

**City of Brighton  
Arts & Culture Commission Minutes  
Regular Meeting – October 8, 2012**

1. **Call to Order**

Claudia Roblee called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and the roll call was taken:

Claudia Roblee – Present  
Kris Tobbe – Present

Larry Lawrence – Absent  
MJ Takagi – Present

Lauri French reminded the BACC members that CJ Teahan has resigned due to health issues. She did not hear from Larry Lawrence about whether he would be absent for today's meeting.

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

2. **Approval of the October 8, 2012 Agenda**

Lauri French noted that she had inadvertently omitted an item on today's agenda. The Fisher family and Piet Lindhout are in attendance to discuss the status of the family's proposed sculpture donation to the City in memory of their daughter Sara. Claudia Roblee suggested the item be added as item 5a.

***Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by MJ Takagi, to approve the October 8, 2012 agenda as amended. Motion carried 3-0-1.***

3. **Approval of the July 9, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes**

***Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by MJ Takagi, to approve the July 9, 2012 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0-1.***

4. **Approval of FY 2012-13 Financial Report (YTD through 9/30/12)**

Lauri French reviewed the financial report and noted the two expenses since the last BACC meeting in July which were \$400 for a portion of the Professional Engineering Associates' invoice for the Millpond Master Plan evaluation (with the DDA paying the balance of \$3,400) and \$1,000 to Ray Katz to extend "Spiral the Gate" on exhibit for two additional years through August 1, 2014.

***Moved by MJ Takagi, seconded by Kris Tobbe, to approve the FY 2012-13 financial report as presented. Motion carried 3-0-1.***

5. **Call to the Public**

Call to the public was made at 4:05 p.m. Hearing no response, call to the public was closed.

**New Business**

- 5a. **Fisher Family Sculpture (Sara's Fish)** – Piet Lindhout explained that he had been retained by the Fisher family to assist in their effort to move the project forward with the City. Piet explained that the finished product would be 12-foot tall made from 1 ¼" thick stainless steel with a brushed finish. They are investigating using all-weather maritime stainless since the sculpture will be outdoors and located in the Millpond. Piet noted that he contacted the helical pier people who worked on the pilings at the courthouse when it was built for assistance with this project. He reviewed a site plan for the location and method of installation for the structure that would hold the sculpture, which will be entirely under the water level. The sculpture would not have to be removed for the winter. The BACC members discussed the process to be followed in order for the City to accept this donation which includes approval by Planning Commission and ultimately City Council. Claudia Roblee stated that she likes the sculpture and thinks it would be a good fit with the new Millpond plan. She feels strongly about the personal element and story about the sculpture and would vote to proceed with it. Kris Tobbe also agreed with Claudia and added that its location in the Millpond would hopefully deter any vandalism. Mr. Fisher noted that they

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would also like to put up a plaque at no cost to the City near the installation to explain the sculpture and their story.

***Motion by Kris Tobbe, seconded by MJ Takagi, to recommend proceeding with the next steps for the donation of the sculpture by the Fisher family to the City in memory of their daughter Sara, which includes discussion with the Planning & Zoning Director and DPS Director prior to formal recommendation to Planning Commission and City Council for approval. Motion carried 3-0-1.***

### 6. General Discussion about the future of the BACC and Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit

Claudia Roblee stated that we have had difficulty replacing BACC members over the past few years and that perhaps it is time to take another look at restructuring the BACC as a non-profit which would allow non-residents to serve. Matt Modrack noted that the BACC came into being after the City attorney issued an opinion that the mayor-appointed non-residents on the Mayor's Commission on Art in Public Places (the predecessor of the BACC) were not allowed according to the City Charter. There was discussion about the possibility of repealing the BACC and replacing it with a non-profit group and whether funding would be easier with a non-profit. There was also discussion about whether changing the time of the meeting from 4:00 p.m. to an evening meeting would attract more people who might be interested in being on the Commission but can't make a 4:00 p.m. meeting. Claudia Roblee asked if Staff could provide any historical information available in Staff files about the history of the MCAPP and BACC to the BACC members for review. Lauri French will research the files and send out whatever information is available. This item will be put on the November meeting agenda for further discussion.

