

Cultural Council Agenda Thursday March 16, 2023 Louisville Public Library 951 Spruce Street 6:30 PM

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to (719) 359-4580
Meeting ID: 847 8880 5269
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website to link to the meeting: www.louisvilleco.gov/lcc.

The Council will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting to ESchmitt@LouisvilleCO.gov.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (2 minute)
3. Approval of March Agenda (2 mins)
4. Approval of February 2023 Minutes (5 mins)
5. Public Comment (0 – 6 mins)
6. **Action Item:** Election of 2023 Chair (5 mins)
7. **Action Item:** Election of 2023 Vice Chair (5 mins)
8. **Discussion Item:** Library Plaza Mural (Erica) (10 mins)
 - Review public comment
9. **Action Item:** Library Plaza Mural (2 mins)
 - Vote whether to recommend it to City Council
10. **Action Item:** Vote to approve facilitated board retreat – in May, at the Library (1 min)
11. **Action Item:** Vote to approve having Jane Hansberry as facilitator, approving paying up to \$2500 for her services (2 min)
12. **Information Item:** 2022 Art Grant Update (JR) (3 mins)

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

- Cultural Caravan
- 13. **Information Item:** 2023 Art Grant Update (Erica) (5 mins)
 - Who has received letters
 - Who has returned letters
- 14. **Information Item:** 2024 Art Grant Update (JR) (10 mins)
 - What we're expecting from submissions
 - Changes to the online form
- 15. **Discussion Item:** Programming Subcommittee (Sarah) (20 mins)
 - What locations are available?
 - What is budget?
 - Event volunteering
 - Suggestions for possible programming
 - Marketing
- 16. **Information Item:** Summer Concerts in the Park (JR) (5 mins)
 - Openers update
 - Audio engineer update
- 17. **Information Item:** "Community Resilience" sculpture update (Erica) (5 mins)
- 18. **Staff Report** (5 mins)
- 19. **Items for the next meeting's agenda** (items not on March's agenda) (2 mins)
- 20. **Share** community cultural events (5 mins)
- 21. **Adjourn**

ATTACHMENTS:

- Draft February 2023 Minutes (to approve)
- Final January Minutes
- Renderings of Library Plaza Mural
- Public comment for Library Plaza Mural
- Call for Entry Guide
- Keely Taylor resignation letter
- Grace Gee resignation letter
- Ron Reeves resignation letter
- Pat Howard letter to City Council
- Programming Committee 02 2023 Agenda
- Programming Committee 02 2023 Minutes
- Programming Committee 03 2023 Minutes
- Staff Report

City of Louisville

Cultural Council

Minutes

**Thursday February 16, 2023
Louisville Public Library
951 Spruce Street
6:30 PM**

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1. Call to Order: 6:30 called to order by Grace Gee (Chair)

2. Roll Call-

- Board Members present: JR Ketelsen, Grace Gee, Keely Taylor, Mark Cathcart, Beth McLennan, Sarah Staunton, Scott Sala
- Board Members absent: Ronald Reeves
- Staff Members present: Jeff Durban, Erica Schmitt, Sharon Nemechek (joined half way through meeting), Chris Leh (joined half way through meeting)
- Members of the public present: Emily Przekwas (not a Louisville resident), Dawn Short (not a Louisville resident)

3. Approval of February Agenda-

JR - #18 can be removed, vote for summer concerts already completed, #17 and #23 are duplicates

- Sarah moves to approve; Keely seconds. No dissents, all in favor.

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4. Approval of January 2023 Minutes

- JR #10 not chair of programming
- - JR: #15 concerts in the park “all five bands” correction to “all 4 bands.”
- Mark: (not an adjustment to January minutes) apologizes to JR for saying LCC has used CAFE in the past, he was incorrect. LCC discussed it in 2020 but did not use it.
- Mark: #12 Discussion of LCC members about what happened at City Council is part of retreat discussion
- Mark: #14 Arts grants: Beth asks for an additional email to explain the additional refusals, the chair said that the arts grants could be returned anonymously. Mark objected that we should not do it anonymously because the grant process was spending city finances and that they should have names on them since this is a public forum. We agreed. Art Grants to be returned to Erica Schmitt by email by EOD Jan. 25th.
- Grace: under number 8i: Mark: subcommittees of less than three people can meet but not make decisions. They can only make decisions in public.
- Mark moves with the amendments- Beth seconds.

5. Public Comment

- Dawn Short: With Shorties, a local coffee roaster based out of Frederic, brought a copy of her menu. They provided the concessions at the skatepark. She wants to make her business known and put a name to the face. She is open for business and available for the summer concerts in 2023.
- -Emily Przekwas: Artist and art critic in the Denver area and writes for a few art magazines as well. She also works in Loveland and Longmont covering art projects. Ariella is her friend who has been working with a city contractor to create a banner art for the city of Louisville for National Arab American Heritage Month. She is Iraqi and Arab American. Her work was not selected. She thinks that this is a missed opportunity to not host art of an Arab American artist and is asking us to reconsider the decision to move forward with other artist’s designs. She is aware the City Manager is at the meeting tonight and that she makes a plea to them to reconsider. As a professional art critic, her opinion is that the artwork is compelling. She does see her friend as a part of a rich cultural heritage of Arab women in the community.

6. Items for the next meeting’s agenda (items not on February’s agenda)-

- JR: we should have programming for the Center for the Arts in place for the next meeting
- Grace: moving forward let’s add this to the end of the meeting as well as the beginning

7. Information Item: Patricia Howard

Grace: Pat has resigned. The reason she applied to the LCC is because she was impressed by the professionalism of the Call for Entry as well as the Ava

Hamilton event. She decided to resign after the events of the first meeting when she found out what happened with the Community Resilience sculpture and then experienced the conflict within the group.

8. Welcome: Scott Sala

- New member of the LCC. He was a 4th and 5th grade science teacher for DPS, retired, moved to Superior and does story time, magic tricks and white board jokes. Background includes a BA in English with theater experience, MA in Science Education and PhD work in Science Education. Does lots of culinary arts. Is happy to lead the effort if we involve public schools.

9. Action Item: vote to amend officers required in bylaws

- Grace: suggests changing treasurer to fall under the Chair position because it does not need to be a separate position. There is very little work to be done and the liaison (Erica) does most of the work for it.
- Mark: the LCC used to be a 501C3 and it was required because of the bank account.
- JR makes the motion. Keely seconds. No dissents. All in favor.

10. Action Item: Election of 2023 Secretary

- Patricia Howard was previously appointed. Sarah describes the position.
- Scott Sala is nominated
- Motion by Beth, JR seconds. All in favor. No dissents

11. Action Item: Appointments to Subcommittees

- Public art- Grace is Chair. Keely and Beth will be on it as well.
- Programming- Sarah is Chair and Beth and JR say that they will join.
- Summer Arts- JR is Chair, Beth and Scott will be on it
- Arts Grants- JR is chair, Grace is on this
- Marketing and Policy subcommittees are suggested to be created- no interest in this from the rest of the LCC members.
- The more people on subcommittees the better. Anyone can join a meeting without being an official member of the subcommittee. New subcommittees can be formed at any time during the year.

12. Introduction: City Manager Jeff Durbin

- City Manager of Louisville. This is his first visit to the LCC. He has a passion for public art and what it can do for the community. He wants us to know how much he appreciates the work we do and loved the work that he does with teams like us. Has been doing this work for 30 years. He says that he is more than happy to come back and clarify any questions we have. He would like to give more clarity on the next agenda item.
- Mark: going back to 2018 the LCC has been looking to do something with the stage in community park to accommodate the weather and the crowds. There have been a few discussions in previous years about this topic. Asks (Jeff) how

to get that done? Jeff says that he generally agrees with Mark's comments and that it would be a good thing. He can't speak to why these changes have not been made in the past other than the fire in the past year. There are a lot of good ideas out there and there is only so much budget. He suggested we put it on the April agenda and submit it as a Capital Improvement Project request with a budget and proposed changes. Louisville has made \$250 million Capital Project cuts, (mostly in transport) last year. He says that they are working towards getting things leveled again.

- Chris Leh joins in person

13. Information Item: LCC Work Plan

- Erica: All boards and commissions were asked to put together a work plan that pairs with the city council 's bigger picture (see addendum). LCC's work plan includes providing events and activities related to City EDI observances, providing events at locations across the city and reviewing and updating LCC bylaws.

- Jeff: City Council's work plan defines the priorities. With 14 boards and commissions, each with their own initiatives, there can be frustration when they are working on something that isn't on City Council's work plan, since there are limited funds and City Council's work plan drives resources and staff allocation. He is trying to help align priorities.

- Beth: this would be great for the retreat discussion.

14. Action Item: Review Library Plaza Mural, approve to for Public Notice

- Specs for this are in the packet.
- Confirmation that the budget is \$10K, the same as the quote.
- Funds are not coming out of LCC's budget.
- Keely makes a motion and Beth seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

15. Discussion Item: "Community Resilience" sculpture; strategy for 2023 public art

- Erica: It went through the public art process, through public notice and is in the final stages to go before City Council. It's been places on hold while we get additional community feedback about the selection of the art, the selection of the space and just to make sure it is truly respecting and representing forces of the community. She notes that there have been many voices in the conversations. There are neighborhood liaisons, wildfire mitigation series that helped bring out some voices. Right now, we are in the listening stage with the community.

