community Development Department  
May 10, 2011

**Next Regular BACC Meeting – Monday, June 13, 2011 – 4:00 p.m. – Council Chambers**