

ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
March 22, 2016

Attendees: Jennifer Drake, Hilary Anderson, Sean Holm, Tina Johnson, John Bruning, Deanna Goodlander, Trudy Elliott, ~~Marina Lundy~~, Jared Helm, Christina Hull, David Groth, ~~Maggie Hurst~~, Mark Johnstone, Amy Evans, Amy Ferguson, ~~Roberta Larsen~~

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve the February 24, 2016 minutes. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

MOTION by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to approve the February, 2016 financial statement. Motion carried.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Helm requested that Wendy Carroll and the performing arts subcommittee be placed on the agenda next month. He explained that Ms. Carroll works with Specialized Needs Recreation (SNR) and would like to produce a play with SNR and others. She will be seeking financial assistance from the commission.

Commissioner Helm expressed concerns regarding the continuation of the Mayor's Awards in the Arts program and said that he would like to be relieved of the responsibility but is happy to do it for another year with an assistant that he can train. Commissioner Elliott commended Commissioner Helm for the work that he has done on the Mayor's Awards and noted that the lack of nominees is deflating.

Councilmember Evans said that, at this point, she would not be in favor of discontinuing the awards program as the energy that it generates is amazing. She noted that she appreciates Commissioner Helm's offer to train someone to take his place. Commissioner Johnstone also commended Commissioner Helm and noted that participation in the event makes a lot of people much more aware of what the commission does and he thinks it is very valuable.

Chairman Drake asked Commissioner Helm about the timeline. Commissioner Helm said that packets should be distributed to teachers sometime in May. Chairman Drake suggested that the commissioners think about the opportunity and be prepared to discuss it.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Ms. Anderson said that the Emerge contract was approved by the City Council and the contract was mailed out on March 17th. Mr. Holm thanked Chairman Drake for her presentation at the council meeting. Commissioner Hull encouraged everyone to go to an event at Emerge and noted that it is a well done addition to our city. Commissioner Hull commented that she works at Children's Village and so she gets the opportunity to see both sides of it – Emerge recently hosted an art show with the kids' work and the kids got to attend and see their art displayed and sold. She noted that Emerge has events going on every week and they are doing a great job.

PED/BIKE ART TOUR:

Chairman Drake said that Commissioner Larsen was not able to attend today but asked that Chairman Drake pass along the request of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee for funding for the ped/bike art brochures again this year. The cost would be between \$300 and \$500.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Elliott, to approve the expenditure of up to \$500.00 for printing costs for the Ped/Bike Art Brochure. Motion carried.

GRANT FOR ARTISTIC BIKE PARKING:

Councilmember Evans said that this request came from Bev Moss on the Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee. Kootenai Environmental Alliance was suggesting that Ped/Bike and the Arts Commission work together on a grant for some artistic bike racks through Art Place American.org. In reviewing the information, it appears that applications needed to be submitted by Wednesday, March 2nd, so it may be too late. Councilmember Evans said that she would report back that they didn't have a quorum last month and the deadline has passed, but they would be interested in working with them in the future.

Commissioner Johnstone commented that one of the things that he has noticed is that a lot of the bike racks on 4th Street aren't being used, so he thinks that moving forward should be done in conjunction with the Planning Department so they can find out where the spots are that the bikers come in. Commissioner Groth said that he thinks the issue with the bike racks is the location in that they are not located any place that people gather. He also noted that people very seldom use bike racks and he thinks the commission should be careful about thinking that more bike racks is better.

Commissioner Johnson said that she asked about the bike racks, but because they are located within the Lake District, they would have to be moved somewhere in the Lake District. Commissioner Goodlander mentioned that there was some concern years ago for LCDC to generate some activity in midtown and so that was part of the reason that area was chosen was to see if they could enhance the activity in the midtown area. Even though the pieces are not used as bike racks, Commissioner Goodlander said that she sees a lot of people taking pictures because they do view them as public art, and that was one of the criteria that they would not just

be bike racks. She thinks the city got some pretty fun stuff for a fairly minimal amount of money and it has added energy to 4th Street. Commissioner Johnstone agreed that as public art they are very popular.

EMERGE CONTRACT UPDATE:

Ms. Anderson confirmed that the Emerge contract is yearly contract that will need to be resubmitted each year. She commented that one question that did come up during the council meeting was how they are going to ensure that it is not the same people taking the classes each month. Emerge will need to come back and talk about how successful the program is and keep statistical records.

