

**Murray Arts Advisory Board**  
**Minutes for April 21, 2015**

Attendance: Shauna Hart, Kevin Westenskow, Bonnie Tollefson, Scott Mooy, Deborah Daines  
Excused: Brandon Beckstead, Alisa Brousseau

1. Minutes for March 17, 2015 were approved as written. Mary Ann welcomed new board member Deborah Daines.
2. Missoula Children's Theater Jungle Book production had lower participation this year with 34 kids in the cast and 196 people attended the two shows. Mary Ann noted that 4 youth musicals are still in production and it was scheduled the week right after spring break. Bonnie was very impressed with the production. Murray Arts Council's Nonsense will finish its last show on April 29. They have also experienced very small crowds averaging about 50 a night. Mary Ann didn't know what kind of advertising they used. We included it in our normal places through Facebook, email, city website and local paper.

Mary Ann had significant complications with school facilities and district personnel for both productions at Riverview. Cory Plant will take over facility rentals for her in the future to see if we can resolve the conflicts. Mary Ann is worried about facility access at the new junior high but she recognizes we need to be patient for the first year to see how we fit in. She doesn't think the school administration and teachers have an understanding of the contract that guarantees the city a certain amount of use for various spaces in the school. Shauna and Kevin were worried that the first year may set a precedent for future years and we need to make sure they honor the contract for access. Deborah asked if we talk to the principal and office staff when we rent the facility. Mary Ann explained the district has asked that we work directly with the district scheduling person, not the local school administrators. She feels that is why we have some of the problems because communication breaks down between the district, administration, and teachers whose space is being used. She will still try to alert teachers when we are using their space as a courtesy since the district often doesn't tell them it is rented. In the future, she is hoping to ask the district and school personnel to give her exact weeks that are available as early as possible so we can schedule in those open spots but so far the district doesn't seem to be interested in that type of cooperation which is unfortunate.

3. Upcoming activities through May were reviewed and assignments made for the secondary art show, city storytelling festival, and cemetery storytelling.
4. Shauna reminded board members about the city master plan openhouse on April 22. She has attended the cultural focus group and thought the process was very interesting.
5. A total of 7 music competition entries were received which is the most Mary Ann can remember. We received entries for both adult and youth divisions in original composition and arranging. After we judge, we will decide where to showcase the winner.

6. The County Performing Arts facility recommendations have still not been announced although Mayor McAdams has the recommendations. He wanted to announce it formally after he returned from a two week trip. We will receive the final schematic drawings and construction costs for the amphitheater this week. Then we will decide when and how to submit a grant request to the county. Mary Ann announced that new lights in the amphitheater parking are in the recommended list for funding next year. Scott is going to look at lights at Germania Park to see if he thinks they will provide adequate light for the parking area.
7. Mary Ann has ordered brag badges for the Unplugged program including the museum, art collection, writing stories about seniors, Jordan River Parkway signs, cemetery, arboretum, and fitness track. Check-Fil-A will sponsor our children matinee concerts again. She thought this was a fairly cheap way to advertise and was excited about enhancing museum attendance where many of badges will be picked up from. Deborah asked if the library was involved. Mary Ann said they haven't been interested so far and maybe feel like their programs already had enough patrons.
8. Bonnie is hosting a plein air painting activity at her home in conjunction with the Sandy Arts Guild. Mary Ann wondered if we could be included in something like this. Shauna's historic home would also be a great location for plein air. At a former board meeting, Wendy recommended we do something similar along the Jordan River Parkway with some art instruction. Mary Ann wondered if we could collaborate with other communities and art agencies to sponsor a plein air activity in the fall along the parkway throughout Salt Lake County. Artists would bring their own supplies and set up along the path in spaces that didn't obstruct movement. As part of the overall event, Bonnie wondered if we could allow the artists to exhibit their works for a few days at the library with a reception. Mary Ann said we do this with our own show but this plein air activity was more focused on artwork in progress. But they could exhibit and sell their artwork there. We could ask if we could use the nature center for instruction. Weather could be an issue. Scott mentioned that Steve McGinty, a Murray resident, was president of a state plein air organization. Shauna described another successful event that included a "quick draw" where well known artists drew something in an hour and patrons bid on or purchased them. Mary Ann was unsure of an auction. She noted that she attended a dinner/auction in Murray that did not go well. Many left after the dinner and those who stayed were bidding way too low.