

Cultural Commission March 11, 2019

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The Bedford Cultural Commission met in regular session on March 11, 2019, with the following members present:

Thomas Jacobsen	Sergio Santos
Summer Finley	Joseph Cartwright
Josh Santillan	Terry Smith

Charlenia Walsh – City of Bedford
Cortney Sims – City of Bedford
Kimmie Hamm – Trinity Arts Guild

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mr. Jacobsen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Consider approval of the following Cultural Commission minutes:**
a. February 11, 2019

The minutes for were approved with no changes by a motion by Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Santos seconded the motion.

BUSINESS

1. Discussion and update on Phase Next/Old Bedford School and discussion about the Cultural Commission update to City Council

Subjects Addressed by: Mr. Jacobsen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Santillan, Mr. Santos and Mr. Cartwright

- Touched on the Boys Ranch and the activities taking place there, such as the art venues.
- Mentioned the city being in the middle of reconfiguring all the commissions.
- Recounted the commission’s participation at the Old Bedford School.
- Referred back to some ideas or plans for public art.

Cultural Commission March 11, 2019

- Mr. Smith touched on why he personally joined the Cultural Commission; having expressed his love for music and the arts, and appreciation for smaller venues.
- Danny Wright is talked about, for example regarding the effort needed to bring more culture to the city.
- Talked on utilizing the Old Bedford School as a place of opportunity for the local community including its artists; a place where art can be admired or sold, or create some revenue.
- Touched on the disadvantages of hosting certain activities at the Old Bedford School due in part to its architecture and/or structural design, followed by a number of other inconveniencies, such as reserved space used by those separate from the commission.
- Covered—or rather, were offered—a brief but thorough history concerning the creation and purposes of the Old Bedford School throughout the years prior to its renovation.
- Mentioned the Heritage Education Program.
- Questioned if it would be worthwhile to have a reservation system for events the commission might occasionally sponsor.
- Referred back to the never-ending issue of costs (money), as well as the city's plans for the Old Bedford School.
- Discussed our understanding of Phase Next.
- Expressed how Bedford's history contributes greatly to its cultural side, and how some of the public art could be historically-focused—from “early history to historical future” (where history, art and culture can meet).
- Need to have more affiliation with the organization for next year's *ArtsFest* and *Twilight*.
- Touched on some interesting yet obscured figures, such as a popular local violinist of the early 1900s, among others, by way of emphasizing Bedford's art scene and knowledge of history, which is lacking (still at grassroots level).
- Closed all further discussion on the Old Bedford School.

Cultural Commission March 11, 2019

2. Discussion about Cultural Commission update to City Council and art programming

Subjects Addressed by: Mr. Santos, Mr. Jacobsen, Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Santillan, Mr. Smith

- Revisited the topic of public art, particularly bike rack art.
- Focused in terms of making Bedford's art appeal to the younger generation—the type of art that is influential, unique to one place so as to invite non-locals (art that is “instagram-able”). Ex: What would people be attracted in the years to come.
- Mr. Santillan and Mr. Cartwright covered the activity(ies) they have taken place behind their shopping center, with Mr. Santos help with some of the art left over from the *War of the Worlds* event.
- Offered more ideas to help people connect with Bedford's public art, for selfies or otherwise.
- Considered certain locations to have public art freely, without consequence.
- Revisited the project of “Bedford Bees”.
- Expressed concern of small, local artists versus big, outside artists.
- Discussed efforts to help local artists be discovered.
 - Ex: Find ways to assist and/or promote local artists. Find out who they are and invest in them. “Form an arts culture.”
- Mentioned the *Put a Bird On It!* event.
- Called for a cultural commission event to help venues, including store businesses like Danny's, What's Poppin' Texas, etc.
- Touched on the *Earth Day Awareness* project.
- Suggested a plan proposal for City Council.
- Thought to bring forward the historic focus (an action item) to the council, together with the “Bedford Bees” project.
- Mentioned Marty from the “Beautification” project, and those from the “Awareness” project, wanting to help bring up Bedford's art scene and storefronts.

Cultural Commission March 11, 2019

- Bring attention back to their shopping center.
- Advised that we learn to tag-team instead of working separately for better results.
- Touched on whatever materials were available and how we will set-up for the *ArtsFest*.
- Asked on the “whereabouts” of our Cultural Committee shirts for the upcoming event.
- Mr. Jacobsen and Mr. Smith attend to the brochure.

3. Discussion, updates and possible action on upcoming art/cultural programming including Artsfest and Chalk Art event.

Subjects Addressed by: Mr. Santillan, Mr. Smith, Mr. Cartwright

- Mythica Von Griffin is mentioned; a well-renown—and expensive—chalk artist.
- Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Santillan attend to the “Bedford Bees” project.
- Talked on finding musicians to fill up [venue] space.
- Suggested collecting banners just to draw people in; make the art appear more attractive.
- Questioned on what to do with the banner for the Cultural Committee.
- Focused on the next meeting which follows the week after *ArtsFest*—April 8th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, Mr. Smith made a motion for adjournment of the meeting; Mr. Jacobsen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

Thomas Jacobson, Chairperson