

**ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2015, 4:00 PM
Old Council Chambers, City Hall**

Attendees: Jennifer Drake, Trudy Elliott, Roberta Larsen, Tina Johnson, Mike Dodge, Amy Evans, John Bruning, David Groth, Jared Helm, Christina Hull, Mark Johnstone, Sean Holm (Arts Commission Liaison), Hilary Anderson (Community Planning Director), Shana Stuhlmiller (Staff Support)

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were no conflicts of interest declared.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

Commissioner Groth would like to add an item regarding Sorenson School.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 28, 2015

**MOTION by Larsen, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes for May 28, 2015.
Motion carried.**

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:

Chairman Drake suggested if staff would tell them in advance if there are any recent changes to the financial statements instead of taking time to try and find if something has changed.

**MOTION by Helm, seconded by Elliott to approve the Financial Statements for May 2015
Motion carried.**

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Holm announced that there is a second town hall meeting scheduled for East Sherman on Wednesday, June 18th at the Harding Center between 5-7 p.m. He added that if you can't make the meeting, there is an online survey available on the city's website.

He announced that Patty Shey from Avista, recently gave their approval for the city to wrap the utility box that is located in McEuen Park. He stated that he recently had a meeting with Steve Anthony regarding the program Art Currents, and in that discussion, he suggested that the Arts Commission might want to consider purchasing the art piece the Fiddler Crab. Mr. Anthony stated that the Fiddler Crab has been a popular piece with people who stop to take pictures of this piece. The price of the Fiddler Crab is \$11,800 and if this is something the commission would like to consider, staff will put it on the agenda next month for a vote.

Chairman Drake agreed that the fiddler crab is a very interactive piece of art and might be something for the Arts Commission to purchase.

Commissioner Larsen questioned if staff could explain the process on how to purchase a piece of art.

Mr. Holm stated that he was not sure on that process and will find a copy of the procedure and bring it back for the commission to review.

Commissioner Helm concurred this is a great idea and should be considered.

NEW BUSINESS:

RIVERSTONE ART

Nicole Cummings, representative for Riverstone, apologized that Mr. Stone could not be here because of a conflict he had with another meeting he had to attend. She passed out a packet of information that includes photos showing four areas within the Riverstone development that would be a great place for art. She stated that Mr. Stone feels that there is a lot of emphasis on art downtown and feels this area is lacking.

She commented that Mr. Stone recently returned from a trip to Boston and took photos of different pieces showing the type of art that might work for this area. She also referenced in the packet are letters submitted by some of the owners of businesses in Riverstone who feel that the sign at the entrance should be relocated. She explained that the business owners feel that the sign is not located at the right place and often missed by people looking for their store. They suggested that the sign be relocated closer to the entrance. Mr. Stone has also recently contacted LCDC to see if funding is available for a proposed light show in the pond.

Ms. Anderson inquired if the Arts Commission would be involved with LCDC regarding the light show in the pond.

Ms. Cummings stated that the light show is in the preliminary stages and before proceeding would need to get approval from their board. She commented that they recently posted the idea for a light show on their Facebook page and asked people to take a poll to see how the public feels about this idea and that the results from that poll were very positive. She inquired if the commission had a timeline when they could expect some art in this area.

Chairman Drake explained that a subcommittee has been assigned for the placement of art at Riverstone and in the following months, they will get together and discuss the next step for the placement of art in this area. She thanked Ms. Cummings for her presentation.

Ms. Cummings inquired if they could expect a piece of art placed in Riverstone this year.

Commissioner Larsen, chair of the subcommittee for Riverstone, stated that might be a possibility.

COMMUNITY ARTS – DRAKE

Chairman Drake stated that after the presentation last month, she would like to discuss the idea of replacing the current arts program with Emerge or continue searching for other programs that might be available.

Commissioner Hull stated that since she is the new “chair” of this committee, she would like to meet with Yvonne to get her opinion on other types of Art programs that might be available.

Commissioner Johnstone feels that their funding is ambitious with high expectations.

Commissioner Helm stated that he feels this program is at “ground level” and would like to see it more established. He added that the price of the classes is high and doesn’t feel that a lot of people will be able to attend because of the price. He stated that he attended the open house for Emerge and was impressed by the type of art displayed during the event and bought two pieces to take home.

Chairman Drake stated that we don’t need to make a decision right away and suggested looking at other programs to consider. She stated that we have time to make the right decision for a replacement.

Commissioner Hull stated that she likes the idea of a year-round program, but concurred with Commissioner Helm that the prices for the classes were on the high side. She stated that she will set up a meeting with her other subcommittee members to discuss other options.

Councilman Evans stated that Ms. Riplinger is a close friend of hers and is familiar with her current program and that her program is modeled from successful one used in Missoula.

KOOTENAI COUNTY DOG PARK ASSOCIATION DONATION – HOLM

Mr. Holm stated that a donation for a piece of art was received from the Kootenai County Dog Park Association titled “Rainbow Bridge”. He explained that they want to install a steel panel showing dogs waiting at the “Rainbow Bridge” with the piece to be installed in McEuen Park. Mr. Holm referred to the drawing in their packet.

Commissioner Dodge suggested that the applicant submit a color rendering from the artist to show some more detail.

Chairman Drake explained the Arts Commission has a process on how to accept a donation of art. She feels that before a decision is made to accept this donation that staff should schedule a workshop with Parks and Recreation commission to see how they would feel about this donation.

The commission concurred and staff will set up that workshop and let the commission know when that is scheduled.

FACEBOOK – HULL

Commissioner Hull stated that she was contacted by Keith Erickson, City Communication Editor, to discuss the process of placing Arts Commission items on Facebook. Mr. Erickson suggested that she could be the “go to” person for the Arts Commission for items placed on social media and once she receives those items, will send them to Mr. Erickson who will post them on the web.

Commissioner Helm recommended maybe adding a group page for the Arts Commission to use as another avenue for information to get distributed.

Commissioner Groth announced that an Arts Director position has been posted at Sorenson to oversee the current arts programs, and when that the job application is posted, they will distribute a copy to anyone that might be interested.

Commissioner Larsen feels that the logo for the Arts Commission is outdated and should be updated and suggested sending the call out to students to come up with some ideas to replace the current logo.

Commissioner Hull stated that since she is new, she would like to know if the other commissioners would put together a “bio” about themselves to share with everyone else.

The Commission concurred and asked staff to collect and distribute that list to the commission when completed.

OLD BUSINESS:

MAYORS AWARDS IN THE ARTS – HELM

Commissioner Helm announced that October 8th has been confirmed for the Mayors Awards in the Arts. He stated since the last meeting, he has been in contact with the artist who will be making the awards. He commented that if any of the other commissioners have any candidates that they would like to nominate, there is still time. He commented how it was decided at the last meeting to add another award for a student and would like help on what to call this category. He suggested putting this on the agenda for next month to vote on a name.

RAINBOW ARCH BIDS – DODGE

Commissioner Dodge announced that he has worked with staff to set up a time to test the new lights at Rainbow Bridge. The date selected is July 7th between 7-9 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Dodge, seconded by Larsen, to adjourn.
The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.**