- Jeff: there might have been some muddling of what the conversation was about. The public art process LCC used is a good process. He hasn't heard anyone say they didn't like the sculpture. He says there was some question about location. He says that there was some questioning about the placement as a memorial vs as a sculpture and says that those ideas may have blended together. He notes that he is not sure that that is the way to go. Council has said to pause the project to come back with recommendations about a memorial and

the sculpture. He's getting input from the affected groups about how they feel. He has heard lots of differing opinions in terms of it being a memorial (every different opinion about location, ideas about what it should be, that money should not be spent on this at all, to the way to some people say we should not have a memorial because they don't want to remember this event). He thinks the community is still in trauma and that maybe we are not ready as a community yet for a formal Marshall Fire Memorial. He asks how do we move forward as a community to remember this event and what about the Resiliency sculpture? He thinks these are two different issues that can be separated. He needs to go back to City Council with these thoughts and perhaps find some way to move forward. He is planning on doing this in March. He is interested in hearing more from the LCC about the matter.

- Beth: there has been confusion even though the LCC made it clear that this is not a memorial and that it is a piece of art meant to bring the community together. LCC was not taking on or assuming we had a right to create a memorial to the Marshall fires. She asks if there is a way for us to make it more clear that it is art and not memorial.

- Grace: it is a commemoration to highlight our community's resilience and bring some beauty. It is not Thee Memorial with a plaque that says how many acres burned, with all the facts and figures. In the year since the fires there has never been direction from City Council to make a memorial. It does need to be separated from a memorial and it should not be treated like it represents everything. A memorial can be done in later years. Grace asks Jeff if he is in the community soliciting information, how will he formulate a recommendation to the City Council with so many different responses from the community.

- Jeff: it is more of a pulse than a scientific survey. The process is listening and pondering. Meeting with community members, individual groups who reach out to their neighbors, etc. and then he will weigh all the information. Do we move forward with the Resiliency sculpture and not a memorial? Do we talk about the Resiliency sculpture as being a memorial and moving it somewhere else? He doesn't think that would work but is still working through the alternatives.

- Keely: she finds it hard to imagine that the art would be adding pain because the grief and pain is already right here all the time. The nature of this sculpture feels like a movement of healing in our community. Jeff mentions that there are different triggers for different people. Keely understands this and clarifies that she is surprised the art would be triggering when there are reminders all over town of what happened.

- Grace: the city could have a liability because we hosted a call.

- Jeff: this may not be the case because Council had not voted on it for full approval.

- Grace: while it technically wasn't completed, this may affect the reputation of the calls that the LCC puts out in the future. It will also influence who applies, who participates and who runs the calls.

- Jeff: I agree with that. "I am a man of my word and I believe the city should operate in the same way".

- Scott: Community Resilience is not only for the people that are here but also for the people who will move here. It is a great statement of our community.
- JR: his wife is one of the artists but he was completely recused from the process but mentions that a lot of thought went into this process and that many members of the community were interviewed. The artists put a lot of consideration into the idea of resiliency and it was never meant to be a memorial. He believes that a lot did get muddled and that the artist team (Rita and Arabella) always saw this as an art piece and not a memorial.
- Mark: there were originally birds and instead is just the singular statue now.
- JR: yes, the sculpture has changed but it was still never meant to be a memorial.
- Side note that Sharon has entered the meeting.
- Mark: Where are we with the carry over budget for the public art funds?
- Sharon: has sent a request to the finance department to carry over \$22,575. Grace and Sharon will discuss the carry over amount outside of the meeting as Grace believes the amount is the full \$25K.
- Jeff: the carry forward process is in May so we have some time.

Public art strategy for 2023:

- JR says that the CAFE process was great and that the jury process was really strong. He thinks we should continue using Cafe and doing national calls, it was a solid process. It is completely separate from our 2023 budget.
- Grace: We are all in agreement that we don't want two year's worth of budget going to fire art.
- Mark: prior Cultural Councils have been working through the Council's work plans in the past- he cites the attached sheet. "Respondents specifically mentioned interest in public art throughout the City, citing gateway areas such as McCaslin Boulevard, County Road 42 and South Boulder Road, as well as the Arboretum. 82% indicated an interest public art in the form of murals, reliefs, mosaics and sculpture. Respondents to community surveys expressed a desire for transparency and public input in selecting and acquiring public art that speaks to the Louisville community" is what we have been working on pre-Covid and that the LCC has been looking at public art to go in the rec center, metal murals at the skatepark. He thinks the question is 'are we still following past ways or do we start fresh? If we are going to have a strategy as to what we are going to do - is it aligned with the Cultural Work plan or do we start over?'
- Grace: was not on the board in 2017 so those goals are not her passion. How do other people feel about it?
- Beth: we are in a transitional limbo place. We can start fresh but also get one piece of art complete while revisioning our process.
- Keely: looks at Lafayette and it feels it's full of life. Centralizing the art rather than spreading it to all the corners feels right.
- Beth: the idea is to have art everywhere. It would be cool to have a Main Street statement.

- Mark: we are far behind and we don't have the budget or the staff for the Art On Loan idea that he and Mayor Stolzman discussed. The two big projects the prior Public Art Subcommittee was considering was to paint the bridge over 36 in equity and diversity colors and the other was to do Art on Loan. We can't do the same as on South Public Road because we don't have the budget.
- JR: We have to figure out what we can do with the budget we have
- Grace: we can do some Art on Loan with \$25K. Not 7 pieces, but we can start with a piece on Main Street and a piece not on Main Street and if we can work on smaller pieces we can start that process of spreading it out to multiple areas.
- Sarah: maybe we can work in conjunction with more committees to get ideas together and be collaborative. Maybe we can go to other councils to let them know that we are here and willing to partner.
- Grace: like what we're doing with the Library Foundation
- Beth: and what we're doing with LRC and Greg's underpass art. DBA expressed interest in working with LCC
- Jeff: the LRC has money for projects that they are working on as well on similar objectives- this may be a way to have joint collaborations and meetings to talk about plans and programs. All grants are for the downtown area. Work with parks and Public Landscaping board, or Recreation Advisory Board to talk about collaborations. If they are doing a new playground, while they are out there they can lay a pedestal and save some money for LCC.
- Grace: Will City Council approve a pedestal if there are no specs on the sculpture?
- Jeff: will have to research this
- Chris: echoes what Jeff said to collaborate. He says that the council has talked about collaboration amongst boards and commissions. It is a great idea and thinks the more we can get art into nooks and crannies of the city is great. Disbursement of the art is very political and people get excited and that there is an advantage to be gained in public support with the budget because people take ownership of the piece. Lots has changed in Louisville since the 2017 plan was put together. He thanks us for all we have done on the LCC. He leaves after this.
- Beth: brainstorms LCC should revisit doing something with the bridge over 36, perhaps a sculpture trail at the Arboretum, a McCaslin piece perhaps at the intersection where the Pride flags go up, a mural "welcome to Louisville", and Rock Creek areas. She loves the murals and art in the underpasses.
- Scott: can we have a list of where we can put art.
- Mark: there was a proposal to put art in the underpass by the school. A lot of that proposed art has to be worked with private property owners. There used to be a long list of ideas and places. There weren't people to volunteer and do the groundwork. It's a good time for this version of LCC to do their version of it. We don't need to pick up someone else's ideas.
- Grace: we should add that to the agenda for the retreat. We can start with the 2017 plan and also brainstorm more, then pull out what we want to do.

- Jeff: art on private property might be able to be done with some agreements. Was done successfully in Frasier. Grandby's program was a disaster.
- Grace: there's also the question of who is responsible for maintenance when it's on private property.
- Jeff: LRC has a business improvement program where businesses can apply for a grant to do things to their facade.

16. Action Item: Adopt Severe Weather Plan for Summer Concerts

- Beth: suggests a phased code for monitoring weather threats.
- Erica: not aware of any other city entity like the outdoor pool having a phased code.
- JR makes a motion to adopt the plan as proposed, Sarah seconds. All in favor. No opposition.

17. Information Item: 2023 Art Grant recipients; updates on pending grants from previous years

- JR: Top five recipients will receive a grant: Not All Men, Soul Penny Circus, Artists with Disabilities, Ambient Experience and Motus Theatre. \$1,710 is left over from the grants process and can be put into the Programming budget. Thanks the LCC for getting scoring sheet back quickly. It was a good process and there are things to improve. He thinks that we can talk more clearly about what we are expecting from Art Grants recipients. Thanks Grace for her help .
- Pending grants from 2022
- Center Stage: never completed their evaluation process and they never accepted the money in 2022.
- Blue birds craft fair- they decided not to move forwards with their 2022 grant.
- Money not accepted goes back to the general fund. We want to catch that so the funds can go to a different awardee.
-

18. Items tabled in January meeting:

• **Information Item:** Current Programming commitments for 2023

- JR: the 5th band for the summer concert is still being searched for 2023.
- Grace: there is currently no other planned programming for the rest of the year. We want to take advantage of the increase in budget so let's book something by next meeting.
- Programming Subcommittee decides to meet on the 24th at the Rec Center at 8am.