Claudia Roblee asked Lauri French to talk about the Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit for next year. Lauri explained that 15 of the 16 sculptures currently on loan from artists in the exhibit are scheduled to come out next year. Considering the amount of work involved for Staff to do a call to artists for new sculptures and the ongoing issue of vandalism to the sculptures, she recommended that the BACC put a moratorium on bringing in any new sculptures to the exhibit. She noted that Mike Monroe's donated sculpture had been vandalized for a second time and Matt Modrack reported that Mike has removed the fish for repairs. Lauri expressed concern that if we cannot protect the sculptures from vandalism that artists are not going to want to exhibit in the City. Claudia Roblee noted that one of this year's Council Retreat items is a "due care plan" for City assets, which include the sculptures. Lauri also noted that "Twisted System" (located at Cobb-Hall) has been removed for repairs by the artist and that if he doesn't agree to extend its exhibit for another 1-2 years, "Spiral the Gate" (exhibit extended to 8/1/14) and "Winter '05" (permanent) would be the only sculptures left at the Cobb-Hall site. The group discussed possible replacement for one large piece at the Cobb-Hall site next year if the artists are not willing to extend their exhibits. There was discussion about how many empty sculpture bases and pedestals there would be if we don't replace the sculptures next year. Lauri noted that with a couple of exceptions ("Dancer Two" and "Siphon"), all the sculptures are on bases or pedestals.

Staff was directed to ask Jim Ignash, artist of "Twisted System", if he would be willing to extend his exhibit another 1-2 years after it is repaired and returned. The BACC members also agreed that we would not do a call to artists in 2013 except for possibly one or two large pieces, if necessary, at the Cobb-Hall site (to replace "Gone Wild" and "Twisted System").

### Old Business

7. DIA 2013 "Inside-Out" Program – Lauri French reported that she received an email from Michelle Hauske from the DIA inquiring whether we are still interested in participating in the "Inside-Out" program in spring 2013 (April-June time period). We do not have to submit any additional paperwork if we do not change our exhibit time. The consensus of the group is that they would like to participate and Staff was directed to work with the DIA to coordinate the exhibit and obtain any building owner permissions as required.

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8. **Millpond Design Plan evaluation status** – Claudia Roblee reported that the Professional Engineering Associates draft “second look” evaluation plan for the Millpond Master Plan was presented to the DDA Board at their September meeting and will be on the November DDA meeting agenda for further discussion.
9. **Purchase of “Spiral”** - Lauri French reported that there are three businesses which are willing to contribute \$500 each toward the purchase of “Spiral” – Lawrence Auto Body, Tim Horton’s and Corrigan. The artist’s selling price is \$1,585, and Matt Modrack asked if the BACC would be willing to contribute the \$85 difference. Matt noted that the businesses would reimburse the BACC for the purchase since the check has to be issued by the City. He will work up a Bill of Sale and send it to the City attorney for review if the BACC decides to go ahead with the purchase.

***Motion by Kris Tobbe, seconded by MJ Takagi, to recommend to City Council the purchase of the sculpture “Spiral” by artist Maureen Voorheis in the amount of \$1,585 with donations in the amount of \$500 each from Lawrence Auto Body, Tim Horton’s and Corrigan Oil and \$85 from the BACC. Motion carried 3-0-1.***

10. **Status of sculpture extensions** – Lauri French reported that Ray Katz extended “Spiral the Gate” for two years through August 1, 2014 and the two Detroit Design Sculptures (“derived from circles-self series 2 and 3) have been extended for one more year at no additional cost.

### **Other Business**

#### **11. Staff Updates**

- a. Updated art map – Lauri French reported that an updated art map is included in today’s packet. The map update was done by Amy Cyphert.
- b. BACC vacancies – Claudia Roblee noted that she would check with Staff (Jen Piasecki or Diana Lowe) about the possibility of posting the BACC vacancies on the City’s Facebook page and website. Lauri French asked if we could also post the vacancies to the Downtown Brighton, Michigan Facebook page and she asked for a copy of the posting when available from Jen or Diana.

12. **Call to the Public** – Call to the Public was made at 5:50 p.m. Hearing no response, Call to the Public was closed.

#### **13. Adjournment**

***Moved by MJ Takagi, seconded by Kris Tobbe, to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. The motion carried 3-0-1.***

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Lauri French, Deputy Director  
Community Development, Planning & Zoning  
October 11, 2012

### **Reminders:**

**Next Regular BACC Meeting – Monday, November 19, 2012 – 4:00 p.m. (changed due to Veterans Day holiday on November 12, 2012)**