

Memorandum Mayor's Office



To: Rock Island City Council
From: Mayor Mike Thoms
Subject: Commission Reappointments
Date: June 3rd, 2021

The following are recommended for reappointment:

Beautification Commission

Reappoint:

Reappoint David VanLandegen to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Reappoint Todd Linscott to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Arts Commission

Reappoint:

Brett Hitchcock to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Carolyn Krueger to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Jodie Kavensky to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Pat Stolley to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Brandy VandeWalle to a 3 year term to expire June, 2024

Recommendation: Approve the reappointment as recommended for the terms as stated

Submitted by: Mike Thoms, Mayor

Approved by: Mike Thoms, Mayor

Memorandum

Community and Economic Development Department

To: Mayor Mike Thoms

Subject: Arts Commission Reappointments

Date: May 18, 2021



The Arts Commission has four members whose current terms are set to expire in June. The Commissioners terms are three years in length. All four have indicated their willingness to continue serving the City on the Arts Commission.

1. *Brett Hitchcock* – Circa 21, 1828 3rd Avenue

Brett Hitchcock has been with Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse for 28 years serving in many different capacities. Currently, he's the Director of Audience Development which is responsible for overseeing all the marketing and advertising for both Circa '21 and its secondary venue, The Speakeasy. Brett has served as Chair of the Arts Commission since its creation. He is also a past President of both the Rock Island Optimist Club as well as Arts and Entertainment District in Rock Island. He currently serves on the board of D.A.R.I. and is the marketing chair for the National Dinner Theater Association, a group of 20 dinner theaters operating around the United States.

2. *Carolyn Krueger* – Artist, 2058 33rd Street

Rock Island artist, Carolyn Krueger, works primarily with clay. Her colorful, but functional, work is hand-built and wheel-thrown. You can find her work at Crafted QC, ArtsWorks in LeClaire, Skeleton Key, Excelsior Gallery, and Escape Goat Soaps in The Village of East Davenport. Carolyn has served on the Arts Commission for the City of Rock Island since 2007, and is an advocate for all things art in our community. She has also been teaching art and pottery for more than fifteen years and offers private pottery lessons and classes to students of all ages. As owner of The ARTery and Gallery Director for MidCoast Fine Arts for many years, Carolyn still happily serves her art community by encouraging emerging artists, creative partnerships, and communication.

3. *Jodie Kavensky* – Arts Advocate, 3510 15th Street Court

Jodie Shagrin Kavensky is a native of Youngstown Ohio, graduating from Liberty High School in 1975. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism/Public Relations from The Ohio State University and her Master of Science in Advertising from Northwestern University, she spent seven years working in advertising in Chicago where her clients included the *Mayo Clinic Health Letter* and Michael Reese Hospital among others. When she moved to Rock Island Illinois to raise a family, she became a marketing consultant and volunteer in the non-profit sector -- primarily for health and arts organizations. Jodie is currently a board member of the Illinois Arts Council Agency, a sustaining member of Junior League of the Quad Cities and serves on the Rock Island Arts Commission. She has received a Nation of Neighbors award from Royal Neighbors, was an Athena Award honoree and a Chamber of Commerce Small Business honoree in the non-profit division. She is the founder and CEO of the NormaLeah Ovarian Cancer Initiative, a 501(c)3 public charity.

4. *Pat Stolley* – Futureappletree Studio Too, 311 21st Street

Pat Stolley is the owner of the Laborspace building on 3rd Ave and 21st Street. He has a vintage style recording studio there, and does repairs and refurbishment of antique electronics. Ragged Records has a store upstairs, and there are a few artists and craftspeople who rent space. The yard is open to visitors from Rozz Tox and is an event space for vending, poetry, music, and general gathering. Mr. Stolley has played in several bands and put out numerous records as well as running a small label called Futureappletree. “I like being part of the commission because it seeks to advance the appreciation and presence of art in Rock Island” says Mr. Stolley. He also said “I like hearing different views of what art in Rock Island can be and is. I think the commission is a definite asset to the city, and long term will make an impact on the overall wellbeing of its citizens.”

Recommendation:

The Community and Economic Development Department staff recommends that both commissioners be reappointed by the Mayor to the City’s Beautification Commission.

Submitted by: Kathryn Douglass, GIS Specialist
Miles Brainard, Planning and Redevelopment Administrator
Nathan Parch, Community and Economic Development Director