• **Discussion Item:** 2023 Programming Goals/overview

- Erica: talks about EDI and how we can incorporate that into the plans of the LCC. Offers to include this in the agenda for the Programming.

• **Discussion Item:** EDI meaningful recognition

- Grace: when you consider what events to hold to acknowledge these significant dates, ask these two questions: Who is the audience (when

celebrating Latino month, are you geared toward reaching the Latino community of Louisville, or the white community of Louisville?) and where is the line between an event that is performative and truly celebratory?

• **Action Item:** Vote on Cultural Caravan proposal

- JR: proposal is included in the packet. Beth and Leah were also working on this. Proposed budget was 4k for a 3-part series. \$2K is already approved as a summer concert. They also want to do another fire station block party. They also want to do a pop-up show as well and are looking for ideas and dates for that. JR makes motions to approve the remaining \$2K budget, Grace seconds, No opposition. All in favor.

• **Action Item:** Vote on 2023 funding for LAA

- \$300 is for the awards to the kids.

- JR motions and Beth seconds, no one opposed, all in favor.

19. Action Item: vote on proposed events-

- Grace: this was already covered under current programming commitments.

20. Discussion Item:

• First Fridays

- Erica: Louisville did the First Friday art walk but we have fewer galleries now. It is being brought to the LCC that perhaps we are interested in being involved. The library does 4 large First Fridays. The option is LCC could be involved in quarterly First Fridays or every month. Involvement could be anything we want regarding location, cultural experience and budget.

- Mark: are there anymore "porch concerts."

- Beth: we could consider First Fridays as part of programming.

- JR: live music permits are needed for porch concerts and there is a cost associated with it.

- Grace: we can discuss if we want to participate in First Fridays during the retreat.

21. Discussion Item: Potential dates, times for board retreat.

- Erica: date and time with the facilitator have not been set yet. Possible facilitators are in the packet. Still waiting on people to send in their answers. She will resend to everyone.

- Grace: everyone is in agreement to answer in the next 4 days so Erica has a date to reach out to facilitators with.

- Mark: will not vote because he has other commitments and that he is also "not sure that his participation is useful, having been attacked publicly by the Chair".

- Erica: March 19th is one option for dates to meet. She will check with facilitators for this date to see if they are available.

22. Action Item: Approve spending for facilitator for board retreat

- Erica: carry forward to March's agenda unless we need to do a special vote before then.

23. Staff Report

- This is part of the agenda attachment.
- Beth: regarding finance rules for the sound engineers: she is pretty sure that we got three quotes and does not believe that the lowest quote is always the best.
- Sharon: the lowest does not need to be the one chosen. It can be the best as long as some criteria is used to decide.
- Jeff: use "lowest responsible" and write it us as to why
- Beth: agrees to get back to Erica with all three quotes.

24. Share community cultural events

- Keely participated in a flash mob. The Dance Front has it recorded on the front page of their website

Next month' agenda:

- JR: Arts grants process

25. Adjourn

Grace 8:37 moves to adjourn, Keely seconds. All in favor, no one opposed.

ATTACHMENTS:

- January 2023 Minutes
- Amended November 2022 Minutes
- LCC Work Plan
- Renderings of Library Plaza Mural
- 2023 Art Grant recipients
- 2023 Art Grant scoring
- Cultural Caravan proposal
- First Friday dates
- Weather plan

Cultural Council

Agenda

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1. Call to Order - 6:34pm

2. Roll Call

- Board Members present: Mark Cathcart, Grace Gee, Patricia Howard, JR Ketelsen, Beth McLennan, Ronald Reeves (via Zoom), Sarah Staunton (via Zoom), Keely Taylor
- Board Members absent: none
- Staff Members present: Erica Schmitt, Sharon Nemechek
- Members of the public present: Steve Knapp

3. Approval of January Agenda

- Proposed budget and contracts instead instead of the cultural caravan until February- moved by Beth seconded by Mark
- The agenda was approved by all members

4. Approval of November 2022 Minutes - The minutes from the the November 2022 LCC meeting were approved with some specific changes, as provided by Grace Gee:

- Section 11 Public art- Add: Keely speaks to the sculpture being on Main Street as it feels like a way to honor all fire survivors in the context of our greater community.

- Section 12 Art Grants- Instead of “ Needs to decide if applicants can or can’t apply for the same project as separate artists”, it should read something like: “We agreed to one application per project and we will include this in the 2024 application. It won’t make it into the 2023 application because of timing but that is the intent for this year as well.”

- Section 12 that stats with “Mark asks what if someone does not need the whole \$2K of funding.” (DELETE: JR says he will plan to include a solution to this in the written grant.)

- Section 12 ADD: The top 5 awardees will be granted their full request up to \$2k and we do not need to specify what happens to the rest of the money in the application. JR and Grace will brainstorm about how to handle the excess.

- Section 12: The motion that was passed was not just for the languaging of the funding. The motion that but was passed was for all the changes that were covered.

- Motion to approve, with Grace’s proposed changes: Beth Second: Keely
All in favor, none opposed.

5. Public Comment - none

6. Items for the next meeting’s agenda (items not on January’s agenda)

- Beth: moves this agenda note to later in the meeting so that others who are late can make notes and that other ideas can be given at the end.

7. Introductions of LCC members, City staff

- Beth: says she is active in the arts and realtor and has been there since 2017

- Mark: interested in public art, part time music researcher

- Grace: second yere on the council, artist and sculpture

- Keylee: Second year, looking forward to working as a team together.

- JR: working with the summer converts

- Sharon: just took on arts and events a year, a city staff member, previously at douglas county.

- Patricia: photographer and educator, just moved back to CO again and was part of the first arts concert.

- Steve Nap: Mentioned he is part of other Louisville boards

- Erica: city liaison, background in music and dance organizations.

- Ron: lost ron to a dropped call - he did not return to the LCC session.

8. Overview of the LCC (Erica)

-Staff Liaison Erica Schmitt provided overview of the formation, history, and current structure of the LCC. The LCC was originally founded as a nonprofit that would advise the City of Louisville on how to spend SCFD funds. Members of the

LCC voted to close the nonprofit, and the LCC now operates as a City Board, following the same rules as other City boards and commissions. Some parts of LCC bylaws are remnants of the LCC's time as a nonprofit, i.e. the elected Treasurer is from when the LCC would have its own bank account, write checks, and receive money. The LCC receives City funding for public art, programming, and arts grants to supplement LCC arts and programming.

- Action Item: Resolution on posting locations for agendas

i. Erica clarifies what the rules are for official meetings: Official meetings consist of 3 or more members of LCC gathering to discuss LCC business. Must post 72 business hours of notice to the public and notes should be taken and meetings are to be held in a public place.

Mark states that subcommittees of less than three people can meet but not make decisions. They can only make decisions in public.

Mark moves with the amendments- JR seconds.

ii. Motion to pass resolution on where LCC agendas will be posted (Library, City Hall, Rec./Senior Center, Police Station, City website) made by Mark and seconded by JR. All in favor, none opposed.

- LCC retreat: Discussion about a half day retreat to fine tune goals.

9. LCC Officers:

Action item: vote on which positions to fill, vote for officers

- LCC bylaws require that the following officers are elected in the January meeting of each year: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.

-JR asks if we can change the title and description of the treasurer to finance chair. When the LCC reviews its bylaws, they could potentially remove Treasurer position from officers that are required to be elected each year. Sharon says that should be tabled because the current bylaws require an LLC treasurer.

-Chair- motion made by JR for Grace to be chair, seconded by Keely. All in favor, none opposed.

-Vice chair: Keely nominated as vice chair by Grace. Beth seconds. All in favor, none opposed.

-Treasurer- Beth nominated herself JR seconds. All in favor, none opposed.

-Secretary - typically given to a newcomer to the LCC. Beth nominated Pat, seconded by JR. All in favor, none opposed.

-Other- Art grant chair- JR requests that he continue in that position. It is discussed that it becomes a sub- committee.

10. Subcommittee Discussion: Subcommittees: public art, summer concerts, programming, arts grants. The LCC discussed separating summer concerts from the programming subcommittees. Beth suggests programming subcommittee meet before next month to begin scheduling:

- JR will be the Chair of Summer Concerts Subcommittee.
- Steve, Beth, Patricia, JR and Sarah volunteer for Programming.

Staff Report (Erica).

11. LCC retreat: Discussion about a half day board retreat to fine tune goals, goals, budget, dates.

-Since 3+ LCC members would be gathering, it would be a public meeting – would be noticed and would be held at a City-owned location. Would pay a professional moderator to lead the meeting and help LCC review policy, bylaws, goals, group cohesion. Erica to look at potential weekend dates and send an online poll to LCC members to begin looking at potential dates to pay a moderator to come out to the Louisville Library for a half- or whole day session. All board members are in favor of moving forward with this.-Catering would come out of LCC budget if we chose to do this

-Members are thinking of between February or April for a date

Mark Cathcart's presentation and statement about the LCC and the public art process for "Community Resilience" made at the Jan. 9, 2023 City Council meeting:

Keely notes that she would like more comradery in the LCC and that she felt "undermined by comments made by Mark" at the Jan. 9, 2023 City Council meeting. She notes that it is challenging to go through the LCC board meeting without addressing Mark's presentation (mentioned above). She expresses that the board and the 2022 Public Art Subcommittee put in hundreds of hours working on the Marshall Fire commemoration sculpture, and that it is difficult to work with someone who chose to go in front of City Council and make statements "to undermine the work and the process". This has created a "disappointing and difficult space" to work in. Beth suggested that LCC members' grievances should be worked out in the LCC monthly meetings, rather than being taken directly to Council.

