Cultural Commission Minutes: September 27, 2018

Call to Order: Kellie Williams called the meeting to order at 7:33am

Roll Call: Jeff Crabill, Angelique Racki, Julia Cozad-Callighan, Ron Crick, Kellie Williams, Jamie Mathy, Mark Halx, Carole Ringer, Meryl Brown (Late 7:40am)

Staff Attendance: Jim Mack, Cara Peterson

Minutes Approval: Minutes of September 13, 2018 approves as submitted; 1st Jamie Mathy, 2nd Ron Crick

Staff Reports:

Jim: Frankenstein and Jedi Academy, a great family event, will take place next week at the BCPA. The BCPA is excited for the start of their season on October 1st.

Angelique: Masterclass has been cancelled.

Kellie: Tuesday, October 16th is the reception dinner for all city Cultural Committees and Commissions, from 5-7pm at the BCPA. It will be a good opportunity to meet and speak with the other Cultural Committees.

Old Business:

Kellie: Updated Cultural Committee on previous challenges and accomplishments of the last year. This includes creating a mission statement in May and working with the City Clerk to clarify appointment dates. She wants the Cultural Committee to reflect on the year's accomplishment and start looking at what goals the Cultural Committee would like to address for the 2019 year. Also, Scott Koets, Jim Mack and Kellie Williams met with Katie Simpson, City Planner, to discuss the zoning map created for the Cultural District. Katie is optimistic about the current map and preferred a smaller zone than to a larger one. She believes that this current map, created by the Cultural Committee, will complement the expected new zoning changes for the downtown area.

Kellie emphasized that the zoning overlay will not affect property but impacts marketing and tourism, coordination among local artists, the BCPA, the Art Museum, which will all attract visitors and bring in re-investment.

Jamie: Informed the Committee that there will be two new zoning districts. A zoning public hearing will take place with a "Q and A" session before it will be added to the agenda for the October 10th City Council meeting. He added that current downtown residences do not have to worry about being labelled "non-conforming" until the building is destroyed and is bring re-built.

Action item: Jamie will inform the Committee when the Zoning Public Hearing will take place

Jim: Handed out the map with the new zoning ordinances, that Katie is proposing. Jim noted that the city's new zoning ordinances mirrors the proposed zoning for the Cultural District.

Ron: Asked if the new zoning ordinance will add or remove barrier to people who want to move downtown?

Kellie: The new zoning would remove barriers.

Jeff: Asked if this is referring to zoning or code.

Jamie: Answered that it depends and the current situation is a gray area. Stated that owners can easily go around current codes, an example is the ADA codes. The buildings are so old and the plumbing is out of date that some businesses have to share bathrooms.

Jim: Stated that Carole had sent out an email reflecting the 2017 goals from Bring It On Bloomington.

Carole: Emphasized that these goals are important and the Committee should re-focus on them, while being consistent with the vision on the Committee.

Ron: He agrees with Carole and that the Committee needs to be more consistent with the goals and to create an appealing story.

Kellie: **Action item:** Invite Katie to the next meeting to further discuss the City's new zoning ordinances and the proposed Cultural District overlay created by the Committee.

She asks the Committee to review the Bring It On Blooming Masterplan for the next meeting. Summarized the main points of the handout, including the mission statement, goals, and objectives. This handout "Arts, Culture, and History" is available online.

She stated that the Committee did not accomplish one of the goals which was to identify and maintain a database of art-related grants or prepare a master plan for existing art in public places.

Stated that after the Committee has created a story behind the boundaries for the Cultural District overlay, the Committee needs to think about the focus in 2019.

Asked what the story is behind the boundaries to present to the City Council.

Jamie: Stated that the Committee was created to guide the BCPA when it was renovated. It was previously a binding committee. After the director of the BCPA took over, the Cultural Commission stepped down from being a binding committee. Bring It On Bloomington started the conversation to expand the City's current Arts mission. The City wanted to create a "campus" of the arts.

Mark: Asked what would be the objections faced during the City Council presentation.

Kellie: Answered that the City Council might object to having to fund any projects. She emphasized that reminding the Council that the Cultural Commissions is an advisory committee might help ease any objections.

Jamie: Added that certain people might want their own buildings included in the overlay.

Jeff:	Added that the map is the main objection but this map has the highest concentration of cultural destinations, it meets our descriptor of what a cultural district is, and it excludes non-cultural entities. Another question might be directed to why the arena is not included. The smaller map provides an incentive for people and businesses to relocate downtown.
Kellie:	Stated that the Committee needs to have a response as to why the arena was not included.
Jim:	**Action item:** Jim will prepare the presentation for the City Council meeting in November.
Jeff:	Proposed to have an Open House meeting to the council can have the opportunity to ask questions.
Jamie:	Believes that due to the City Council meeting being so close to Thanksgiving, this will not be effective.
Jeff:	Proposed to reach out individually to the council members.
Carole:	**Action item:** Carole will reach out to the Ward 5 Alderman.
Angelique:	**Action item:** Angelique will reach out to Ward 7 Alderman.
Jamie:	Proposed to conduct this in a three on one meeting.
Jim:	Asked to send any information or suggestions to Kellie. Kellie will then send this to Jim to help him prepare the presentation. Once this is done, the Committee can contact the Alderman with the same message.
Mark:	Asked if certain Alderman are expected to object.
Jamie:	Answered that some are very focused on any potential costs, so we need to address that.
Kellie:	**Action item:** Asked if the committee can read the current goals and come to the next meeting with suggested 2019 goals.
Jim:	Asked if there is an objection to create a private telephone list for the Committee. Board approved.
New Business:	
Meeting Adjourned:	Adjourned at 8:33am, 1st Carole Ringer, 2nd Jeff Crabill
Next Meeting:	October 11th @ 7:30am