

**ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**November 28, 2017**

**Attendees:** Jennifer Drake, Tina Johnson, John Bruning, Deanna Goodlander, David Groth, Mark Johnstone, Amy Ferguson, Greg Lewis, Teresa Runge, Ali Shute, Sam Taylor

**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 Johnstone, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve the October 24, 2017 minutes, as corrected. Motion carried.

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

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Chairman Drake commented that Commissioner Larsen's term has expired and welcomed new commissioner, Teresa Runge.

Chairman Drake said that she would try to schedule a "sit down" meeting with Mr. Taylor regarding some of the things that have happened in the last few months. She asked the commissioners to let her know if they have any items that she should discuss with Mr. Taylor.

Chairman Drake reminded the commissioners that there will be no meeting in December.

**INTRODUCTION OF ARTS COMMISSION APPLICANT:**

Chairman Drake introduced Ashley McCormack, PhD, MSW, who is an applicant for the vacant position on the Arts Commission. Ms. McCormack explained that she is a recent resident of the City of Coeur d'Alene and has been here since March of 2016. She originally lived in Athens, Georgia, and noted that the reason she applied is because when she was in Athens, she was on the Cultural Affairs Commission, which was tasked with facilitating the development and progress of the public art plan and projects. She noted that she is passionate about art and explained the public art funding and decision process in the City of Athens.

**NEW LOCATION UPDATE FOR "COEUR"**

Ms. Ferguson explained that Mr. Taylor was asked to attend an important meeting and was not sure if he was going to be able to make it today, so he asked her to present his agenda items to the commission. She reviewed the three proposed locations for "Coeur" and noted that staff recommended locating the piece at City Hall, and that the dirt area would be filled in with a

concrete slab. The second spot suggested was in Memorial Field, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> spot suggested was Memorial Park.

Commissioner Johnstone said that he thinks it would be helpful to do some sort of computer simulation of what the piece would look like in the proposed locations. Chairman Drake said that she would also like to talk to Mr. Sanchez about it and based upon his abilities and what he produced for his maquette, she does not think it would be difficult for him to produce a computer simulated image. She also noted that she likes the City Hall idea.

Commissioner Groth commented that he agrees with the idea of the computer simulation, and thinks that the blue piece against the background of City Hall has great potential.

Commissioner Goodlander said that either of the Memorial Park areas would be her preference and commented that she thinks the commission really needs to think about the City Hall spot and doesn't think that they should just arbitrarily put the sculpture there. She would like to take time on the City Hall piece.

Mr. Taylor arrived at 4:19 p.m. He explained that Mr. Sanchez is happy with any of the proposed locations.

**MOTION by Commissioner Goodlander, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to recommend that the "Coeur" statue be placed at the Memorial Park Location.**

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Taylor said that Mr. Sanchez said that if the piece is placed in the Memorial Park location, he can spread the piece out so that people can walk around and in and through it. He also commented that the location in front of City Hall is a fairly large area and the Parks Director was excited to have it placed there. A full concrete pad would be placed and they wouldn't have to landscape. He noted that the piece is rather unique and could become iconic at City Hall over time. The dimensions of the sculpture, if placed at City Hall, would change a little bit and it would lend up being about 15 feet wide and 8 feet deep. At the park location it could be the specified dimensions, and at Memorial Field the dimensions could be spread out a bit. Mr. Taylor commented that his concern is that if the statue were placed at Memorial Field or Memorial Park it would not be as much of a feature piece as it would be at City Hall. He also noted that the mayor was supportive of a piece of art at City Hall.

Commissioner Johnstone said that his feeling is if they put out a call for a piece of art at City Hall, they would get a much wider range of applications and submissions than someone designing for a traffic circle.

Commissioner Goodlander suggested that a larger iconic piece at Memorial Field on the corner, and at City Hall, should be budgeted for next year.

**Motion carried with Commissioners Johnson and Johnstone voting No.**

Chairman Drake asked Mr. Taylor to provide updates regarding any potential changes in the piece. Mr. Taylor said that the next step is to bring a contract to the City Council most likely at the second meeting in December.

**ARTCURRENTS UPDATE – ADDITIONAL PIECES:**

Mr. Taylor explained that there are three open spots remaining for ArtCurrents. One of Ken Turner’s pieces was rejected, and Jacob Novinger was unable to transport his two pieces. He further noted that Teresa McHugh said that she has pieces that she could offer up, and Ken Turner also has a piece. Mr. Taylor’s recommendation would be to allow staff to look at the pieces offered up and choose the three pieces and install them in the locations that are the best fit. The commissioners agreed that staff could proceed with selecting the remaining three ArtCurrents pieces and installing them.

**CONTINUED DISCUSSION: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) VS. REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ):**

Commissioner Johnstone said that artists who are doing it as a profession are sending out anywhere from 15 to 25 proposals in a year, so if they already know that they have been shortlisted to 3 to 5 people, it reduces their workload and they can concentrate more on their idea.

Commissioner Goodlander said that she has concerns about an RFQ process and thinks it might eliminate some of the newer artists. Instead, she thinks that the commission should look at their RFP process and simplify it.

Commissioner Shute suggested a RFQ with samples of work, and noted that there has to be a balance.