Mark says "it ("Community Resilience" sculpture) was already going to get tabled" (by City Council) and that in making his statements to City Council, "all I wanted you to do is issue agendas and minutes." Grace notes that meetings were noticed and minutes were issued for every Public Art meeting that had more than two members in attendance, as required by City rules. The only meeting that had more than two LCC members was the first meeting - and that meeting was noticed.

JR notes that Mark's "actions as a citizen called into question the integrity of the public art process..." "and generally, the LCC". He notes that the public art process, as put together by this subcommittee, is far beyond anything the City has done before; "the process itself was the best we've ever done".

Mark states that calls for public art “have always been done through that (CAFÉ)”. JR counters “no, they haven’t”. Mark and JR disagree on this point and move on with the discussion. Mark refutes this two additional times; JR moves on.

JR notes that the jury process “was beyond anything they (the LCC) had done before” with 14 or 15 jury members including artists in the community, therapists, fire survivors, and members of the LCC. Mark agrees with this. JR states that Mark “brought criticism to a process that didn’t deserve it”. That the process was solid, even if there were some decisions made that Mark doesn’t agree with. JR says the LCC needs to work together and needs to have solutions – and that it is important to talk about the public art process, and this disagreement, in order to move forward. “I want to go on record I think it (Mark’s comments to City Council) were detrimental to us and called into question the integrity of the process.” Mark continues to question of the public art process. JR notes that in the 2022 LCC meetings, “nobody dissented, so you (Mark) approved” of the project throughout the process.

Beth notes to Mark that the process that was followed “was better than we’ve done in years past”. She notes that it would have been better if Mark brought his concerns to the LCC so the LCC could move forward on his thoughts, rather than bringing his complaints directly to the City Council. “you’re also a member of the LCC and that’s how City Council saw it as division and incompetence that the LCC couldn’t figure out our own problems.”

Grace notes that the location was discussed in the November meeting when Deb Fahey spoke, and that this is all in the LCC’s minutes (which were adjusted after the January 2023 meeting per discussion above).

Patricia notes that it is very frustrating to see the “Community Resilience” sculpture tabled. If the public call doesn’t go as described (i.e. a change in location or scope), “I could see an artist suing the City.”

Mark said that Deb Fahey “said all Marshall Fire have been tabled.”

12. Staff Report from Erica Schmitt and Sharon Nemechek

– overview of Cultural Services: Library, Museum, Arts and Events/LCC all used to be separate. In 2010 combined library services and museum. 1.5 years ago combined LCC with Public Art and Arts and Events. Goal is to bring the community together with fun events. Library served 14,583 people with 494 programs in 2022 (300 story times). Museum did 43 programs, serving 2700 people. This is how we bring joy and do good things for the community.

- City has a list of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) dates, holidays, and celebrations that it has set as a starting point. The City and LCC are encouraged to find and create ways to recognize and celebrate these dates, and any other

dates that they think of. Grace requests this be added to February's agenda as a discussion item.

- Erica provides a list of dates for availability for the Center for the Arts. Conversation ensues around changing the way dates are booked. Possible item to discuss in the future.

- The LCC can do programs anywhere in the City and is encouraged to look at potentially having programs in parks and locations all around the City. City staff will help reserve parks and figure out permits for any of these locations.

13. Public Art:

- Erica Schmitt and Sharon Nemechek gave an update on pending pieces of public art. The South Street Pedestrian Underpass (connecting Delo and Front Street) has art on the walls, and the artist also designed a pillar sculpture to sit on the west side of the underpass. That sculpture has not gone through Public Notice yet. The proposed location for this sculpture is within BNSF right of way, which has required a lease agreement with BNSF and insurance with the national railroads insurance provider. The railroad company and insurance company have been very slow to respond and to make progress with this project. City staff has gotten to the final steps, and is hopeful that the sculpture could go to Public Notice this year. The sculptor (Greg Fields) has been updated about this.

- A sculpture is being commissioned by a community group, Marshall Rising

– it will commemorate pets that were lost in the Marshall Fire. This sculpture can't go on Open Space (includes Dog Park) without rezoning Open Space through a public vote. Marshall Rising is currently working on fundraising, and are looking at potentially putting the sculpture in the Arboretum. Once Marshall Rising gets further in the process, the art will go to Public Notice.

- A sculpture designed to go South street Underpass. Area initially chosen is along the right of way of Burlington Northern Santa Fe. Currently trying to get insurance for railroad to work with us for approval, one of the last steps. Funding will come from the LRC. Sculpture has not gone through public notice.

- Library mural on the plaza update: two entries were received and it's going through the process and will be presented to us next month. Funding will come from outside LCC.

Community Resilience:

- Another piece of public art is the "Community Resilience" sculpture that the LCC put a call out for in 2022, reviewed entries with a jury of community members/fire survivors/first responders/business owner that overwhelmingly

selected this piece. The LCC reviewed that, and the piece went to public notice. There were no comments during public notice, and the LCC voted to recommend the piece to City Council. City Council has provided direction that we need to provide more locations and find a way to survey the opinions of more of the community, a process that will happen this year with Neighborhood Liaisons, and potentially engaging leaders from Marshall ROC, Marshall Together, and Louisville Rising. It is possible that "Community Resilience" will still move forward. If City Council/the community decides on a different piece of art and/or a different location, the call for entry and public art process will have to start over. If that happens, it's possible it will be beyond the scope of LCC.

-JR asks if we can explore an extension to use the 2022 funds for the Marshall Fire public art piece. Beth is against giving funds back. Sharon says a budget amendment can be requested to carry the 2022 funds forward. Mark directs is that we carry forward the 25k in the budget. Erica states that during the Feb 7th meeting they will present choices for design and location and it is still possible that this piece will be completed as intended. Beth asks why the city council does not suggest a place of placement for the sculpture and then have the LCC (and the public) decide on whether that is appropriate or not. Pat can see that if it doesn't happen as written, she can see an artist suing the city.

Grace states that the process of a national call and public comment is our approval from the community when no objections are made. If City Council has the last word, and they pull projects at the end for things like location which was decided long ago, then they will need to approve every step of the way, each detail and line item about the call approved before it goes out. Otherwise, who will want to work on any public art project? I would not go through this process again to get to the end for them to pull it over something they could have weighed in on early in the process.

Pat asks if City Council understands the process of acquiring public art? Mark insists multiple times that if the exact location was written in the Call for Entry, all confusion would be avoided. Beth points out that argument is that they want it at the Arboretum. Sharon confirms the Arboretum is not in the historic downtown corridor so even if the exact location was written in the Call, we would have the same issue. Sharon confirms the locations that were noticed were written in the Call appropriately.

Grace's comment is that this sculpture is called Community Resilience. It is not Thee Memorial to commemorate the fires. It was meant to bring healing and beauty and to talk about our resilience as a town. As such, it's for everybody, not just for the people who lost their homes. So then by City Council's thinking, all 21,000 people in Louisville should be consulted on design and placement. What is City Council's suggestion on how to achieve this? Sarah believes this is an important point that should be clarified to City Council.

Mark questions whether the process is flawed and needs modifying or is this an exception that is difficult in the process we have. JR believes it's a one off but this sets a dangerous precedent. Beth feels this was dismissive to the artists who participated. She wants a disclaimer in the Call for Entry saying City Council has the last word, so good luck. JR thinks this is going to hurt the reputation of arts in Louisville. Grace thinks it already has. JR states that City Council should be informed that we are open to liability if we just move this winning sculpture to a location that was not noticed.

Mark questions the location again and Sharon confirms all notices that were posted were in the Historic Downtown zone and Erica reiterates that the location is a collaboration between the winning artist, LCC and the City. Memory Square and City Hall both fall into the zone that was in the call.

- Discussion item: What should be included in artists' proposals? Tabled to the February agenda.

14. Cultural Council Art Grants (JR)

- Art grant applications were distributed to all LCC members; JR will email a scoring sheet to all members after this meeting. LCC members to score all eligible art grant projects and send their scoring sheet to JR, Grace and Erica by 01/25.

- JR notes that besides scores in various categories, LCC members must provide an "overall" score for each grant. The art grant projects must take place in Louisville and must have a budget. Public art must move through the public art process and is not an art grant project. Public art does not meet the qualifications for arts grants. JR: motion to remove public art from the art grant process. Mark agrees that if an applicant hasn't met the requirements, they are not eligible to receive an art grant.

- Sarah asks if it is noted in the instructions to fully fill out the form including not to leave spaces blank is noted on the form anywhere. JR says no. Sarah notes that for first timers filling out these forms or people who have accessibility problems that this should be something to consider when writing the instructions for the forms and can lead to a lot of people being disqualified. Grace notes that there is a number on the form that if anyone has questions, they can call. Grace encourages LCC members to look past syntax in applications, noting that an applicant's English fluency does not affect the quality of their project.

