

**ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**June 28, 2017**

**Attendees:** Jennifer Drake, Tina Johnson, John Bruning, Deanna Goodlander, Trudy Elliott, Christina Hull, ~~David Groth~~, Mark Johnstone, ~~Amy Evans~~, Sam Taylor, Roberta Larsen, ~~Hannah Daniels~~, Ali Shute, Amy Ferguson, Kristen Lahner, ~~Greg Lewis~~

**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.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Elliott, to approved the May 23, 2017 Minutes. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Motion by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Lahner, to approve the May financial report. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:** Commissioner Johnson asked about the non-working lights under the Rainbow arch. Mr. Tayler said that a unique part had to be ordered and he hasn't heard if it is in yet. He will check in with the electrician. Mr. Taylor noted that there are two separate projects – one is to get the lights to work, and the other is to rearrange the equipment inside the box to reduce the chance for water infiltration.

Commissioner Shute said that the Coeur d'Alene Arts and Cultural Alliance has been tasked by the Idaho Commission on the Arts to host a workshop on August 10<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 a.m. until 1 or 2 in the afternoon. The workshop is entitled "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Arts in Idaho." A representative from Westaf will be doing the presentation and the attendees will be divided up and working with facilitators and discussing key questions. Commissioner Shute's job is to identify and bring in arts leaders, and she invited the Arts Commissioners to be a part of the workshop. The workshop will be held at the Human Rights Education Institute and there will be a \$10.00 fee which includes a catered lunch. Commissioner Shute will be sending out an invitation to the commissioners and they will need to register for the event. She clarified that art leaders are invited, not necessarily artists. They are purposefully wanting to keep the group small with a very distinct group of people.

Commissioner Johnstone commented that his granddaughter was able to ride the new carousel during its opening event, which makes four generations of his family riding the carousel.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Mr. Taylor said they are working to finalize the purchase of the Twin Towers sculpture for Fire Station 4. The total purchase price of the statue is \$24,815.00, with the majority of the cost coming from the Public Art Fund, and the moving costs coming from the Maintenance Fund. The artist, Mr. Stone, is coordinating directly with the Fire Department to drive up and install the piece, which will hopefully be completed within a month. Mr. Taylor will work on scheduling a dedication ceremony and commented that the City has a new sound system. Chairman Drake said that it would be nice to get the Fire Department involved with that.

Mr. Taylor also said that, based on the commission's vote to leave the "Forks" bike rack where it is currently located, he has prepared a staff report which will be going to the council at their July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. He noted that it is up to the council what they want to do with the art piece and he is looking for their direction. Mr. Taylor commented that art is subjective and challenging to site and that the piece meets all ADA standards where it is at.

Mr. Taylor said that "busking" is still a hot topic and The Inlander has been inquiring about it. He noted that the City cannot ban busking and it is a First Amendment-protected issue. The City cannot require permits for buskers but can set out locations, which cannot be hidden away from the public. He is working with staff and the PD regarding the issues and would like to meet with the subcommittee and Downtown Association for further discussion.

Commissioner Johnstone said that he had a conversation with Jason Sanchez regarding the "Forks," etc. Jason is very frustrated as an artist because he is getting \$60-70,000 commissions around the northwest but all he can manage in Coeur d'Alene is a \$5,000 bike rack. Commissioner Johnstone asked the commission to consider, rather than spending money to relocate the "Forks," to potentially offer it back to Mr. Sanchez and have him come up with something else. He noted that understanding the artist's viewpoint is very important.

Commissioner Johnson commented in regard to the Twin Towers sculpture that it was the first time she has ever seen anyone use their cell phones to read the information provided by the QR code.

**PUBLIC ART CONFERENCE 2018:**

Commissioner Johnstone said that he talked with Olympia yesterday and they still don't have a website up which provides information about the conference, which will be held October 12-14. The hosting city would collect the registration fees and providing information about lodging. The agenda for a typical conference was discussed. Commissioner Johnstone said that Boise said they worked about a year in advance to put the agenda together. The conference is a chance to share with commissioners, public art managers and others the issues that face cities. Commissioner Johnstone is planning on attending the October conference and noted that between 50 and 60 people attend from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Utah. He said that he is willing to take on the task of scheduling the panels and speakers.