AMENDMENT TO ART POLICY DISCUSSION:

Ms. Anderson said that Councilmember Gookin has asked that the commission review the Arts Policy to expand their ability to use funds for other types of partnerships, the performing arts, etc. She noted that in the past there was a grant application process, but that was discontinued. Commissioner Hull said that the commission needs more clarification on when and how they can use Ignite funds. Chairman Drake said that the problem was they tried moving forward with the Emerge contract (for a community arts program in place of the summer arts program) and were anticipating using Ignite funds because Emerge is located in the Lake District. City staff and legal said it was okay, and Ignite said it was okay, but a couple of people had questions about whether it was okay to use those funds. Commissioner Goodlander suggested putting together a committee to discuss the opportunity to put together a grant fund and look at the legal aspects of setting aside a certain percentage of funds for those purposes every year. She noted that the Lake District ends in six years so those funds will no longer be available. Commissioner Johnson asked what is the bottom line of being able to use Ignite funds. Chairman Drake said that there were personal opinions but legally it is allowed. Ms. Anderson asked Commissioner Goodlander if she could bring it up at Ignite to see if there is support from the commission to move forward in that direction. Chairman Drake said that by far, the commissioner's two largest funds are both Ignite funds, so if they are restricted to only allow physical art, she thinks that it is a disserve to the community. The first step would be to change the 1% ordinance so that moving forward is not an issue. Commissioner Helm asked Ms. Anderson to send the ordinance to the Arts Commission and let them take a stab at the wording.

Mr. Holm said that he met with John Stone on site on Friday to discuss art in Riverstone and he was able to review some older plans for the realigning of Tilford and noted that there are at least two water lines and a sewer line all converging in that area, plus they are also planning on putting in angled parking, etc. Mr. Stone is back to wanting something in the lake. Mr. Holm said that he told Mr. Stone that their largest concern is maintenance. Mr. Stone said that the HOA would maintain it and he has some partners that he can come up with. Mr. Holm noted that the way the arts policy is currently written, there are no options for partnering. The commission would need to decide what they want to do to be able to pool funds and how it would affect their selection process and how they do things because when you start pooling funds, you start giving up control.

Commissioner Hull asked if there was any other place in Riverstone for public art. Commissioner Johnstone felt that city funds should not necessarily go towards the project. Chairman Drake asked that the Arts Policy be sent to the commission members and asked them to familiarize themselves with it and be ready for further discussion next month.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Holm presented a Power Point and reviewed the workshop objectives, the 2014/15 accomplishments, public art values and pieces adding to the collection. The total value of the city's public art collection is approximately \$1,573,193, which includes 45 local artists and approximately 66 pieces of public art.

Mr. Holm reviewed the work in progress, including the Rainbow Bridge, murals, Riverstone park sign, ArtCurrents, Quietude installation, Sails maintenance, utility box clean and repair, Art Walk map funding, and Emerge art classes. There was discussion regarding the recent improvements to the Rainbow Bridge piece including wrapped wires, and LED improvements.

Councilmember Evans asked about the status of the McEuen Wall project. Chairman Drake said that the project was put on hold, and she has asked the McEuen Wall selection committee if they will serve on the next selection committee for the mural projects.

The fund balances were reviewed and possible projects for 2016/17 were discussed, including utility boxes, Emerge, the Mayor's Awards in the Arts, artwork maintenance, ArtCurrents, Rainbow Bridge wrap, and other community arts efforts.

Commissioner Goodlander said that she would encourage the Arts Commission to work towards getting some projects going because if there is too high of a balance in the Ignite funds, Ignite may choose not to dispense funds to the Arts Commission. She thinks that it is important to start looking at some projects in the Lake District and River District. She noted that the 1% fund is only for above-ground city projects and there are very few of those coming up.

Commissioner Goodlander said that she thinks council would support using funds for the roundabouts in the 4 Corners. She noted that power can be installed and most footings are part of the bid from the artist.

Commissioner Elliott said that she agrees that they need to get something going in Riverstone and thinks that if they do a call it will move forward. Chairman Drake said that the call is already budgeted for this year, so she asked the sub-committee to pick a site and do a call. Commissioner Elliott asked the commission what they envisioned, in general, for Riverstone. Chairman Drake said that the commission agreed when they budgeted for the art that they were going to do some artistic signage for the park, but if that is not going to happen it could be anything.

Commissioner Helm said that he thinks it is important to think about ArtCurrents for acquiring smaller pieces.

Commissioner Goodlander said that since the commission is going to be reviewing the art policy, she thinks it might be time to have a discussion regarding the requirement that the art pieces have to be original art. She noted that the commission would get a lot more “bang for its buck” if they purchased limited editions and that there is a lot of really great bronze art out there which doesn’t require much maintenance.

Mr. Holm said that one of the things that he found is that towards the end of the ArtCurrents cycle, there are usually a couple of artists who are almost ready to give their art way and it is something to think about. Ms. Anderson commented that it would be nice for expanding art outside of the URD districts.

Commissioner Johnstone commented that there are no respected public art collections in the country that use multiples. They all use original pieces of art.

Chairman Drake asked Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Larsen to get a map of city property and non-city property in Riverstone and move forward with the call to artists.

Chairman Drake said that the mural subcommittee (consisting of Commissioner Johnson, Chairman Drake, Commissioner Hull, and Councilmember Evans) need to meet this week and finalize permissions. They have a selection committee in place and have discussed doing the call together and letting people submit for both murals, knowing that they can only be chosen for one.

The Riverstone subcommittee members are: Commissioner Elliott, Commissioner Larsen, and Councilmember Evans.

