

**ARTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 22, 2023  
City Hall, Conference Room #6**

**Attendees:** Chairman Mary Lee Ryba, Vice Chairman Jennifer Drake, Commissioner John Bruning, Commissioner Alesa Momerak, Commissioner Sally Shortridge, Commissioner Lindsey Sichelstiel, Student Representative Adeline Smith, Commissioner Kate Walker, Commissioner Summer Ward, Council Liaison Amy Evans, City Administrator Troy Tymesen, City Accountant Stephanie Padilla.

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

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

**COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS:** Mr. Tymesen said efforts had started to fundraise for the Red-Hot Mamas art piece. He said they had created a team and were researching foundry costs and safety features for the future public art piece. He said efforts were in motion and the team would be meeting each week. He mentioned that one of the ArtCurrents art pieces “Reins” had been damaged and the City had submitted a claim for damages to ICRMP. The art piece had been on display at Sherman and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, and they were working through the insurance claim as the metal was severely bent and not repairable. He noted public art must be built strongly to withstand outside installations. Chairman Ryba mentioned the CdA Art and Culture Alliance had installed the shade structure at Riverstone amphitheater and had held the dedication on August 10. Council Liaison Evans mentioned that longtime arts supporter Roberta Larson had passed away last week and she would like to recognize Roberta for her years of service to the Commission and community at the upcoming Mayor’s Awards in the Arts event.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION:** Motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Momerak, to approve the July 25, 2023, minutes. **Motion carried.**

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

**UPDATE FROM EMERGE:** Vice Chairman Drake introduced Emerge’s Executive Director Jeni Hegsted. Ms. Hegsted said Emerge was a non-profit community organization located at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Lakeside Avenue. She said the location contained a retail store, art gallery space, and arts education classrooms. She said Emerge had been in business for 10 years and had previously received funding from the Arts Commission to provide art classes for youth between the ages of 7-18 years old. She said that Emerge would like to explore a partnership once again with the Arts Commission. She mentioned the hope was to keep classes accessible and affordable for the community, and teen classes were an important part of Emerge’s mission. She noted Emerge also provided internship opportunities. Ms. Hegsted requested the Arts Commission provide annual support which would help with cross marketing, and providing year-round arts programming for the area’s youth. Vice Chairman Drake explained the Arts Commission had provided Art Camps

for Youth during the summer, and had shifted to the Emerge partnership once the Arts Commission's Art Camp Coordinator had left the Commission. She said that Emerge would hold classes year-round, and the literary arts were included. Ms. Hedsted said Emerge worked with other organizations to support at-risk youth through art. Vice Chairman Drake said she would like the Commission to explore a partnership with Emerge to provide youth art classes. Ms. Hedsted requested a 3-year commitment of \$20,000 each year which would pay for scholarships, art supplies, and instructor pay. Mr. Tymesen said it would be a business relationship and yearly reporting would be necessary and asked if any other private industry was providing the services. Ms. Hedsted said that Gizmo offered some classes on pottery but was mainly technology focused. Mr. Tymesen said a business proposal would be needed from Emerge before the Commission could consider funding.

#### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE 2023-2025 ARTCURRENTS ART PIECES:**

Commissioner Sichelstiel noted two (2) of the pieces were priced at \$2000 which was equal to the two-year stipend the artists would receive and mentioned the two pieces were liked very much by the selection committee. City Accountant Stephanie Padilla mentioned the artist may be open to a "rent to own" type of contract where the City would receive ownership at the end of the two year loan period if the pieces didn't sell. If they sold within the two-year loan period the city would receive the standard 25% commission. The Commission agreed to exploring this type of contract with the artist.

**MOTION:** Motion by Commissioner Drake, Seconded by Commissioner Walker, to Approve the 2023-2025 ArtCurrents Selections with the stipulation that the pieces entitled "Dragonfly" and "Pinecone" would become the City's property at the end of the 2-year loan period if not sold.  
**Motion Carried.**

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Childrens Library Entrance Art Project: Library Director Michael Priest said he had reached out to an architect company to look at the concept drawings and concerns were raised with attaching the awning to the Library entrance. He said a structural engineer was recommended to give input on the project. He said the Library Foundation had \$10,000 donated for the project and the architect felt the cost estimate for the project would be around \$40,000. He noted there were other needs which were a priority around the library. Chairman Ryba said fundraising may be an option for the Library Foundation to raise additional funds for the project. Mr. Priest noted the Library Foundation was focusing fundraising efforts on the teen area, and would provide them an update on the entrance project.

Mayor's Awards in the Arts: Chairman Ryba said the event was scheduled for October 4, at the Hagadone Event Center. She mentioned Steven Shortridge would be the master of ceremonies. She said the press release and nomination forms had gone out and the Subcommittee was working on event details. She noted nominations close on September 7.

Audio Guide: Chairman Ryba was appreciative of the positive article in the Coeur d'Alene Press and impressed with the good traction and usage of the app. She said the brochures had been distributed and contained a QR code to visit the website to download the app. She mentioned the ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Monday, July 10.

Performing Arts: Chairman Ryba attended the Candlelight Concert and noted it was a great show. She said they had collaborated with the Inland Northwest Opera, and Director Max Mendez had been a performer. She mentioned what great talent was in the community.

Mural Project: Commissioner Momerak and Chairman Ryba traveled to Toppenish, Washington to view their mural program. The Toppenish Mural Committee consists mostly of historical members and they choose the artist and what was going to be painted. The committee in charge of the murals is a nonprofit and separate from the city. Commissioner Momerak mentioned the CdA Regional Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) was interested in exploring a mural on the outside of their building.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Art Project: Commissioner Momerak said the call was now live on Café's website.

DTA Winter Lights Festival: Vice Chairman Drake said the committee was meeting tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber to go over information. She said they were seeking cooperation and expertise from the Arts Commission and were looking to connect the three (3) large rented pieces. She said they were interested in creating a call to artist to commission five (5) small art pieces to place in the space between the three (3) large pieces. Chairman Ryba said it was a short turn-around before the event and it may be beneficial to engage local artists and businesses to see if there was an interest. Vice Chairman Drake noted they would like to display the lighted art at Rotary Park, McEuen Park, the greenspace at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Sherman Avenue, or 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Sherman Avenue. She asked if there were any possible funding available from the Arts Commission, and would bring back details to the next meeting.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting ended at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherrie Badertscher  
Executive Assistant