

Murray Arts Advisory Board  
Minutes for June 16, 2020

Attendance: Matt Jacobson, Nancy Buist, Christy Anderson, Peter Klinge, Lily Ellingson  
Staff: Lori Edmunds, Katie Lindquist  
Guests: Melissa Hamilton

- I. The minutes for May 20, 2020 were passed as written.
- II. Board Reports: There were no board reports.
- III. Staff reports –
  - a. Resident on Display: Katie
    - i. City Hall – John Tavoin
  - b. “The Greatest Showman” sing along was on June 5, 2020. 120 people attended.
- IV. Upcoming events
  - a. Arts in the Parks
  - b. July Concert Series
    - July 3 – Jersey Street, 8pm
    - July 10 – Foreign Figures, 8pm
    - July 17 – Samba Rio, 8pm
    - July 24 – High Society, 8pm
    - July 31 – Strawberry Fields, 8pm
  - c. Fun Days – All of Fun Days events have been canceled due to Covid-19 concerns.
  - d. Jenny Oaks Baker, August 7, 7:30pm – tickets will be \$10
  - e. “Little Shop of Horrors”, August 14-15, 17-22 8pm – tickets, Adults - \$10, Child/Senior-\$8
- V. Business
  - a. Theater update – Lori reported that the renovation of the Murray Theater is on indefinite hold due to the cancelation of \$3,656,500 facilities grant funding from Salt Lake County.

Murray School District music specialists grant application – Melissa Hamilton reported to the board the impact of the music specialists this year and presented a grant for \$47,342.50. Each student (3487) receives between 30 -40 minutes each week music instruction. Each school has a music specialist who is coached by a district instructor, Whitney Morris. They receive performance and theory-based instruction. Whitney prepares and provides lesson plans resources for teachers CODI certified. Due to COVID (March 2020) music instruction to kids waned as Whitney and teachers worked to figure out how to digitize lesson plans. They decided to use a program called Flipgrid which is a website that allows teachers to create "grids" to facilitate video discussions. Each grid is like a message board where teachers can pose questions, called "topics," and their students can post video responses that appear in a tiled grid display.

Missy shared that her goal was to provide each elementary in Jordan School District with their own arts education specialist. Missy presented a grant application to *Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program* in January 2020 to receive resources that will allow her to hire certified teachers for her schools. If the grant is received, it will pay 80% of the certified teacher’s salary.

Jeff wanted to know if each specialist is licensed as a Certified Teacher. Missy explained that each certified teacher will cost \$100,000 with full benefits. They know how to include core standards in their class along with classroom management. Most of the music specialists are paraprofessionals are credentialed education professionals who work alongside and under the direction of a certified teacher. Lori asked, for justification purposes, how to the performance of each music specialist an some do really well and some don’t. The only way thus far was the spring music performance and unfortunately, this year’s year-end recital had to be canceled due to COVID. Peter wanted to know the COVD participation with the program. Missy said that like Murray was the highest in the state at 89%. Only 11% of students not participating. Best participation was

from teachers that made the extra effort to get the lessons out to their students. Peter wanted to know what he results were from the several years of this program. Missy told us that since Whitney took over, results are much better, however we all agreed that we needed data to be able to fully measure the outcome. Peter would like to see a questionnaire given to the students to see what they are learning. Missy agreed and will implement this for the next school year which would include aspects such as enjoyability, content, and academic measure. Missy also shared that the principals love the after-school musicals as this includes a lot of children to participate vs the “intrusive” time during school. Jeff wondered if there was a process to acknowledge students that really excel with the music instruction? Missy said not at K – 6, at this time. There is a band at Hillcrest Junior High with Mr. Jewkes who provides an early morning elementary band program. She reminded us that elementary is about exposer and developing skills and the children need to have the opportunity to choose.

b. Stay at Home Series – Lori reminded the board that she would like the board to present their reflections and feelings about the pandemic in whatever form of art they chose as Katie and Lori are trying to document the community during COVID.

Nancy adjourned the meeting until July 21, 2020 at the Murray Mansion.