

MINUTES

Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission

Regular Meeting

Monday, March 10, 2025

Page Memorial Building

Lake Odessa, Michigan

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Hermes called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
Present: Melanie Baker, Karen Banks, Meg Hermes, Ty Nurenberg, Aurora Rice, Elizabeth Stoneman
Absent: Nancy Mattson
Visitors: Barry Hoven
Staff: None
2. **Agenda:** Motion by Banks, supported by Rice, to approve agenda with addition of Kids' Zone and Radios. All ayes; motion carried.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Minutes:** Motion by Baker, supported by Nurenberg, to approve minutes of 2/10/2025 regular meeting. All ayes; motion carried.
5. **Finance:** Year-end fiscal year 2024-25 revenue/expense report was reviewed. Motion by Hermes, support by Rice, to approve the following accounts payable:
 - 1) Kristina Berry: \$42.50 for one-half refund of 2025 booth fee
 - 2) Willow Audio/Video: \$1,886.70 for audio engineer services for 2025 Art in the ParkAll ayes; motion carried.
6. **Action/Discussion Items:**
 - a. **2025 Art in the Park:**
 - 1) Artists: 60 total applications received, and 76 booths purchased to date.
 - 2) Non-Profit Application: An application from the local Girl Scout troop was reviewed. Motion by Baker, supported by Banks, to approve. All ayes; motion carried.
 - 3) Entertainment:
 - a) Baker gave update and videos of several groups were reviewed by the board.
 - Motion by Banks, supported by Hermes, to approve \$800 payable to Mama's Hot Sauce to perform two one-hour sets. All ayes; motion carried.

- Motion by Hermes, supported by Banks, to approve an amount not to exceed \$400 to Barefoot Blonde to perform one one-hour set. All ayes; motion carried.
 - Motion by Banks, supported by Hermes, to approve an amount not to exceed \$400 to the Luke Lenhart Band for one one-hour set OR, alternatively, an amount not to exceed \$250 to Caitlin Cusack for one one-hour set. All ayes; motion carried.
- b) VFW Flag Ceremony: Baker will contact the post commander.
- 4) Food Vendors: Banks shared a text message from Mattson, who reported that Grub-It-Up BBQ, Kool Breeze and Taqueria El Azteca have been confirmed. She is trying to recruit an elephant ear vendor.
- 5) Sponsors:
- a) Discussion was held re: the 2024 sponsorship levels. Motion by Hermes, supported by Rice, to continue sponsorship levels the same as in 2024. All ayes; motion carried.
 - b) Discussion was held re: recruitment of a title sponsor. Consensus was to inquire of Gary Mattson to see if he is willing to be the title sponsor again in 2025; otherwise, we can try to ask another company for support.
 - c) Discussion was held re: giving each participating artist a "swag" bag as part of the 50th Anniversary celebration, and including promotional items for the sponsors. Consensus was to solicit promotional items from sponsors on the application form.
- 6) Door Prize donations: Discussion was held. A total of five drawings will be held, one each between entertainment sets. New comment cards will need to be created and printed, with fewer comment card boxes set up during the event. Nurenberg will inquire if Buddy's on the Beach would be willing to donate \$25 gift cards in lieu of cash as part of a sponsorship.
- 7) Paid Event Help: Banks has created a sign-up schedule and will forward the sign-up link to Rice and Nurenberg.
- 8) Artwork for Visitors Guide Cover: Nurenberg has sketched a couple different designs and will email them to everyone. A decision will be made at the April meeting.
- 9) Parking: Banks has received approval from the new owner of 1036 Jordan Lake Street (fomer Banks Law Office) to use back lot for artist parking. Use of the First Congregational Church parking lot on August 1 and 2 will be tabled until after the church's board meets and gives approval.

- 10) Mobile ATM: Thornapple Credit Union will once again bring their mobile ATM machine to the event. Banks is working to finalize with them.
- 11) Golf Carts: Motion by Hermes, support by Rice, to approve quote from Ladd's in Caledonia for the rental of five four-passenger golf carts at a cost of \$1,475.00. All ayes; motion carried.
- 12) Kids' Zone: Stoneman presented a number of craft ideas, i.e., bird feeders, bug hotel, games, decorating bags, hand out sunglasses, an art contest, magician puppet show.
- 13) Radios: Hermes look into rental of push-to-talk radios from a different source than Chrouch, but learned the company she contacted does not do rentals. Banks stated rental of 12 radios from Chrouch will cost the same as in 2024: \$12 apiece for a total of \$144. Further discussion tabled until April.
- b. **Mural Project**: Lake Odessa artist Dave Kippen has presented a quote of \$3,120 to produce a single 4' x 8' mural for the well house building at the beach. Motion by Hermes, support by Rice, to approve not to exceed \$3,120 to Dave Kippen. All ayes; motion carried. Banks will inquire with Kippen if he can source his metal panel through Dan Arens, whether he may be able to reduce his materials cost.
- c. **Shakespeare Play**: Payment has been processed and sent to Savinsky Entertainment for performance of The Tempest on June 27 in the park.
- d. **Sponsorship of High School Musical**: Banks made contact with Amanda Smith, director of the high school's drama and theater programs, to inquire about the Arts Commission sponsoring this year's musical, "The Little Mermaid," or other musicals in the future. Due to a family emergency, Smith was not able to provide information in time for tonight's meeting. Further discussion will be held at another time. Banks has also offered to assist high school faculty with submitting grant applications to the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.
7. **Visitor Comments**: Barry Hoven introduced himself and present an idea re: a corn hole contest, but stated 2025 is probably too late to plan an event. As a member of the board of directors of the Lakewood Area Chamber, Hoven stated his hope is to promote local businesses and encourage the Chamber to collaborate with other organizations.
8. **Adjournment**: Without objection, meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Banks, Secretary/Treasurer