- Of this year's art grant applications, two are performances that are not in Louisville, and two are public art. Discussion among LCC members – an incomplete application, including an incomplete budget, is not eligible. Pat notes that "if they (applicant) can't complete a budget, can they complete a project?".

- Sharon suggests public art is a process we want to drive, with intention,

rather than having it happen because an art grant was requested and approved. JR notes public art is not part of the Art Grants and proposes it stated on the 2024 application.

- LCC to send text to Erica to use in emails informing grant applicants that their project will or will not be funded.

Beth asks for an additional email to explain the additional refusals, the chair said that the arts grants could be returned anonymously. Mark objected because the grant process was spending city finances and that they should have names on them since this is a public forum. We agree. Art Grants to be returned to Erica Schmitt by email by EOD Jan. 25th.

- Not scoring the application for Center Stage theater because they have never responded to the request for post Art Grant report, which makes them ineligible for the next year's grant. It appears they have never signed the paperwork to receive last year's grant. Since they were awarded money that they didn't collect, effectively leaving it in our budget rather than awarding it to a different grantee, it was unanimous agreement that their application be disqualified.

- Reminder that no private conversations with individual artists by LCC members will occur.

- It is suggested that a workshop on how to fill out the forms is provided before the due date.

- Mark makes a motion to not score the submissions that are disqualified by JR. Motion made by Mark seconded by Beth. All in favor, no one opposed.

- Beth would like to let people know that they did not get the grant that we explain that they did not fill out the proper amount for the applications. Grace suggests that we have three letters: letters of recognition of acceptance, a letter that says you completed the application but won't be granted funding and the last one that will say you did not complete it correctly and were not considered.

15. Upcoming LCC Events Programming (JR)

- Informational Item: Current programming commitments for 2023 - 4 bands, all agreed but no written contracts yet.

- Discussion Item: 2023 Programming Goals/overview- moved to February

- Discussion Item: EDI meaningful recognition - moved to February

- Action Item: Vote on Cultural Caravan proposal- moved to February

- Action Item: Vote on proposed Summer Concerts budget

- JR goes over the general pricing and breakdown expected so far.

- \$16,550 total

budget estimated as of now. Grace makes a motion to pass this budget, Keely seconds, no one opposed, no discussion.

-Other items moved to Feb: - Arts grants and who is awarded the grants,
Scheduling for the Center of the Arts, Cultural service budget

16. Adjourn - Grace moves to adjourn, JR seconds, no one opposes. Adjourned at 9:31pm.

Following the City of Louisville’s guidelines when selecting public art installations, the Louisville Library put out a request for proposals. After careful review of the proposals, we would like to recommend *Heart of the Community* submitted by Darla Okada. Ms. Okada’s non-contiguous mural will span approximately 87 square feet of wall space throughout the Library’s plaza area.

We feel that this work of art will enhance the Library Plaza by celebrating our vision to engage community, champion literacy, and spark imagination and learning. With this design we can visualize patrons of all ages engaging with Ms. Okada’s literary loving woodland creatures, discovering hidden gems designed to surprise and delight every visitor. We appreciate how her color palate perfectly blends with the Library’s architecture and color scheme.

Below are artist renderings.

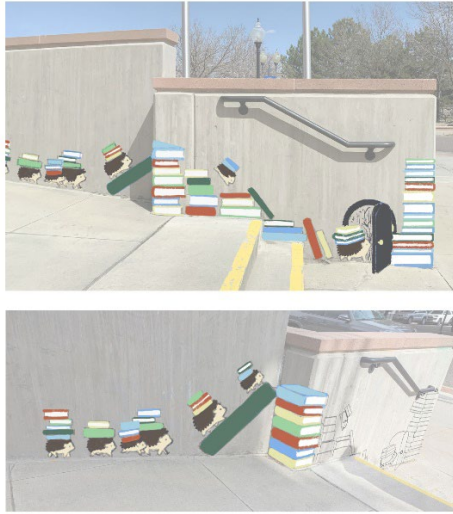
EAST ENTRANCE



EAST ENTRANCE + PARKING GARAGE STAIRS



EAST ENTRANCE RAMP (OPPOSITE BUNNY/ WAGON ART)



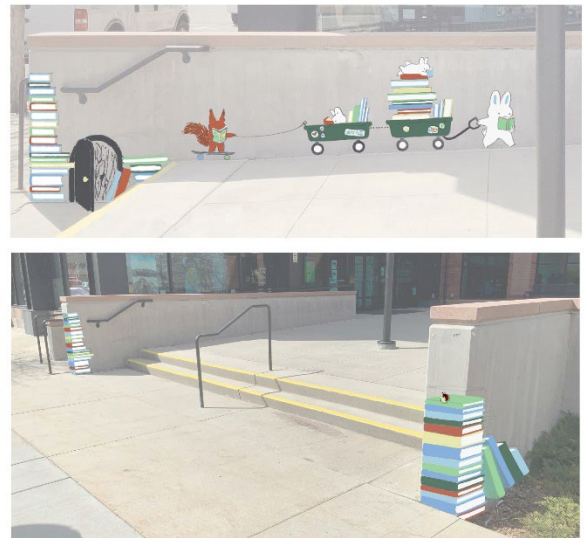
EAST RAMP ENTRANCE (WALL CLOSEST TO BUILDING)



EAST ENTRANCE RAMP + FRONT DOORS



SOUTH PLAZA ENTRANCE + RAMP





St

Front St

pruce St

Spruce St

Spruce St

LIBRARY PLAZA QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Mural information including: title, material, size and any special installation requirements:

TITLE: Heart of the Community

Materials:

- Golden brand acrylic paint with paint brushes (prices vary per color)
- MuralShield \$99/ gallon, provides UV protection, reapply every 7-10 years
- MuralShield World's Best Graffiti Coating \$65/ gallon, reapply after graffiti removal
- Materials to prevent spills including tarp (should a paint spill occur, soap and water will be used. Non-toxic paints are my preferred choice)

Approximate sizes:

Turtle	735 sq in
Bunny wagons / Squirrel / book stack	3,644 sq in
Mole	792 sq in
Hedgehog Family / book stack	3,940 sq in
Skunk Family	990 sq in
Book stack by skunks	1,360 sq in
Fox / Owl / Small book stack	1,054 sq in

Grand Total: $735 + 3,644 + 792 + 3,940 + 990 + 1,360 + 1,054 = 12,515$ sq in

Quote: \$10,000

Artist statement including your interest in this project and how this commission relates to and/or will build on your body of work (2,500 characters max.):

The Louisville Library felt like home for many years while I served the community at the front desk. Seeing firsthand the incredible support the people here have for their library, I wanted to represent that feeling with friendly, woodland animals going to and from the building returning items and heading back to the woods with their new finds. Because the library's mission is to welcome all types of people, I included a variety of animals and family sizes surrounded by plenty of books.

My body of work consists mainly of friendly, welcoming animals, and I'm looking forward to the opportunity to show my appreciation for this community with my signature creatures!

Description of previous mural projects that are site specific and what are some of your past successes in developing work of this nature (1000 words max.):

This would be my first mural, although I have years of experience collaborating with art directors and clients seeing projects through from conception to completion.

Itemized budget (maximum total budget of \$10,000)

The quote provided above is based on materials per sq inch and expected labor.

Thank you!

DARLA OKADA

Illustrator & Visual Artist

FREELANCE PROJECTS

Freelance Illustrator | 2010 - Present

Children's Book Illustrator | 2021 | *How can we be kind?* by Janet Halfmann

Greeting Card + Stationery Illustrator | 2013 - 2017 | Madison Park Greetings

Stationery + Accessories Illustrator | 2013-2017 | iPOP

GALLERY SHOWS

2017 | DINK Colorado Artists Showcase/ Take Art, Leave Art/ Draw Off | Nov | Denver, CO

2016 | Botanica | Light Grey Art Lab | April | Minneapolis, MN

2016 | ROBO SHOW | Light Grey Art Lab | Feb | Minneapolis, MN

2014 | Totally Local | Madison and Main Gallery | Jan-Feb | Greeley, CO

2013 | The Brew at Deja Lu | Oct - Dec Art Display | Firestone, CO

2013 | Macro & Micro | Light Grey Art Lab | Minneapolis, MN

2013 | Beautiful Forever: A Tribute to Tattoos (of the temporary kind) | Light Grey Art Lab | Minneapolis, MN

2012 | Scary Art Project | Fort Collins, CO

2010 | Scary Art Project | Fort Collins, CO

March 2023

The Public Art budget is currently \$25K each year. It is reasonable that an Art on Loan program could be started with bases poured and 5 – 10 pieces acquired, depending on the size of sculptures and the length of the loans. The steps to create a Call for Entry for submissions are outlined below. Grace

Steps for writing a Call for Entry for Public Art Acquisition:

1. Research public art policy and ask for assistance if you need help understanding Louisville's public art policy. You are encouraged to read other cities' policies and to become familiar with public art best practices. Research how other cities attract a diverse range of art, and art of high quality through their policies and their calls for entries
2. Research other public art calls in Colorado so you are familiar with what is out there, what specifications calls include, and how calls address uncertainty (timelines, installation site, etc.) while still being specific about the vision for public art.
3. Research project budgets so you are familiar with what quality and size of art you might expect to receive based on the budget you offer; ensure that artist budgets include all aspects (required insurance, installation costs, base, anti-graffiti measures, etc.)
4. Develop guidelines for:
 - a. Theme
 - b. Scope
 - c. Maintenance
 - d. Safety
 - e. Installation logistics
5. Develop submission guidelines
 - a. Acceptable file formats
 - b. Number of images
 - c. Fees
 - d. Deadlines
 - e. Eligibility
 - f. Notification dates and method
6. Develop evaluation criteria
7. Develop a selection process – possibilities include a jury of specific members of the public, public vote, LCC vote
8. Develop a timeline beginning with opening the call, ending with installation
9. Write the call. Use language that is clear and unambiguous to attract submissions that meet your criteria. Make sure that the purpose of the art, the selection criteria, and the public art process are especially transparent.
10. Have the full LCC review the call and vote to approve it prior to publicly sharing the call to discuss how to make the call fair, transparent, and accessible to all artists.
11. Contact public art professionals, artists, and community members for advice on how to equitably share the call and invite submissions.