Mr. Taylor asked about a budget for the conference. Commissioner Johnstone said that the registration pays for everything that happens on Thursday for the meet and greet and there

should not be any out-of-pocket costs. Mr. Taylor asked Commissioner Johnstone to provide him with some budget figures. He also said that if this is something that is going to occur, it is likely that council must approve it. He suggested getting a subcommittee together that would coordinate the event, learn more about it, and make a recommendation to the commission, and then to the council. Mr. Taylor commented that it is quite a bit of work to coordinate the event. Commissioner Larsen commented that October is a difficult month since it is Humanities Month, and also the Mayor's Awards in the Arts. Mr. Taylor said that it would be beneficial for the tourism season in that it is outside of the busy time of the year, but our weather does change rapidly. Commissioner Lahner said that it would be nice to coordinate the event with Art Walk.

Commissioner Larsen said that the event seems overwhelming to her and said that when the City of Moscow Arts Commission came up to visit a few years ago, it was easy. She suggested inviting some arts commissions to come and visit. Commissioner Johnstone said that he thinks the Idaho Commission on the Arts would be open to help fund the event.

Commissioner Hull said that she thinks it is a lot to ask of a group this size and that it is a big undertaking with a lot of moving parts. She commented that it would take the entire commission and she is not sure they have the time to commit to it.

Commissioner Larsen suggested that it be tabled for two months for further discussion. Commissioner Shute suggested putting a small group together to get more information about what it would entail and make a presentation to the commission. Commissioner Johnstone said that he thinks it should be discussed sooner rather than later. Chairman Drake instructed this item to be placed on the Arts Commission agenda for a presentation next month. Commissioners Johnstone and Lahner will serve on the subcommittee.

#### **PRAIRIE TRAIL MURAL UPDATE:**

Mr. Taylor said that the artists for the Prairie Trail mural received a commission through the Columbia Basin college for a mural, with a specific time frame. They are working on that project, rather than the Prairie Trail project at this time. Mr. Taylor commented that he has emailed the artists several times and has not heard back from them, and wasn't able to leave a message on their voicemail, as the voice mailbox was full. Commissioner Hull said that she will message them again through Facebook. Mr. Taylor said that the artists have received \$6,000 up front, and can be threatened with legal action, if necessary. Commissioner Hull will tell the artists that they need to contact Mr. Taylor by Friday.

#### **CITY HALL "HONOR" WALL UPDATE:**

Chairman Drake said that if the commission would like to look at doing something, they would need to talk about what the process would be. Commissioner Hull said that she believes that upgrading the photos and frames would be good enough and to have every picture hand-drawn is excessive and not necessarily the best use of the Art Commission's time. Chairman Drake will email Renata McLeod, Municipal Services Director, and ask if there is something that the commission could do. Mr. Taylor said that Lake District funds could be used for the project.

Commissioner Johnstone said that he thinks that original artwork is what really puts a City on the map, and referenced the art at the City Hall in Boise that is historical and relates to the

community, and goes beyond copying and redoing a photograph. Chairman Drake will also check with Ms. McLeod to see if there are any placeholders for original art in the City Hall design.

**EMERGE CONTRACT UPDATE:**

Mr. Taylor said that the city council approved the Emerge contract through the end of the fiscal year. They will then go through the new community art funding process along with everyone else.

**ART ON THE ISLANDS SUBCOMMITTEE CREATION:**

Chairman Drake said that a subcommittee needs to be formed who will work with Ken Roberge and talk to the City about costs, procedures, site visits, etc. Mr. Taylor confirmed that this project falls under the purview of the Arts Commission, but that the Parks Department should definitely be involved in any discussions with the subcommittee. Commissioner Johnstone said that it is his understanding that Mr. Roberge is already meeting with Bill Greenwood and setting up pads. Mr. Taylor said that they can put the pads down but the art must be coordinated through the commission and the Parks & Recreation Director is very aware of that. Chairman Drake clarified that even though the art pieces are on loan, they still have to go through the art-on-loan process and be approved by the commission.

Commissioner Elliott asked about the timeline for this project. Chairman Drake said that it is pretty open-ended, and moves at the speed of the artists who want to donate. Commissioner Larsen asked how the pieces will be identified. Mr. Taylor said they probably wouldn't provide plaques because they wouldn't want to be encouraging people to walk out to the islands. Chairman Drake suggested that the information could be placed online. The subcommittee members will be: Commissioners Larsen, Shute, Elliott, and Bruning, with Commissioner Elliott serving as Chair. Commissioner Larsen will contact Ken Roberge.

