

**ARTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 27, 2023  
City Hall, Conference Room #6**

**Attendees:** Chairman Mary Lee Ryba, Vice Chairman Jennifer Drake, Commissioner Abby Light, Commissioner Katie Linder, Commissioner Alesa Momerak, Commissioner Sally Shortridge, Commissioner Lindsey Sichelstiel, Commissioner Summer Ward, City Administrator Troy Tymesen, Executive Assistant Sherrie Badertscher.

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

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION:** There were none.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION:** Motion by Commissioner Momerak, seconded by Commissioner Light, to approve the May 23, 2023, minutes. **Motion carried.**

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

**COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS:** Chairman Ryba congratulated Vice Chairman Drake on her and her husband's new Gentleman Sausages business article in the North Idaho Business Journal.

**CONVERSATION WITH GUEST ARTIST DALE YOUNG:** Chairman Ryba read a biography of and introduced local Artist Dale Young. Mr. Young said he was grateful and appreciative of the Arts Commission. He mentioned he had graduated from high school in Post Falls and at that time public art was almost unheard of. He said he works in hard stone and one of his recent creations "Gaia" was currently a part of the ArtCurrents program. He said there were a few other of his art pieces throughout the city. He mentioned he was an advocate of using natural materials and the basalt stone he used would last for thousands of years. He noted stone had an energy and that pieces from stone were individual pieces and could not be reproduced. Chairman Ryba asked what tools were used, with Mr. Young responding a 5" grinder with a diamond blade and then pieces were chipped out and the layers were polished. He said it took roughly 500 hours of work to complete "Gaia." He said he had collaborated with multiple artists in town, and had started with artist Randy Rock who he worked with for 5-6 years. He explained Gaia was a Greek word which meant earth goddess and his sculpture "Gaia" represented an earthly motherly woman with a worldly look. Chairman Ryba thanked Mr. Young for joining the meeting and sharing his experiences.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FY 23/24 ARTS COMMISSION BUDGET:** Mr. Tymesen said the FY 23/24 budget would be presented to Council for approval. He explained the handout showed the last three years' actuals, and eight months of actuals in the current fiscal year budget, and the FY 23/24 request. He noted the Wastewater Building Project had been estimated and 1% of the permit fee had been included in the fund for 23/24. He said all unspent funds would carry

over to next year. He mentioned \$2,500 had been allocated for Professional Services, \$500 for Education and Training, \$3,000 for Art, \$5,000 for Community Arts Partnership, \$3,500 Mayor's Arts Awards, and \$60,000 for Capital Outlay-Art. He said the Ignite cda dollars must be used in the area it was dedicated from and there was \$5,000 allocated for Professional Services. He mentioned the River District URD funds for Capital were allocated at \$150,000. He said the Public Art Fund – Maintenance account was to be used for repairs, vandalism, etc. Commissioner Linder asked what the difference was between non-capital and capital expenses, with Mr. Tymesen responding anything over \$3,500 was considered a capital expense for accounting purposes.

**MOTION:** Motion by Commissioner Light, seconded by Commissioner Linder, to approve the FY 23/24 Arts Commission Budget. **Motion Carried.**

### **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:**

ArtCurrents: Chairman Ryba said the deadline to submit application through Café was July 3.

Audio Guide: Chairman Ryba said the ribbon cutting ceremony had been postponed and rescheduled to Monday, July 10, at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Linder said the audio tour was now live and invited Commissioners to scan the QR code on the flyers and enjoy the tour. Chairman Ryba said that marketing efforts would start tomorrow, and they would distribute brochures with the app information throughout the community. She said the committee was working with the CDA Resort, CDA Press, Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Association, and others to help with getting the word out.

Community Arts: Commissioner Light said the block party at Emerge was scheduled for July 14, from 5:00 -8:00 p.m. She mentioned summer concerts at Riverstone amphitheater start on July 6.

Mural Project: Commissioner Momerak and Chairman Ryba would be traveling to Toppenish, Washington on Friday to meet with the person in charge of their mural maintenance. Mr. Tymesen asked the Commissioners if they would check to see what project they used for sealing the murals.

Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility Art Project: Commissioner Momerak said they were meeting to finalize the call details on Thursday June 29, and would likely bring the information to the next Arts Commission meeting for approval.

DTA Winter Lights Festival: Vice Chairman Drake said she had met with the Downtown Association Board that morning and they had found three (3) pieces of lighted art which was available to rent. She said they discussed programming the tree lights along Sherman Avenue. She said they would like the Commission to do a call to artist for one or two small pieces of lighted art which could be loaned or possibly commissioned and asked if a Call to Artist agenda item could be added to next month's agenda for discussion and possible approval. She said the "Illuminate" kickoff event was tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2024. She mentioned they were exploring temporary, donation, or purchase of art pieces. Chairman Ryba said that a team of computer science students in the College of Engineering at the University of Idaho turned the Theophilus tower on the Moscow campus into a color display using LED lights and custom hardware and software each year for Homecoming and she would reach out to them for additional information.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting ended at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherrie L. Badertscher  
Executive Assistant