Ms. Ferguson noted that she has prepared a packet of information for sub-committee chairs that would assist them in gathering the information needed so that she can draft a call. She will have Mr. Holm and Ms. Anderson review the information and, if approved, will email it to Chairman Drake and Commissioner Elliott.

Commissioner Elliott asked if the ArtCurrents sculptures were available for Riverstone. Mr. Holm said that they could be, but that the timing is important because they don’t want a gap if they are going to be keeping the ArtCurrents for an additional summer.

Commissioner Hull commented that the Fiddler crab in Mill River was something that was offered to appease the HOA because placing art there was an issue because of a potential Centennial Trail crossing, etc. She asked when those issues would be resolved. Ms. Anderson said that the city has purchased the right of way but she doesn’t know when it is going to be realigned or when the funds will be available. It would be better to place the art where it is not going to impede future development.

Ms. Ferguson will print copies of the Lake and River District boundaries for the committee members.

The 4-Corners Subcommittee will include Commissioner Helm (Chair), Councilmember Evans, and Chairman Drake. Commissioner Helm recommended finding an artist to do both roundabouts for continuity and feels that smaller pieces of art would be great. Commissioner Johnstone recommended having someone from the baseball or skate park community to participate on the selection committee.

Commissioner Growth asked that Street Performing be put on next month's agenda.

MOTION by Commissioner Hull, seconded by Commissioner Johnstone, that the amount of \$80,000 be allocated from the Lake District for two roundabouts in the 4-Corners (\$40,000 for each roundabout). Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding allocating funds from the River District this year for public art. Commissioner Johnstone reminded the commission that when the calls go out, he is willing to do workshops for regional and local artists on how to apply and how to prepare budgets.

MOTION by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to allocate the amount of \$80,000 for public art from the River District. Motion carried.

Ms. Anderson asked the commission to consider removing the utility boxes and ArtCurrents projects from next year's budget because they are both very time intensive. There will be a transition period when the new liaison takes over and Ms. Anderson told the commission that its members will need to be fully on board and able to step up.

Commissioner Goodlander suggested that the commission check with the legal department to see if it can start setting funds aside for a perpetual maintenance fund. She is concerned that when the Lake District ends, they won't have that money coming in for maintenance. The commission also needs to look at the long-term maintenance of murals. Mr. Holm commented that he has seen that in most instances people respect murals, and you rarely get tagging.

Commissioner Helm suggested removing the utility boxes project from next year's budget because there are so many of them. He noted that he would hate to eliminate ArtCurrents and loves the idea of purchasing one to three pieces of ArtCurrents art because they are little pieces that can go in parks, etc. Mr. Holm said that purchasing ArtCurrents pieces also encourages artists down the road to apply.

Councilmember Goodlander said that she believes the utility boxes are very effective and that people really enjoy seeing them and there are still a few places left. Chairman Drake said that the program would not be discontinued, but they would just take a year off. Councilmember Evans commented that staff has a lot on their plate right now and have been extremely busy.

Chairman Drake confirmed that there is one vacancy on the commission right now. There was discussion regarding the amount of work to be done and not enough people stepping up to do it. It was agreed that ArtCurrents is very labor intensive. She suggested leaving the line item in the budget and then hoping they can get someone to take care of it. Commissioner Helm suggested an ad hoc committee.

MOTION by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Elliott, to use the \$14,000 line item for utility boxes to purchase art from ArtCurrents to be placed outside of the Lakes and River Districts. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the proposed \$3,000 for other community arts. Commissioner Elliott said that if the commission goes in the direction of supporting perming arts, \$3,000 is not that much money.

MOTION by Commissioner Helm, seconded by Commissioner Johnstone, to approve the rest of the line items as presented in the Power point. Motion carried.

ARTS COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2016/17 BUDGET

Description	Amount	Fund
Procure 2015-16 ArtCurrents (replaces utility wraps – 1 year)	\$14,000	Public Art/Ignite CDA (depends on final location)
Emerge Partnership	\$12,000	Arts Maintenance
Mayor’s Arts Awards	\$2,500	Arts Maintenance
Maintenance of Artwork	\$12,000	Arts Maintenance
ArtCurrents	\$21,000	Ignite CDA – Lake
Four Corners (2 traffic circles)	\$80,000	Ignite CDA – Lake
Rainbow Bridge Wrap (Pending)	\$6,000	Ignite CDA – Lake
River District Project (TBD)	\$80,000	Ignite CDA – River
Other Community Arts	\$3,000	Public Art?
TOTAL BUDGET	\$230,500	(All)

Commissioner Hull asked who would check with Ignite about being able to allocate a percentage of the funds to maintenance. Ms. Anderson said that would need to talk to legal and talk to Ignite and she will figure out how the communication needs to happen.

Commissioner Bruning reminded everyone about the dedication of the Chief Morris Antelope sculpture on Monday, April 4th, at 3:00 p.m.

MOTION by Commissioner Bruning, seconded by Commissioner Johnstone, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

**Amy Ferguson
Executive Assistant**