Erica Schmitt

From: Keely Taylor <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 5:49 PM
To: Erica Schmitt; Meredyth Muth; Sharon Nemechek
Subject: LCC resignation

Dear Erica, Sharon, Meredyth, and any other relevant parties,

I am writing to let you know that due to the toxic culture of bullying, I am resigning from the Louisville Cultural Council, effective immediately. I joyfully and eagerly volunteered in order to invest in creating a more equitable, artistic, and creative community in Louisville. I am deeply disappointed to say that the LCC is not a healthy space and it has become clear that I need to step away.

Before I go any further, I want to point out that working with Erica Schmitt has been a bright spot in my experience on the council. She is a creative, supportive, and hardworking staff liaison. I will miss working with her! Another bright spot has been working with my neighbor and fellow council member, Grace Gee. It has been a privilege to follow her lead in the work of championing art, culture, and inclusion in our community.

I was really looking forward to continuing this work in the coming years. I want to be a part of Louisville growing into a more artistic and equitable place where all kinds of voices are amplified, represented, and celebrated. But I will not volunteer in a toxic environment that breeds anxiety and tolerates bullying. From our very first meeting in 2022, I could feel that this council was not the creative and collaborative team I was expecting. Mark Cathcart functions as a bully on the council. He seems to be watching out for his fellow council members to make mistakes, instead of productively working together toward our goals. During our meetings he spends time correcting, complaining, and blaming. The current culture of the LCC feels dysfunctional and anxiety producing. The anxiety it costs me personally, is not a price I'm willing to pay.

This was further confirmed in my experience with City Council. The way they handled the sculpture, Community Resilience, was disorienting, defeating, and discouraging. The Public Art Subcommittee and the art jury spent hundreds of volunteer hours toward the healing of our community. City Council discounted our volunteer efforts and dismissed our hard work. This is a system using its *power over* others instead of *power with* others. I want to use my energy working with an organization that values and makes space for collaboration, relationship, inclusion, and joy.

It is my hope that the LCC becomes a more healthy, productive, and equitable place for volunteers.

Sincerely,

Keely Taylor

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Erica Schmitt

From: grace gee <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:12 AM
To: Erica Schmitt; Sharon Nemechek; Meredyth Muth
Subject: Grace Gee Resignation Letter

Dear Erica, and Sharon and Meredyth,

I am writing to submit my resignation from the Louisville Cultural Council (LCC), effective immediately. It is with a heavy heart that I make this decision, but recent events have made it clear that I can no longer continue to serve on the council. As a member, and now the Chair of the LCC, I have always believed in upholding the highest standards of professionalism and respect in all our dealings with the community and City Council. Unfortunately, the behavior that I have witnessed from certain members of the LCC, and members of City Council have fallen short of these values.

There is a pattern of refusing to accept reality (including the requirements to follow city purchasing and other finance policies after the 501c3 was dissolved) and the propensity for griping when things don't go as desired that hinders our progress as a cultural council. This is coupled with open hostility toward the liaison, Erica Schmitt, as demonstrated through ongoing passive-aggressive comments in her presence, openly disparaging her when she is not present and what appears to be a concerted effort to undermine her work and have her fired. This has created a culture of distrust, where covering your ass is necessary and harassment is the norm. This is not a team where members can think creatively and dream big with each other. When I joined the Cultural Council, I had hoped for a team that would work collaboratively and feel safe enough to brainstorm together and build on each other's ideas. Unfortunately, the current culture does not allow for this.

The unprofessional behavior of Mark Cathcart, a member of our council, has been deeply troubling. His continual complaining, limited participation in discussions, committees and events, belittling remarks, and disregard for the Council's goals has made it difficult to effectively carry out our duties. Moreover, his bullying and undermining watchdog behavior has not yielded any positive outcomes. Mr. Cathcart's recent actions, in which he publicly discredited his fellow council members and eroded the trust essential to our collaborative efforts, has had a devastating impact on the meticulously planned and executed public art project "Community Resilience". By spreading misinformation about our process during his personal conversations with and public address to City Council, and the failure of the City Council members to fact-check his accusations, it has become abundantly clear to me that those holding their positions lack the necessary qualifications to perform their duties effectively and are easily swayed by emotional claims without verifying the veracity or potential personal interest of those making said claims.

Furthermore, what appears to be an intentional lack of action and accountability from the City Council in addressing these issues is equally disappointing. As leaders of our community, it is their responsibility to create a safe framework to set their boards and commissions up for success. It is imperative that they set an example for others to follow. It is my hope that my resignation will serve as a wake-up call to both the Cultural Council and the City Council that these behaviors must change. The City of Louisville has the opportunity to learn from this situation and to live up to their "dedication to providing a vibrant, healthy community with the best small-town atmosphere" ([City vision statement; 2023-2024 Strategic Plan pg. 2](#)). I sincerely hope they choose to make the necessary corrections for this to happen.

I am passionate about our community and the work we do on LCC. However, I will not continue to give my volunteer hours, energy, and well-being to this toxic culture. I want to express my sincere appreciation to the members who have worked tirelessly to uphold the values and mission of the LCC. It has been an honor to work alongside such dedicated individuals and I am proud of the progress we have made together. Additionally, Erica Schmitt has been an invaluable asset to our mission and a true pleasure to work alongside. Her unwavering commitment and active engagement have set a high standard for the effective relationship-building and empowerment of boards and commissions.

I will do everything in my power to ensure a smooth transition for the LCC and to support the incoming Chair in any way possible. I believe in the importance of our work and the impact that we can have on our community, and I will continue to support these efforts in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

Grace Gee

Grace Gee (she/her/hers)

c: [REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

w: HealingGraceStudio.com

i: [REDACTED]

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Erica Schmitt

From: Ronald Reeves <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 8:43 AM
To: Meredyth Muth; Erica Schmitt
Subject: LCC

Good Morning Erica and Meredyth,

I am writing this letter to put in my resignation from the Louisville Cultural Council (LCC), effective immediately. I thank you, as I have been so very blessed and appreciate the opportunity to serve our city, once again.

Unfortunately the committee, at this time, does not fit my personal and emotional need. This committee has been a very different experience from the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force, which was a awesome experience, that I was a part of in 2020-21. Before LCC, I was a part of the Community Resilience sculpture voting committee for LCC and was very excited about that and the art to continue to grow in Louisville. I am very disappointed on how the process has worked out. I attended meetings including both the LCC and City and feel like this may not be the best safe place for my heart and talents.

I also recently connected with Chair Grace Gee, who was a huge part of my excitement about joining the LCC (we worked together on the EDI Task Force), and learned that she recently stepped down as Chair - very disappointing and disheartening. I really want LCC to be great, so I want to give up my seat so that the city can find someone who better fits the needs of the committee and it would serve as a safe place for them.

If there are other open committee(s) I would love to and would be open to learning more about them and potentially have a opportunity to do more.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reeves
[REDACTED]

--

Ronald Reeves
State Rep & Vice Basileus - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Executive Director - Sustainable Broomfield
Revenue Development - Denver Arts & Venues
[https://www.linkedin.com/\[REDACTED\]](https://www.linkedin.com/[REDACTED])
[REDACTED]

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Meredyth Muth

From: Patricia Howard <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 2:55 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Marshall Fire Sculpture

Members of the Louisville City Council:

I am writing regarding the City of Louisville and the Cultural Council's proposed Marshall Fire Sculpture, "Community Resilience."

I was one of the jurors for the project. Jurying focused on determining whether applicants met the project criteria and evaluating applicants' previous work as well as their current proposed sculpture. I was impressed with the quality of artists who applied and happy to volunteer to assist with the selection process.

The Cultural Council's application process was well organized and professional. The project was posted with Call for Entry (Café) which is a respected, national site for artists and arts' organization.

Part of the application process asked artists to evaluate potential sites for the sculpture within historic Louisville. There was a map included to indicate potential sites. Artists designed projects with these sites in mind.

I understand that the City Council has concerns about the proposed site for the sculpture and recently tabled a vote on the project. Instead, the Council has identified neighborhood liaisons to potentially suggest different site locations, essentially removing the Cultural Council from the process. While I understand the Council's sensitivity these are concerns that should have been identified in advance of empowering the Cultural Council to proceed. I fear the project will now be bogged down in unnecessary bureaucracy.

