

**ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 25, 2023
City Hall, Conference Room #6**

Attendees: Chairman Mary Lee Ryba, Vice Chairman Jennifer Drake, Commissioner John Bruning, Commissioner David Groth, Commissioner Katie Linder, Commissioner Alesa Momerak, Commissioner Bev Moss, Commissioner Lindsay Sichelstiel, Commissioner Kate Walker, City Council Liaison Amy Evans, City Administrator Troy Tymesen, City Accountant Stephanie Padilla, Executive Assistant Sherrie Badertscher.

Guests: Downtown Association Director Emily Boyd and Board Member Adam Graves, Nicole Robitaille.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ryba called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to approve the March 28, 2023, minutes as amended adding Commissioner Walker to the CDA Values Subcommittee. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT: MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Drake, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the March 2023, Financial Reports. **Motion carried.**

DISCUSSION ON MAINTENANCE OF “MONUMENT TO PEACE AND UNITY”: Commissioner Bruning said they had talked extensively about painting the sculpture and it was recommended by the Mayor and a few Councilmembers to wait one-year to see if the sculpture patinas over time, which was also the recommendation of the artist. Commissioner Groth mentioned the CdA Press article and comments on the color from Art Elliot, and said he respected Mr. Elliot’s opinion.

DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION “WINTER LIGHTS ART FESTIVAL”: Downtown Association (DTA) Board Member Adam Graves said they had previously approached the Arts Commission in 2019 on the topic, and then the pandemic had hit and placed it on-hold, and now they had reopened discussions on holding an event. He mentioned their intent was to drive traffic to downtown Coeur d’Alene in January and February by offering a Winter Lights Festival which was a combination of artwork created with lights. He said they were in the discovery phase and there were multiple directions to go as there were many artists who create and rent their artwork, 3rd party companies which rented art light displays, and another idea would be to place a call to artist to create pieces the DTA or City would own. He said the DTA currently had \$20,000 in funding to get a project started and Idaho Central Credit Union (ICCU) had also contributed \$20,000. He said they were seeking an additional commitment from the Arts Commission. He mentioned renting for a 2-week period generally costs \$25,000 - \$40,000 per art piece. They would

like to have the first display for the winter of 2023-2024. He said the DTA would like to partner with the Arts Commission to buy 1-2 pieces, or to pay for a call to artist and subsequent art piece chosen from such call. Vice-Chairman Drake said there were funds remaining in the Lake District arts fund account which could be used to support the event. Commissioner Moss asked Mr. Graves if they were looking for a commitment each year, with Mr. Graves responding it was their desire to create a collection. Commissioner Groth asked what a starter festival would include, with Mr. Graves responding it would depend on funding. Mr. Graves said they were starting with gathering funds in order to create a budget, and then would investigate what could be done. Mr. Tymesen asked if a long-term piece of art, which could be lit each year would be considered, with Mr. Graves responding yes it could. Chairman Ryba noted successful programs had partnerships with local universities as well. DTA Director Emily Boyd said the DTA Board and Chairman had placed a lot of time and effort into the project and were ready to roll out the event this winter. Councilmember Evans asked if the intent would be to place a call, have the art created and added to the City's inventory and then be used as part of the event each year. Vice-Chairman Drake confirmed any art created would be a piece of the City's public art collection. Mr. Graves said the DTA may contract with a 3rd party for the first year to see how displays are setup and managed. He noted a company by the name of CREOS works with artist to create the display pieces. He said transport was the costliest portion of rental art pieces. He said the DTA was open to partnering on the event, and any contributions of volunteer time or funds would be welcome. He noted they had been in talks with the Coeur d'Alene Resort as well. The target dates for the display are January 26 - February 26, 2024. He said they would plan for many activities for the kick-off of the event. Commissioner Linder asked if the Commission's audio guide tour could be incorporated. Vice-Chairman Drake suggested creating a subcommittee to help the DTA explore the project. Vice-Chairman Drake, and Commissioners Walker and Sichelstiel volunteered to assist DTA's planning committee.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

Mayor's Awards in the Arts: Chairman Ryba said the event was scheduled for October 4, 2023, and they had secured the Hagadone Event Center as the venue. She said the next committee meeting was scheduled for May 2, at 4:00 p.m.

ArtCurrents: Chairman Ryba said the committee would be meeting May 1, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the project's future parameters and funding.

Audio Guide: Commissioner Bruning said the next committee meeting was on Tuesday, May 5, and gathering narratives from the respective artists had taken longer than expected. He noted they have gathered 45 narratives so far.

Performing Arts: Commissioner Groth said the CDA High School was selected to present the Disney musical "Frozen" with sold-out performances scheduled for Friday and Saturday night, and "Sunday in the Park with George" at the Kroc Center was scheduled this Friday-Sunday.

Ped/Bike Brochure: Commissioner Moss said she had bundled the brochures into groups of 30 to be delivered at each business. She said volunteers should ask businesses if they would display them, and if they agreed, to jot down the date they were delivered on the spreadsheet she had provided. She said any leftover brochures may be brought back to City Hall and given to the Parks and Recreation Department for storage.

East Sherman Arch: Vice-Chairman Drake said she was working on scheduling the first subcommittee meeting. Mr. Tymesen mentioned the City was working with the Idaho Department of Transportation for permission to take ownership of the wayfinding sign (arch) and it may be a while before the City received a determination. He said the process had been started in October 2022.

Public Art Plaques: Commissioner Moss noted the plaque for the Riverstone Park art piece “Undercurrent” was installed and there were no other issues with art plaques at this time.

Mural Projects: Commissioner Momerak said she spoke with the Toppenish, Washington “Mural in a Day” Board Chair and was given the information on the paint and sealant products they used on their outdoor murals.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Art Project: Commissioner Momerak said she had created the first draft of the call to artists and would appreciate assistance with completing it. Capital Programs Manager Mike Becker said he would contribute his expertise on engineering requirements of the project.

CDA Values: Commissioner Groth said the committee was exploring ideas for the CDA Values campaign and Commissioner Light had brought forward a project called Windows of Understanding which the committee was exploring. He said another possibility was “Alley Art” murals painted on panels which have a theme and are rotated every 90-days. He said the next committee meeting would be held at the Art Spirit Gallery.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Drake, seconded by Commissioner Linder, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting ended at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherrie L. Badertscher
Executive Assistant