

**Public Arts Commission of Oxford, Special Meeting for Strategic Planning,
Tuesday, April 27, 2021**

Held Virtually

Present: Steve Sullivan, chair; Norm Krumpke, Stefanie Hilles, Carole Katz, Edna Southard, Vice-Chair; Robert Benson, Secretary

Absent: Joe Prescher

The meeting was called to order by Steve Sullivan at 4:35PM

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

Old Business – Comprehensive Plan Update

1. Existing Conditions relative to PACO (Discussion continued from previous meeting on 4/20/21)

PACO members agreed that we need to address the relationship between the City and Miami University. There is little connection between Miami and the City in formal, administrative ways. However, Miami has an enormous impact on Oxford residents because it is the largest employer and because its student body of 17,000 represents the largest possible audience for art in the area. It falls on the city to address the non-student population of Oxford and the surrounding region.

One possible positive relationship is the fact that the Oxford Community Arts Center (OCAC) operates in the Oxford College Building. However, we need to have a much stronger group of summer programs on campus and in collaboration between town and gown than either Miami or the non-profit OCAC are providing.

We need to think in terms of “pie-in-the-sky” ideas that can be the basis of a realizable set of suggestions to propose to the City Council.

Creative people live here because of the University; energy is brought to the community by both faculty and students. The composition of the Planning Commission will include students. We belong to a national Town-Gown relations organization and the last meeting before COVID took place here.

However, COVID has caused town-gown relations to deteriorate. Oxford residents distrust student behavior, etc. We need some hard work to repair this. Norm Krumpe offered to edit, revise, and find themes in the points brought up and discussed at this meeting.

The next meeting will be the regular May meeting but will take place in two one-hour parts: 4:30 to 5:30; and 5:30 to 6:30, the second half to continue the work on our contribution to the new Comprehensive Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Benson, Secretary
Public Arts Commission of Oxford