If the project is substantially changed, this will necessitate a new Call For Entry. Changing the project while not completing the original call could potentially open the City Council to legal challenges. Posting a new call for entry on what is essentially the same project reflects poorly on the City of Louisville and the Cultural Council's ability to function effectively and ethically within the realm of public art.

I urge you to uphold the original, carefully considered parameters and move the sculpture toward completion. Many have contributed substantial time and effort into making "Community Resilience" a thoughtful addition to our community. Disregarding the good work that has been done undermines the very notion of civic engagement this council professes to support.

Thank you.

Patricia Howard
Photographer & Studio Arts instructor
Smithsonian Associates

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Instagram: [REDACTED]

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Cultural Council – Programming Subcommittee Agenda

**Friday, February 24, 2023
Louisville Rec. Center – Ajax Meeting Room
900 Via Appia Way
8:00 AM**

The Council will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at ESchmitt@LouisvilleCO.gov.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approval of this agenda
4. EDI considerations, discussion
5. Discussion – general programming
6. Adjourn

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

Programming Subcommittee
Louisville Recreation & Senior Center
8:00am 24th of February, 2023

Members present: Beth McLennan, JR Ketelsen, Sarah Staunton

Members of public: none

Motion to start meeting made by Sarah: 8:01am. JR seconded. No dissent.

Locations and Dates:

- What locations are available?
- See if other LCC members have open dates to suggest or possible programming suggestions.

Budget:

- What is our budget currently and where is it coming from?
- Range of programming cost is anywhere between \$500 and \$1k (estimated) per program based on past experience.

Goals:

- To get at least 1, ideally 2 events scheduled for each month.
- For the month of March we will focus on getting one, possibly two programs set for the very end of the month

Louisville Committee and Commissions Collaborations:

- Downtown Business Association (DBA): A good option to reach out to/ work with. In the past the LCC has worked with them on a statue with artist Greg Fields at the underpass by the train tracks. They also plan/ organize the music for the summer farmers markets. Perhaps the Planning Committee works with them to get more outdoor events for the fall for more kid and family involvement- such as a movie screening or projector based entertainment in the Steinbaugh pavilion. .
- Open Space Committee: don't think that they are willing to work with LCC. They seem to keep to themselves.
- Louisville Revitalization Committee (LRC): revitalization committee. Do they work on the Storefront Beautification Project and would they be the committee to work with for hosting murals or outdoor visual projects?
- Louisville Rising: this is not a committee but a non-profit. Does working with a non-profit outside of the grants process complicate/ compromise the arts grants process? Should Non-profit involvement be strictly adhered to within the Arts Grants only? Programming Committee does not seem to think that it should limit us to working with nonprofits.
- Louisville Historical Society

EDI:

- Age ranges should be looked at too for inclusion. What about programs for younger groups and families since there is a large proportion of them in Louisville? The Butterfly Pavilion might be a great collaboration for that group. Nature Lab was also discussed: check to see when the Nature Lab happened in 2022 and if we want to do them again.
- Native Rights Center through Boulder University. This might be a great opportunity for a mini series of talks. Ava Hamilton was a bit disappointing to most of the Programming Committee members and felt that it was unstructured and not as informative as a lecture style would have been. .
- Holocaust survivor/ discussions- JR's mother-in-law is giving a talk this week on some of her experiences in the holocaust and perhaps there is a panel that we can work with the JCC to set up a series of talks or even just one.
- Louisville Historical Society - Possibly work with them since they have been doing a series of newsletters talking about the history of Louisville and its Italian/ Jewish/ bootlegging community. This might be an interesting collaboration as well.

Mushrooms:

- Seems like a very popular subject right now and the Programming committee is interested in exploring how we can make this an educating, informative and exploratory event for all ages. Perhaps even talking about the foraging aspect and how it can be done in an environmentally friendly way. Hopefully have visuals and maybe discussions on the topic. Look at what Telluride has done with its yearly mushroom festival and how it relates to the culture share.

Poet Smash:

- Potential idea to host some poets. Beth has a contact named: Vallery Szarek, val@poetval.com, 720-771-0391, poetval.com

Bee Exhibit

- Explore the community's involvement, business and understanding of all things bees.

Music/ Audible arts:

- Silent Film: Who did we work with on this in the past? All ages attend which is great for EDI. Perhaps this should pay event? Will this help meet the \$1,400 ticket sales requirement? \$5 a ticket and maybe kids under 12 are free.

***Arts event/ Steinbach volunteering: Should we suggest that we have a staggered schedule for these events? This will help with short staffing.**

Potential Events:

- Tyco Drumming - hopefully held at Steinbach
- Opera- we should for sure get them to come again.
- Silent film
- Blake Walsh
- Mayan Healing ceremony

Marketing:

- Do we have a marketing group that LCC/ City of Louisville works with and how do we have a focus on who we are marketing to? Is it outsourced? The Programming SubCommittee recognizes that one standardized way of marketing is not going to reach all the age groups and demographics we want to. Ex: marketing through the city news letter is not going to attract a 16-28 age group since they are more than likely on Instagram or social. How does this affect attendance to programming?

Blake Welsh:

- Local artist, held at the arts center in the past, he is hoping to do another date soon. Potentially a Saturday or Sunday event.
- Beth will offer him all the weekends the LCC has on hold in July since he would like a full weekend for his event.

TO DO:

- Beth to get in contact to Blake Welsh
- Beth to contact CU about lectures for Native American and Geography departments.
- JR/ Beth to reach JCC potential lectures.
- JR to reach out to bee connections.
- JR to reach out to his mushroom collaboration contact.
- Get someone on the LCC to look into improv and comedy for programming.
- Sarah to reach out to CU events and student centers to see who we can connect with to understand more about their programming and past events that might fit better with Louisville.
- Sarah to reach out to DBA, Moxie and Acme to explore outdoor porch events with music/ programming.
- JR to reach out to his contact in Lafayette that works in the arts and events community.

Adjourn: 9:30am Sarah motioned, JR approved, no dissent.

The Arts Center available dates are currently: all dates below are on hold for us.

FEBRUARY:

Friday, Feb. 3 (*NB: if event is approved at 01/19 meeting, this date would have 15 days for marketing to be created and distributed*)

Friday, Feb. 10

Friday, Feb. 17

MARCH:

Saturday, March 18

Friday, March 24

Saturday, March 25

Friday, March 31

APRIL:

Friday, April 14

Friday, April 28

MAY:

Monday, May 22

JUNE:

Sunday, June 11

Saturday, June 24

Sunday, June 25

JULY:

Sunday, July 9

Saturday, July 15

Sunday, July 16

Saturday, July 22

Sunday, July 23

Saturday, July 29

Sunday, July 30

AUGUST:

No dates available

SEPTEMBER:

Friday, Sept. 22
Friday, Sept. 29
Saturday, Sept. 30

OCTOBER:

Friday, Oct. 6
Friday, Oct. 13

NOVEMBER:

Monday, Nov. 13
Tuesday, Nov. 14
Monday, Nov. 20
Mon.-Thurs. Nov. 27-30

DECEMBER:

Sun.-Fri. Dec. 3-8
Sun.-Wed. Dec. 10-13
Friday, Dec. 15 – Thursday, Dec. 21

Programming Committee Meeting
12:30pm Via Zoom on Thursday March 9th
Cultural Caravan Scheduling

Attendance: Sarah Staunton, JR Ketelsen, Josh Halpern and Lauren Flaten

Intro:

4k approved already for the Community Park concert. Meeting is to work on proposing dates and upcoming events with the Cultural Caravan.

Action Items:

-Josh would like to meet with Erica in the near future. Hopefully while he is in town at the end of April.

-JR will connect with Jannet Russel of the DBA on hw they might be able to help out with the fire station event..

-Sarah to get Beth to send over the list of food trucks from the summer concerts to Josh

Dates and scheduling:

-Fire Station block party

-Josh: request to reserve Thursday **June 8th**

-Josh: want to increase the size of the event/ attendance extensively

-Josh: thinking that we use fire station 1 at the downtown fire station. JR thinks that might be an issue with residential zoning and Josh thinks that we could get a permit to block off the whole block to direct traffic. JR also suggested that we might do Steinbaugh and Josh said that the kids loved playing on the fire engine- which was a big draw. JR suggests that we reach out to Jeff Durban, City Manager.

-Josh will CC us on an email with John Wilson the head firefighter in Louisville.

-2-3 musical groups starting when people get off of work around 5pm and finish by 9pm

-any platforms and or stages to fit a 5 piece band at the largest are very much appreciated since they can provide the sound. JR will check the Center for the Arts to see if there is anything he can do.

-Andy Clark helped out in the past with getting all the restaurants involved for food and was a big motivator for participation from business. Josh is wondering what next steps he can do for getting that ball moving again. Do we want to do food trucks?

-Structural: chairs to sit, chalk for kids to draw, buddles perhaps? Porta Potties? Public works might be the ones to reach out for that. JR does not think that this will be covered by the city in terms of cost and should be considered if we are short on budget. Should we connect with someone from the DBA? JR will connect with them.

