



**Meeting Minutes  
September 3, 2020**

**Commission Members Present:** Amy Cook, Kent Gallagher, Kevin Heckman, Doug Holzrichter, Jan Schmuckal, Dana Teichart and Chazmin Baechler (Phone Conference)  
Chairman Tim Vetang (arrived 7:46 pm)

**Also in Attendance:** Cate Tracy, City of Geneva

**Guests:** Gail Gaboda and Dave Rice, Shakespeare in the Park, Jeff Walsma

1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
2. **Amendments to Agenda:** Stood as presented.
3. **Approve Minutes** – Schmuckal motioned, Heckman seconded. June 18 minutes stood as presented. Notes were taken at the Aug. 6 meeting. Due to a lack of a quorum, minutes do not require approval.
4. **Review Discussion Notes** - Four Commissioners attended the meeting. Notes were emailed to the Commissioners. The meeting was a brief 30 minutes. The topics that were discussed included the idea of creating new COVID-19 safe programs. Kent presented the idea of displaying local art in the storefronts or vacant buildings.
5. **Review Financial Reports for - Holzrichter**
  - ✚ Current Fund Equity Balance \$33,461.44. Financial Reports were accepted as presented.
6. **Possible New Art Event – Jeff Walsma**
  - ✚ Walsma discussed placing art by local artists in merchant windows and vacant storefronts and said he would be willing to volunteer. Schmuckal offered that this project sounds more like an Art Guild project and Holzrichter said the Foundation would be interested. Schmuckal suggested GCAC promote local artists on Facebook with an Artist of the Week. Cate will find out if the City would allow GCAC to promote artists on their Facebook page.
7. **Virtual Shakespeare Event Update**
  - ✚ Shakespeare in the Park was cancelled due to COVID-19, but a video of the virtual play *Much Ado About Nothing* was produced by Goodly Creatures and funded by GCAC. Evidently, Elgin theater company, Goodly Creatures, shared the video, minus the brief Geneva specific clips, without permission from the City. Tracy stated the City has concerns that the contract was broken. Opinions varied on whether the contract was in violation, but the majority agreed that no harm was done. Gaboda, a volunteer, believes the contract wasn't worded clearly and she takes responsibility, deems there was no harm done, and will make certain future contracts will be worded more clearly. Gaboda stated that the GCAC's relationship with Goody Creatures is of value for future performances at Island Park and she did not want the relationship to be damaged. Gaboda was aware that the video would be shared with other entities in advance and felt the statement in the contract pertained to the full video with the Geneva specific content. Tracy stated the City did not agree to the company sharing the video in any form. Heckman felt the contract was in obvious violation and added that this should be a learning experience to have more detailed contracts going forward.

- ✚ Gallagher motioned that “Recognizing that Goodly Creatures is currently in technical violation of the contract with GCAC and the City, and since no harm has befallen either the City or GCAC, GCAC recognizes that Goodly Creatures will use the video of *Much Ado About Nothing* without the portions specific to Geneva and recommends the City do elsewhere.” Second by Schmuckal. Motion carried with one opposing vote by Heckman. Due to another appointment, Baechler had to leave the meeting at 8:10 pm.

## 8. Reports

### a. **Foundation Update - Holzrichter**

- ✚ The Foundation continues planning for a major fundraising event.
- ✚ The Geneva Chamber of Commerce’s event, “Geneva Chamber Challenge”, on 09.24.2020, will bring attention and donations to not-for-profits. The Foundation would like to post the event on the GCAC’s Facebook page since the Arts Commission shares the Foundation’s goals. Tracy will inquire with City staff.

### b. **Steeple Walk – Gallagher**

- ✚ Steeple Walk is cancelled due to COVID-19.

### c. **Shakespeare in Park – Postponed until 2021**

### d. **Summer Series – Postponed until 2021**

- ✚ All performance groups are scheduled to appear next summer.

### e. **Geneva Fine Art Fair Booth – Postponed until 2021**

### f. **Sculptured Bike Rack – Schmuckal**

- ✚ Schmuckal emailed photos to Artist Hilde Debruyne of Des Moines, Iowa who will soon provide sketches of the next installation of a sculpture bike rack at the Geneva Public Library. Vetang asked when the City would allow a formal dedication for the new bike rack, Skyward. The event has been delayed due to COVID-19 event restrictions. He will check with the donors about installing the plaque before the dedication ceremony. Cate will inquire with City staff. Holzrichter left meeting at 8:39 pm.

### g. **Gimme Shelter – Schmuckal (Bus Stop Art)**

- ✚ The GCAC has received six new submissions of student artwork. Vetang will email the Commissioners and PAAC the artwork to vote on two favorites for the next bus stop installations. Vetang and Schmuckal stated they did not want the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) to exist, but since PAAC is in the City Code, they must approve GCAC’s public art projects.

### h. **Art on Fire – Postponed**

## 9. Commissioner Comments & Ideas –

- ✚ In August Cook shared an email listing a number of new program ideas for the GCAC to consider, which could be safe activities to host during the pandemic. Cook stated her favorite two ideas were a writing contest or a One Book, One Geneva book club. Heckman stated he would be interested in working on either idea program. Tracy stated the next step is to write a short proposal for the GCAC to recommend to the City.

## 10. Public Comments – None

## 11. **Adjourn** – At 9:01 pm, Teichart motioned to adjourn, Schmuckal seconded. Motion carried unanimously.