

**ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
November 28, 2023
City Hall, Conference Room #6**

Attendees: Chairman Mary Lee Ryba, Commissioner John Bruning, Commissioner Charlotte Doutriaux, Commissioner Katie Linder, Commissioner Alesa Momerak, Commissioner Chuck Ethridge, Commissioner Kate Walker, Alternate Student Representative Henry DePew, City Administrator Troy Tymesen, Council Liaison Amy Evans.

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Cheryl Metcalf said she had a proposal for a sculpture of a “Red Hot Mommas” in which she and others in the community would be fundraising to complete it with the intention of donating it to the City’s public art collection. She mentioned they would like it to be placed in City Park. She requested the Arts Commission approve the donation so the committee may move forward with the project. Chairman Ryba said the proposal would be added to the January Arts Commission agenda as an action item for discussion.

Councilmember Gookin said he had been contacted by Dr. Rolf Holle who had brought to his attention a lamp post which was obstructing picture opportunities of one of the Muddy & Millie sculptures at Independence Point. He said he had spoken with Parks Director Bill Greenwood on the issue who had advised him that the lamp post could be moved a few feet over, however, there were no funds available in the budget to pay for the move. Councilmember Gookin introduced Dr. Rolf Holle who asked if the Arts Commission could assist with funding to move the light pole. He said the moose looking out over the lake was an iconic landmark for the City and was great for panoramic pictures of residents and visitors. Council Liaison Evans asked if money was available in the Parks Department’s maintenance budget, with Mr. Tymesen responding he would investigate the issue and the associated cost to relocate the pole.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Linder, seconded by Commissioner Momerak, to approve the October 24, 2023, minutes. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT: MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Bruning, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to approve the October 2023, Financial Reports. **Motion carried.**

COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS: Chairman Ryba introduced new commissioners Charlotte Doutriaux and Chuck Ethridge. Commissioner Doutriaux said she worked as a freelance photographer and lead a team of graphic designers, videographers, and copywriters as a full-time content marketing manager at a cloud video platform company. She said she is excited to be part of the Arts Commission and looks forward to achieving great things in the coming year! Commissioner Etheridge said he had been in Coeur d’Alene for 30 years, had raised his family here, and had been involved in most, if not all the performing arts groups in the community. Mr. Tymesen mentioned he was working with Emerge on the contract language to provide arts education to students via scholarship to cover the class fee. He noted he continued to work through the funding mechanism and would be meeting with Executive Director Jeni Hegsted to go over additional details. He expected to bring the contract to the Arts Commission for final approval at the next meeting. Chairman Ryba asked if classes could be offered through the City’s Parks & Recreation Department which would help with advertising and getting the word out, with Mr. Tymesen responding it was an option to consider. Ms. Padilla mentioned the Downtown Association (DTA) had placed a call to artist for their business window decoration project as part of the “Illuminate” event and had received five (5) interested artists. They are looking for five (5) more proposals and would appreciate Commissioners helping to spread the word. She mentioned selected artist would receive a \$500 stipend and the event ran from January 29 - February 10. Interested parties may contact Emily Boyd at the DTA for more information.

UPDATE ON THE CHILDRENS LIBRARY ENTRANCE ART PROJECT: Library Director Michael Priest said they had revisited the project to move the location of the art to the McEuen Park side exterior of the building instead of the awning option. He said they were looking at the local toy store Figpickels’ façade for concept inspiration. He said the donor had agreed to increase funding to \$20,000, and he was wanting to see if the Commission was still on board to help with the project. He would appreciate help with fine tuning and then managing the call to artists. He said they would be holding back \$2,000 for contingencies. He noted an option to save on costs would be to have an artist create the artwork and have the City install it. Mr. Tymesen noted engineering was required and the City would want to oversee the installation, and it would be ideal to have the artist install their art with the assistance of the engineered plans. Commissioner Momerak asked if costs ran over, could the Arts Commission help with paying to install the art, with Mr. Priest responding the Library Foundation may be able to help with increased costs as well.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Linder, seconded by Commissioner Momerak, to publish a call to artist for the Childrens Library Entrance Art Project. **Motion carried.**

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

DTA Winter Lights Festival “Illuminate”: Chairman Ryba said the event kick-off is scheduled for Friday, January 29, and would run for 10 days.

Mural Projects: Chairman Ryba mentioned there was interest from several artists on a mural project, and that the CDA Regional Chamber of Commerce was also interested in a mural.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Art Project: Commissioner Momerak said there were 30 applications submitted through café to date and the call ends on December 1. She said the Selection Committee would be meeting to discuss the RFQs and select finalists on December 13.

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

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting ended at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherrie Badertscher
Executive Assistant