-3rd event, Local Business Pop-up Concert

-One option: during June Festival- very flexible at this time between the 8th and the 18th of June.

-Second April 26th- 29th - their headline artist is Hazle Midler. Sold out show. They are already hosting downtown at Ashkara (restaurant).

Meeting finished at: 1:25pm

March 2023
Louisville Cultural Council
Staff Report – Erica Schmitt

Board Retreat

A Doodle Poll with a total of 18 options for the date/time were provided, including eight options in May so as to not interfere with Marks' daughter's school sports schedule (sports season ends in April). Availability was provided by Scott Sala, Beth McLennan, JR Ketelsen, Grace Gee, Keely Taylor, Sarah Staunton, and Ron Reeves.

The dates with the most board members available were the afternoon blocks (approx. 12-5PM) on Sunday, April 30, Saturday, May 13, and Saturday, May 20.

Following LCC direction, the staff liaison reached out to the three potential mediators discussed in February: Heather Bergman, CBCA, and Jane Hansberry.

At the time of writing, Jane Hansberry and Heather Bergman have responded. Bergman's staff is booked for the foreseeable future. Hansberry is available for the May dates, and recommends meeting from noon through 5PM. Hansberry's fee would be approximately \$1200-2000, depending on the number of hours required to prep for this facilitated retreat. CBCA has not responded.

Art Grants

Signed art grant agreements and current W-9 forms have been received from Motus ("Playback Improv Theater"), Soul Penny ("Mourning Tree"), Christopher Scholtes ("Ambient Experience"), and Ellen Rice ("Not All Men: Songwriter's Showcase for the Rest of Us").

Linda Anderson ("Celebrate EDU") has not returned the agreement or W-9 at the time of writing.

The grant recipients who have submitted all of their paperwork have received their first check (50% of the total award). Totals disbursed so far are:

Motus: \$1,000. Currently discussing dates.

Soul Penny Circus: \$1,000. Currently discussing dates.

Ellen Rice: \$995. Scheduled for Sunday, August 13, 2023 at Steinbaugh.

Christoph Scholtes (first disbursement will be: \$150) chose to mail his W-9. Once this document is received, accounts payable can cut him a check.

Community Resilience sculpture

City liaison Erica Schmitt provided a comprehensive overview of the process of writing the call for entry, details of the call (including that the location is in the historic downtown area), the LCC's process of selecting a jury, and the LCC's approval of the sculpture titled "Community Resilience". This information was presented to City Manager Jeff Durbin and Deputy City Manager Megan Davis for review, questions, and edits. On Tuesday, March 14, 2023 City Manager Jeff Durbin will present the sculpture to City Council again. Any updates about City Council's decision will be shared with the LCC and with the "Community Resilience" artists.

LCC 2023 Programming:

As a reminder, the LCC may produce events at any available City location, including the Arts Center, Steinbaugh, Parks, Open Space, and the Rec/Senior Center. The staff liaison can assist with confirming the availability and making reservations with Parks and the Rec/Senior Center.

The LCC’s reservations at the Art Center include LCC events and the LCC-sponsored Art Grant programs. The calendar of available Art Center dates was originally shared with members of the LCC on 12/19/22, and was also included in the February 2023 LCC packet. When in doubt, please reach out to the staff liaison to confirm the availability of a specific date.

Dates that are being held for specific Art Grant programs include:

- **Dona Laurita** (2020 art grant involving young refugees): Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8. We have provided Monday, April 10 as an additional date for Dona to try to remove any possible perceived barriers or challenges to completing this project.
- **Ellen Rice** (2023 art grant involving gender disparities in songwriting competitions): Sunday, August 13 at Steinbaugh Pavilion.
- **Motus Theater** (2023 art grant involving improve theater): is looking for a Saturday at the Arts Center in September, October, or November. Unfortunately, only 09/30 is available. 11/25 is available from 4:30PM on, but Motus requests a minimum of a half day in the space.

The city liaison has provided options of Friday and Sunday dates as well, with 09/22, 09/29, 10/06, and 10/13 falling within the date range that Motus is looking at.

Dates that are still available for additional LCC programming (includes LCC programs and LCC-sponsored Art Grants):

From Date	From Time	To Time
3/17/2023	15:00	22:00
3/18/2023	17:00	22:00
3/24/2023	8:00	22:00
3/31/2023	15:00	22:00
4/2/2023	8:00	22:00
4/3/2023	12:30	21:30
4/4/2023	16:30	21:30
4/5/2023	7:00	21:30
4/6/2023	7:00	16:00
4/12/2023	15:00	22:00
4/15/2023	15:00	22:00
4/16/2023	8:00	22:00
4/28/2023	15:00	22:00
5/22/2023	15:00	22:00
6/11/2023	8:00	22:00
6/24/2023	8:00	22:00
6/25/2023	8:00	22:00

7/9/2023	7:00	22:00
7/16/2023	8:00	22:00
7/23/2023	7:00	21:00
7/29/2023	8:00	22:00
7/30/2023	7:00	22:00
9/22/2023	15:00	22:00
9/29/2023	8:00	22:00
9/30/2023	8:00	22:00
10/6/2023	14:00	22:00
10/13/2023	15:00	22:00
11/13/2023	15:00	22:00
11/14/2023	15:00	22:00
11/20/2023	15:00	22:00
12/1/2023	8:00	22:00
12/8/2023	8:00	22:00
12/10/2023	8:00	22:00
12/15/2023	15:00	22:00
12/17/2023	12:00	22:00
12/18/2023	15:00	22:00
12/19/2023	15:00	22:00
12/20/2023	15:00	22:00
12/21/2023	15:00	22:00

Programming ideas may be originated by any member of the LCC; you do not need to be a member of the programming committee to come up with and share great ideas.

Upon coming up with an idea, you may reach out to the artist/musician/lecturer/writer/scientist/etc. (“Artist”) to discuss the potential event, date, timing, and cost. Please make sure that you are abundantly clear that you are speaking as a member of the LCC, and not speaking on behalf of the entire LCC or on behalf of the City. Let the Artist know that you will bring this idea to the entire LCC, and that you will provide a final decision and details after the entire board reviews them.

Please make sure that you reach out to the LCC Chair and staff liaison with your event idea and details with enough time for the event to be included on the next board agenda. (Monday of the week prior to the board meeting is highly encouraged.) The full board will want to hear about your idea, and will need to vote to approve spending money on your event.

Once the board votes to approve the cost of your event, the staff liaison will write a contract and send it to the Artist. The staff liaison will create the online event listing on Eventbrite, the Facebook “Arts and Events” page, and on the City website’s calendar. The staff liaison will use graphics and descriptions provided by the Artist or the LCC to create flyers to display at City buildings (Library, City Hall, Rec/Senior Center, Police), and to create half-page flyers for LCC members to personally distribute to individuals and businesses that might be interested in the event.

If the event is approved and planned with enough advance notice, it may be included in the monthly Arts and Events newsletter and the quarterly Cultural Services newsletter. The Communications Department may choose to include events that can accommodate a larger audience and/or events that have broad appeal the emailed community newsletters.

Print citywide events require significant lead time, and have limited space to include events. If there are events that you would like to have considered for inclusion in print materials, please provide your information to the city liaison to share with the Communications Department ASAP. There generally is a 3-4 month lead time for print materials, and space is not guaranteed.

If the LCC desires to do additional types of event promotions, the board is welcome to allocate part of its budget towards marketing.

Board Member Updates:

The Cultural Council has some changes this month. March marks the first month that Scott Sala serves as Secretary – thank you, Scott! We are also losing several board members this month. Grace Gee (Chair), Keely Taylor (Vice Chair), and Ronald Reeves (member at large) submitted their resignations. In transparency, and per the wishes of these members, their resignation letters are attached.

Gee provided an outline of how to write a call for public art (attached), and used previous years' documents to create a guide for tracking and managing programming (Google Drive document – not attached). She fulfilled her duties as Chair leading up to this meeting, and remains available as a resource.

As a reminder, the board needs a **quorum** of members present in order to hold meetings. For the City of Louisville boards and commissions, a quorum is over 50% of the members. i.e. if there are ten voting members on the board, a quorum would be six voting members present. The staff liaison and City employees do not count towards the quorum. If a quorum is not present, the board meeting will be rescheduled for a time when a quorum can attend.

Please note that the **minutes** are part of the official, public record, and every attempt should be made to make the notes accurate and impartial. Subjective language (biased, colored by personal feelings, equivalent to opinions, subject to personal bias, non-verifiable, includes figurative and suggestive language) should be avoided. Please use objective language (unbiased/impartial, not influenced by personal feelings, interpretations or prejudices; factual and verifiable).

Draft minutes are included in each month's board packet. Members of the LCC are encouraged to review the packet in advance of the meeting, including reviewing the draft minutes and making note of any proposed edits (i.e. corrections to who made a motion or seconded a motion, corrections to dates, suggestions to improve clarity/readability).

After the board reviews the draft minutes and votes to approve specific changes, the secretary will make those specific changes – and no additional changes, additions, or deletions besides those that the board specifically voted on. Please do not put the LCC in a position where it appears that members are colluding with the intent of influencing the minutes for personal gain or are changing finalized minutes that go on the public record.