



Grow Grand Island Committee Meeting

Please complete and email to Nicki Stoltenberg (nickis@grand-island.com) within one week of meeting

Date*Time*Location 12-3-15 * 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM * Tom Dinsdale Auto	Recommendation Number and Name 5.12/#9 Play, Arts and Entertainment Committee
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<p>Attending: Steve Fosselman, Margaret Hornady, Tammy Morris, Pam Price, Georgene Smidt, Curt Vodehnal, Dianne Willey, Kevin Hendrix, Ralph Brown, Perla Alarcon, John Sorensen, Michelle Lubken</p> <p>Guests: Chris Sommerich and Heather Thomas: Humanities Nebraska, Suzanne Wise: Nebraska Arts Council, Marian Fey: Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Doug Zbylut: Nebraskans for the Arts</p>
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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	Action Items
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Tammy Morris welcomed the group and reviewed the strategic priorities identified in the planning process:</p> <p>Leadership: Need a paid staff to champion these efforts (26)</p> <p>Image/Marketing: Public art/ public sculpture walking tour (downtown, S. Locust, entryways) (22)</p> <p>Downtown: Grand Island downtown brand like Old Market/Hay Market (Rail Side) (21)</p> <p>Venues and Districts: Performing arts center (16)</p> <p>Events: Summer street festival (12)</p> <p>Communication: Online calendar with shared widgets, mobile app, social media, website, table tents (11)</p> <p>Venues: Drive-in movie theatre (10)</p>	
Speaker Panel:	<p>Chris Sommerich: Executive Director of Humanities Nebraska provided an update on their organization and shared that not very many requests area received from G.I. There is a speakers bureau on the website to assist with high quality speakers at an affordable cost.</p> <p>Marian Fey: Executive Director of Nebraska Cultural Endowment shared about NCE and said they make up 20% of the budget for HN and NAC. Nebraska provides matching funds for the endowment. NCE gathers quantitative data on the arts and stressed the importance of collaboration and cross-promotion of events. Kearney Cultural Partners and Nebraska City are good communities to talk to. Nebraska City documented their process and did a book that may be a good resource for G.I. Recommended we check out the Our Town Grant through the National Endowment for the Arts (nea.gov). Grants can be \$50k-\$150k. Look at Creativity Connects grants on the nea.gov website and look at Creative Industries on the Nebraskans for the Arts website. .</p>	

Suzanne Wise: Executive Director of Nebraska Arts Council shared that communities with a successful cultural presence have good collaboration among all sectors (collective will) and that the role of government (city, count, state) is important. Suzanne also shared the importance of a community wide calendar that includes the arts. She reported that there are more people at arts events in Nebraska than Husker games and there are 7,000 people in Nebraska employed by the arts. Grants are provided with a 1:1 match up to \$7,500. NAC likes the idea of the downtown pedestal project with the possibility of a scavenger hunt list to find the art and a drawing for those to complete the hunt. NAC can help fund and facilitate jurors to help pick public art. NAC is also looking at an arts certification process for Nebraska communities. Important items for hiring an arts coordinator in Grand Island: determine whose authority the staff will be under, who supervises the staff, job description, level of authority of the staff, and other agencies to partner/job share with such as tourism, etc.

Doug Zbylut: Executive Director of Nebraskans for the Arts shared that his organization provides advocacy and resources on their website (see programs and creative industries). Legislative Day with the Senators is scheduled at the State Capitol Thursday, February 4th. One in five Nebraskans attends art events which is the highest in the country.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 4, 2016 at Tom Dinsdale Auto in the upstairs Community Meeting Room.

Volunteer Hours: 17 Hours