Commissioner Johnstone said that it is very possible to ask for examples of work, and to see a visual of how the art would fit is very important. With the RFQ, you would have to understand how the artist’s ideas could be translated into an actual physical proposal. What has been done in a lot of places is not cut people off who have less experience, but rather than have them do 6 details of the piece, they would submit 6 pieces in two blank spots, showing what is appropriate.

Mr. Taylor commented that when the Arts Policy was recently updated, they modified the language regarding selection committees, and it now says “call to artists or RFP.” He believes that it could include an RFQ process.

Chairman Drake said that she thinks a lot of artists are already responding to their calls in the way that they would respond to an RFQ. She doesn’t want to sell the City short and be limited by people just wanting to throw out as many responses as they can and wants to work with artists who are giving it thought as it shows the amount of effort the artist is going to put into it in the long run as well.

Commissioner Johnstone said that with an RFQ process you are also more likely to get more artists applying from out of the area who would only make the trip and visit the site and learn about the community once they know they have a shot at it.

Mr. Taylor said that the City commonly uses an RFQ process, such as in Wastewater. The commission could also do an RFQ and RFP hybrid with more heavy focus on RFQ. Chairman Drake said that there have been times where she has seen proposals and likes the artist's other work better so she can see it both ways. The commission needs to decide if they need to change the call system and make it more friendly to artists, while still getting the information that it needs, while also coaching the selection committee about not focusing so much on the specific proposal, and maybe judging the past work equally in order to move it forward.

Commissioner Johnstone said that you would want an artist for a large budget project to at least have some experience. Mr. Taylor said that he would like to know more up front about how familiar the artist is with the permitting process and working with structural engineers, etc. Commissioner Drake suggested looking at the call process and the CaFE process to figure out the best way to do it.

Commissioner Groth said that they are talking about a relationship with an artist that they can work with. Chairman Drake said that she is comfortable moving forward and talking to the selection committees and telling them the things to focus us. Mr. Taylor said that staff is happy to help with that for the next selection committee.

Commissioner Johnstone said that one of the things that he is doing on his own is reaching out to artists from the Tribe. He is willing to do a couple of workshops to train artists how to apply for calls which would be free and open to the public.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS:**

Mr. Taylor reminded the subcommittees that there are several major projects "in the hopper" that the subcommittees need to start working on, and the quicker that the calls can be completed, the better. The calls need to be spaced out as it puts a burden on staff. He encourage the commission to put together subcommittees and start working on the calls, especially for the Seltice Way roundabouts. In the spring the roundabouts will be ready to go with both electricity and water. The commission has budgeted \$100,000 for each roundabout so the faster that the commission can get the calls out, the quicker they can get people on board to start working on them.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Seltice Way Roundabout:** A Seltice Way Roundabout Subcommittee was created with the following members: Teresa Runge, Chair, Mark Johnstone, David Groth, Ali Shute. Mr. Taylor commented that the mayor has advocated for connecting with the Tribe on the project. Mr. Taylor will get the specs for the roundabouts from Welch Comer.

**Utility Box Beautification:** It was agreed to add the utility boxes to the next budget meeting discussion.

**ArtCurrents:** Mr. Taylor said that he is working on getting the plaques installed and noted that the Riverstone locations don't currently have bases on which to put the plaques.

**Arts Commission Applicant Review: MOTION by Commissioner Shute, seconded by Commissioner Johnstone, to recommend the appointment of Ashley McCormack to the commission. Motion carried.**

**Riverstone Public Art:** Mr. Taylor said that former Commissioner Larsen and Commissioner Elliott have connected with the artist, and he has been asked to follow up with him.

The **Four Corners Roundabout** and **Public Art Conference 2018 Exploration** subcommittees were dissolved.

**Performing Arts:** The subcommittee will meet soon.

**Community Arts:** Mr. Taylor said that Commissioner Lahner would like some additional help. He noted that everyone has received their funding, and explained that the way the program is written requires the recipient to submit reports. The subcommittee could help to develop the reporting requirements. Chairman Drake said that she would serve on the subcommittee.

**Mill River Public Art:** Commissioner Goodlander said that the potential Atlas project will include an extension of Mill River and there could be some real opportunities along that trail for public art. The subcommittee name was changed to: **River/Atlas District Public Art Committee.**

**Public Archives Project:** Commissioner Johnstone and Ms. Ferguson will meet together to talk about the website.

**Ped/Bike Brochure for Art:** No update.

**Mural Projects:** Mr. Taylor and Chairman Drake will meet to discuss. Mr. Taylor said that the City has engaged Chapman Financial for collection services on the Centennial Trail overpass mural project.

**Library Bike Racks:**

Commissioner Goodlander commented that she gave Ms. Ferguson the information that she needs to draft the call.

**Chief Morris Antelope Landscaping:** Mr. Taylor said that the commission should look at moving the sculpture since that portion of property which is owned by NIC is failing. He noted that there is no time limit for moving the statue and the costs for removing and relocating the statue will be substantially costly. NIC will need to be engaged in the process again.

**Art on the Islands:** Chairman Drake said that the subcommittee has been meeting and moving forward. Commissioner Shute said that the subcommittee has a lot of questions and will update

when they have answers. Commissioner Goodlander suggested that during the upcoming budget discussion the commission may want to look at placing some of the ArtCurrents pieces on the islands as it would encourage more people to participate in ArtCurrents and would be an opportunity to pick up reasonably priced art.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Commissioner Shute, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Ferguson  
Executive Assistant