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**Michigan City Public Art Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, July 17, 2025 10 am at City Hall**

Meeting called to order at 10 am by Chair Matt Kubik

Present: Dale Cooper, Janet Bloch, Katherine Mitschelen, Kathy Dennis, Judy Jacobi, CarolAnn Brown, John Ryszka II, Shannon Eason

Absent: Jane Daley

Guests: Emily Graves, Lubeznik Center for the Arts and Jeffrey Ortmann, Michigan City Renaissance [jeffreyortmann@cs.com](mailto:jeffreyortmann@cs.com)

- On a motion made by Shannon Eason, seconded by CarolAnn Brown and voted for unanimously by the committee, the minutes of the June 20, 2025 were approved.
- On a motion made by CarolAnn Brown, seconded by Kathy Dennis and voted for unanimously by the committee, the June 30, 2025 financial report was approved.

**Public Comment**

Jeffrey Ortman of Michigan City Renaissance explained to the committee the work done by this organization. Mr. Ortman reported on a sidewalk project and walking event being planned for Walker Street.

**Old Business**

1. **Report concerning percentage for public art from RDC:** (subcommittee chair Jacobi, Kubik, Brown, Kohn, Eason, Bloch, Przybylinski, and Dennis) – no report
2. **Fundraisers & Sponsorships Opportunities:** (subcommittee is entire committee)
  - a. Walking Art 5K – October 2026
3. **Moving Owl & Pussycat:** Move to nw corner of 9<sup>th</sup> & Franklin Street – the sculpture has been repainted. Tentative installation date July 28, 2025
4. **You Are Beautiful Project:** CarolAnn will contact artist and see if he will accept a \$250 stipend (graciously donated by Jeffrey Ortman) to name the park after the sculpture. The committee will install a plaque.
5. **Review Master Plan:** no report
6. **Former Mayor Photo Project:** Matt Kubik removed the framed prints from City Hall today

7. **Banner Art Project:** Matt Kubik, Shannon Eason, MAC; Terry Greetham, Eric Williams, Michigan City Special Events; and Kelley Smith and Adrian Huizar, Mayor's Office met on July 14, 2025 and discussed public art, event, city branding, and student banners. The Mayor's Office will put together a numbered pole map for the whole city and write a program with sponsor levels.
8. **Block Parties and Dedications:**
  - Skate Park Mural Ribbon Cutting. Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 11 am. Need tables, trash barrels, port-a-pots, tents, a food truck, and a PA system. CarolAnn will put together an event checklist and call another meeting. Shannon reached out to Tone Connelly and the Budding Preneurs want to participate. Need more volunteers, reach out to Councilman Joe Nelson and Westside Neighborhood Group.
9. **Sculptfusion Reception:** Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 5:30 pm at Casa Del Lago. Open to the public. Matt will create invitation. Need PA system (park department).  
**Neighborhood Art:** The Park Board approved the painting of a mural on the concrete floor of the picnic shelter at Walker Street Park at their meeting last night.
10. **Leopold Benches Fundraising Project:** No report
11. **Otocast:** Emily Graves, LCA, is collecting photos of the new sculptures. She is contacting the artists for recordings. Katie will send the photos to Shannon.
  - On a motion made by Kathy Dennis, seconded by Dale Cooper and voted for unanimously by the committee, the committee approved adding the Canada Park, Garden Park, Walker Street Park, and Michigan City Skate Park murals to Otocast in 2025, for a total cost of \$740.00
10. **Michigan Blvd. Mural Project Update:** Janet Bloch reported she is trying to get the city to power wash the walls. Project should start by the end of July, and we hope to have it completed by August 31, 2025.

#### **Ongoing Business**

1. Art Project Requests: none
2. Children's Art Scholarships: none and we have no funding for the remainder of the year
3. PR, Marketing, Press Releases: (subcommittee Bloch, Cooper, Jacobi, and Daley) Judy needs foamboards for new Sculptfusion pieces, Katie will email photos to Shannon and Shannon will design and produce the boards (if we have funding). Judy has been attending the monthly Chamber of Commerce meetings.
4. Other Committee Reports Pertinent to MAC:
  - John has been inspecting sculptures. Shannon will email maintenance spreadsheet for John to update. Sculptures should be inspected at least twice annually. Leg on Ram is starting to split open again. Duet needs to be power washed.

### ***Creating a Community Identity Through Public Art***

- Kathy will research how other communities fund murals on private buildings
5. Announcements:
  6. Adjournment at 11:10 am

Minutes prepared by Jane Daley Secretary

Minutes approved by MAC

Signed



Date

8/21/25

Matt Kubik, Chair