**REVIEW OF SELECTION COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS:**

Mr. Taylor reviewed the public art selection requirements and asked that the City Council liaison be given the right of first refusal in regard to serving on selection committees. Mr. Taylor said that while the selection committee is normally composed of seven voting members, there is nothing in the policy that says you can't have more than seven voting members. He also noted that staff members and the committee liaison are non-voting members. Mr. Taylor said that he would email the updated policy to everyone.

**COMMUNITY ARTS SUPPORT PROGRAM REVIEW:**

Commissioner Hull said that they drafted a call for the Community Arts Support program. In the call they give a yearly window (30 days this year, and a longer window of time next time) where people in the community can submit an application for community support funding. The funding opportunity is for any individual or group that wants to host an event or classes or other educational opportunity that the community can participate in. The funding can be for a one-time event or ongoing for the duration of a year. The draft call was submitted to Mr. Taylor for review. Mr. Taylor commented that if the event is in one of the urban renewal districts, the money can come out of those funds. Commissioner Hull said they are shooting for August 1 – 31 as their first window for applications, and the applications would be reviewed at the

commission's September meeting. Mr. Taylor said that he sent the call to the Legal Department for their thoughts and will go from there. Because the monetary amount is under the threshold, it does not need to go through council. The RFP process must be approved by the Administration Department because the purchasing policy requires RFP's be fashioned by a department. Based on that, the Deputy City Administrator would be reviewing the new RFP call to artists to ensure that he approves of it prior to it being utilized.

Chairman Drake suggested a press release and getting the information out to various people who have expressed interest, and the Arts & Culture Alliance and CDA 2030.

**Library Bike Racks:** Commissioner Goodlander said that she will coordinate with Chairman Drake and Commissioner Bruning regarding the bike racks call.

**Mayor's Awards in the Arts:** Commissioner Elliott said that the nomination packets have been sent out. The subcommittee met earlier today. The Mayor's Awards have been confirmed for Wednesday, October 11. Commissioner Shute said that she met with Chuck from the Resort and he has been great to work with. Commissioner Elliott said that Marie (last name not provided) and Pam Asher will be helping on the subcommittee. Possible themes were discussed. Since the MAM models are not available this year, it was suggested that "Ladies d'Alene" or Miss Idaho contestants might be willing to help out. Commissioner Larsen also suggested that high school drama departments might also be interested. Chairman Drake will design the invitations and Ms. Ferguson will print and distribute them.

**Utility Boxes:** In regard to the utility box that was recently re-wrapped at 7<sup>th</sup> & Sherman Avenue, Mr. Taylor said that he is working with Joe Sharnetsky to get the "frogs" back to that location. He noted that there are five boxes that need re-wrapped due to various issues and they might need to push some of the box fixes to next year.

**ArtCurrents:** Ms. Ferguson said that only 8 submissions have been received for ArtCurrents so far. Commissioner Johnstone commented that he thinks that the \$1,000 stipend is not covering it and that the artists figure it isn't worth their time. He said that he is also noticing a lot of wear and tear on some of the pieces and thinks that the whole thing should be rethought. He also commented that he thinks the call needs to go out a year in advance because this is the "hot" time of the year for artists and sculptures to sell their work and they started marketing their pieces in March. Chairman Drake said that when the window closes they will see what they have and go from there. Ms. Ferguson will continue to schedule the selection committee meeting.

Commissioner Hull asked if it would be possible to renew some of the favorite pieces on Sherman Avenue, and pay them an additional stipend. She also noted that it would be fun to involve the community and have them pick their favorites.

**Riverstone Public Art:** Commissioner Larsen said that she will contact the artist again and check on the status.

**Four Corners Roundabouts:** Ms. Ferguson said that 18 submissions have been received from 14 artists with a week and a half to go. Chairman Drake will finalize the selection committee this week.

**Performing Arts:** Chairman Drake said that Commissioner Groth is back in town and she will email him.

**Chief Morris Antelope – Landscape:** Mr. Taylor said that the portion of the dike that the Chief Morris Antelope statue is sitting on is potentially falling into the river so the commission may have to relocate the art piece. He will look into it a bit more and update the commission.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Commissioner Shute to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Ferguson  
Executive Assistant