

ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
May 25, 2021
City Hall, Conference Room #6

Attendees in Person: Executive Assistant Sherrie Badertscher, Accountant Stephanie Padilla, Commissioner Mary Lee Ryba, Commissioner John Bruning, Commissioner Bev Moss, Commissioner Lindsay Sichelstiel, City Administrator Troy Tymesen.

Guest via ZOOM: Jessica Mahuron, and Sam Koester.

Commissioner Attendees via ZOOM: Ali Shute, Teresa Runge, Margaret Behrmann, Council Liaison Amy Evans.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairman Ali Shute called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jessica Mahuron representing the North Idaho Pride Alliance stated she had sent a proposal for a pride sidewalk or stairs project to the Arts Commission in April, but felt the commission never received it. She read the proposal letter and spoke of other cities which have a pride sidewalk or stairs and stated she would like to meet with someone from the commission to discuss what would be needed in order to move the project forward. She said June was pride month and would like to have something done publicly in the City of Coeur d'Alene (City).

Commissioner Behrmann stated this was the first she had heard about the proposal, with Ms. Mahuron stating it was sent to the Arts Commission liaison Sherrie Badertscher in April, and she spoke with City Administrator Troy Tymesen at the time. Mr. Tymesen noted the Arts Commission had recently commissioned a \$75,000 human rights art piece in the City.

Commissioner Ryba stated the City and Arts Commission are dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and she would be happy to meet with Ms. Mahuron. Commissioner Moss and Council Liaison Evans stated they would be willing to meet with Ms. Mahuron as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Ryba, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to approve the April 27, 2021 minutes. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT:

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Bruning, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the April 2021, Financial Report. **Motion carried.**

COMMENTS: Commissioner Ryba stated she just came from the diversity/equity/inclusion retreat held at United Way and she felt it was training that would be occurring at all levels. She stated it was something they needed to know about and address as needed Vice-Chairman Shute stated she was in agreement and that further discussion would be needed. Mr. Tymesen stated the City uses United Way as a way to distribute dollars into the community and that art speaks to all human rights. The challenge is to have something that represents all. Vice-Chair Shute stated they need to respond in an intelligent and educated way and asked Commissioner Ryba to schedule a meeting with Jessica Mahuron and share the results at the next meeting.

UPDATE ON “INSPIRED” PUBLIC ART SCULPTURE: City Administrator Troy Tymesen stated he has been in contact with artist Jason Sanchez. Mr. Sanchez stated he is still working on the art piece. Mr. Tymesen noted the project will be 3 years past due as of June. He mentioned the commission could make it an action item to start litigation if that was the will of the commission. Commissioner Runge asked the agreement has a parting ways clause, with Mr. Tymesen stating the commission has paid approximately 80% of the contract to date. Commissioner Moss stated if litigation was started, she felt they would probably lose the piece. Mr. Tymesen suggested giving the artist a little more time to complete the project.

THIRD (FOURTH) STREET GARAGE PUBLIC ART UPDATE: Executive Assistant Badertscher stated of the five (5) finalist, they have received signed letters of agreement from four (4). One artist had concerns regarding the cost of creating the maquette. The agreement states the proposal documents (including the maquettes) must be received by June 29, 2021.

“THE CLIMB” PURCHASE OFFER: Mr. Tymesen stated Council approved the purchase of “The Climb” in the amount of \$9,000, the purchase agreement has been executed, and the Arts Commission now owns the art piece. He mentioned the artist was great to work with and it was suggested the art should be installed at City Park.

PUBLIC ART DONATIONS: Vice-Chairman Shute stated she was in attendance at the council meeting when council accepted the donations “Noto Thistle” and “Cor Leonis”. She stated they were still looking for a place for “Cor Leonis” and it was suggested to place it at the new East Sherman Park. She asked commissioners to contact Mr. Tymesen if they had suggestions for placement.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

Mayor’s Awards in the Arts: Vice-Chairman Shute stated October 6 has been confirmed for the ceremony, and the packets have been distributed. She said she has done a press release, art blast, and it has been posted on the arts website. She mentioned the applications are due by August 31, and she was hoping for a lot of public input. She said the press had published an article on it as well.

Budget: City Accountant Stephanie Padilla stated she met with Chairman Drake and Commissioner Shute to discuss the draft budget. Mr. Tymesen stated the City would be helping manage the budget and projects. He said there was less money for urban projects in the URD, but there would be a carryover from the previous year. He also stated the Arts Commission would see an increase of income received from the 1.33% public works projects above ground projects funding source. The proposed budget would be brought forward to the next meeting for approval.

Utility Box Beautification Project: Executive Assistant Badertscher stated TDS still needs to complete their six (6) boxes. The art has been selected and is ready when the boxes are installed. She said they were currently working on the rewraps for the Sherman Avenue traffic signal upgrades from 1st to 5th Streets.

ArtCurrents: Commissioner Runge stated they will be sending out the call soon, and the subcommittee were working on the final details. She said there were some changes and the goal was to replace all 12 pieces and they would invite the current ArtCurrents artists to resubmit if they like. The subcommittee would select 12 pieces this year and 6 next year in order to have a rotation moving forward. Installations would occur in October. In the former calls there was no council approval, and she confirmed council would need to approve the subcommittee selections. The stipend has previously been \$1000, and \$600 for the second year and the subcommittee was hoping to increase it to \$1000 each year, and asked if it would need to be an action item. Mr. Tymesen confirmed to increase the stipend, it requires a vote. Ms. Runge stated they also included a requirement to include a description or explanation of the piece in the call application materials. She also mentioned they were setting the subcommittee meeting dates before asking people to volunteer on the subcommittee.

Public Art Plaques: Vice-Chairman Shute stated plaques would be done at the same time as the new plaques for the ArtCurrents.

Performing Arts Grants: Mr. Tymesen mentioned staff were working on the disbursements. Many groups were not operating at this time and as they open back up more dollars would be disbursed.

Private Art in the Public View: Commissioner Berhmann asked if there was a particular size needed and would they be included in the brochure. She said she would touch base with Chairman Drake. Mr. Tymesen stated we would also require an agreement with the artists.

Community Arts: Vice-Chairman Shute mentioned there is a Community Arts Partnership fund of \$3,000 which has been previously used for education and scholarships. She mentioned the Arts & Cultural Alliance has a Jack Bannion Memorial Fund which is used for education and scholarships as well and maybe this would be a good opportunity to partner and combine funds. She asked if the Arts Commission would be interested in partnering with the Arts & Cultural Alliance in developing guidelines and would any commissioners be interested in being on the committee. Commissioner Moss stated she felt it was a good idea to partner and combine funds. Commissioner Ryba stated she was in favor, and asked if it would be for visual and performing arts as well, with Vice-Chairman Shute stating they would. Vice-Chairman Shute said they would be putting together a committee meeting soon. Mr. Tymesen asked if Vice-Chairman Shute was comfortable with geographical boundaries being in the City of CDA since it was City funds, with Vice-Chairman Shute stating they could set a percentage that would need to be awarded in the City. Vice-Chairman Shute stated more conversions were needed to be had by the committee, with Commissioners Ryba and Sichelstiel volunteering to be on the committee.

Ped/Bike Brochure for Art: Vice-Chairman Shute stated they connected with GIS Coordinator Nick McCausland and she had received the maps, and they would be working on the updated brochures.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherrie L. Badertscher
Executive Assistant