

**ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
MAY 28, 2015, 3:00 PM
Old Council Chambers, City Hall**

Attendees: Jennifer Drake, Trudy Elliott, Roberta Larsen, Tina Johnson, John Bruning, David Groth, Jared Helm, Christina Hull, Mark Johnstone, Nancy White, 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: There were no agenda amendments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 23, 2015

Commissioner Helm noted a correction to the minutes on page two that Mr. Holm suggested a student category be added to the mayor's award, and at a meeting he had with staff a few months ago, he suggested that addition.

MOTION by Larsen, seconded by Dodge, to approve the amended minutes. Motion carried.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:

Chairman Drake noticed an additional financial statement added to the packet this month and inquired if this is something new.

Ms. Anderson explained that she prepared the other statement thinking it would be easier to understand.

MOTION by Larsen, seconded by Helm, to approve the Financial Statement for April 2015. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

PRESENTATION: Emerge Community Arts Program – Jeni Riplinger

Ms. Riplinger explained that her Emerge program is a nonprofit agency providing high quality art experiences to the community, while cultivating opportunities for emerging artists in our area. She stated that a few months ago, she met with Yvonne Benzinger, who had told her she was planning to retire after this year and thought that my program might be a good fit for the city.

She provided information to the commission outlining the various programs Emerge will offer. She stated that they will obtain funding through grants, private donors, and class fees. She feels this partnership will be a win/win for the city as well as providing year around programs to adults and children who want to learn about the arts. She passed out a map of the location where Emerge will be located and asked the commission if they had any questions.

Commissioner Helm stated he likes the idea of a new program, but is concerned what will be taught, and the teachers who will be involved with the program.

Chairman Drake stated that Ms. Riplinger is very well-known in the community as a great educator and has a reputation for being strict on whom she hires to teach her classes.

Commissioner Larsen inquired how much support the Summer Arts program received from the city.

Chairman Drake explained that the summer arts program was self-sufficient and that the city had a contract with Ms. Benzinger as the Director for less than \$2,000 for her services.

Ms. Riplinger thanked the commission for letting her make the presentation and hopes that the commission will want to be a partner with her to educate the area about the arts.

Chairman Drake suggested that the commission read the information handed out by Ms. Riplinger and come prepared to discuss this issue at our next meeting.

PERFORMING ARTS – Dan Gookin

Dan Gookin, City Councilman, stated that he was happy with the Arts Commission's choice of Chief Antelope for the Dike Road project and feels that this piece of art will be a great addition to the area. He thanked the commission for allowing him to talk about the performing arts and how the city would benefit having its own performing arts center in Coeur d'Alene.

Robert Singletary, Director for the museum of North Idaho, stated he is currently writing a book about Coeur d'Alene and the city's association with the performing arts. He stated that he was an original member of the city's first Arts Commission and during his term, they put together a brochure listing the activities involving the arts in the city - which is still used today. He stated that the citizens who live in Coeur d'Alene should feel lucky that we have a great symphony, and it would be tragic if not supported. He commented that a few years ago, if you wanted to hear a good symphony you had to go to Spokane, and that times have changed with people coming to Coeur d'Alene to here our symphony, because it's really good. He feels that a new Performing Arts Center would be a great addition to the city.

Steve, a representative from the Coeur d'Alene Symphony, explained that he is here tonight to apply for a grant from the City of Coeur d'Alene Arts Commission for the purchase of large percussion equipment and explained the levels of funding that can be used. He stated that the Coeur d'Alene Symphony schedules five symphony's a year and having the new percussion

equipment would be a help with this program.

Chairman Drake stated that she feels that having a Performing Arts Center in Coeur d'Alene would be a benefit for the community and would have a discussion during our next budget talks on a way to contribute to the performing arts in the future.

MAYORS AWARDS IN THE ARTS – HELM

Commissioner Helm stated that he is still waiting on the resort for a confirmation of the date for the Mayors Arts Awards, which is October 8th and hopefully by June we will get that confirmation. He received a recommendation from Yvonne Benzinger, who suggested artist Debora Seaver, who is a glass artist, make this year's awards. He stated that he hasn't received any other nominations and if the commission concurs, would like to go forward with Ms. Seaver. He announced that he recently met with Anne Mitchell to go over this year's award details and is excited to focus on the 20th anniversary. Last month he brought up the idea of a student award to be added and if the commission approves suggestions on what this award should be called. He stated that this year a silent auction is a good idea and suggested having between five to ten items. He suggested this year to have models wearing jewelry to be sold and maybe having a picture of the items so people can get a better look at the item.

Commissioner Hull stated that she has a name of a jewelry artist who might be interested in participating and will forward the name to Commissioner Helm.

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – DRAKE

Chairman Drake announced that some of our subcommittees could use some additional members and here is a list of the new additions to the subcommittees (staff will send out a complete list):

Utility Beautification – Trudy Elliott

Art Currents – Mark Johnstone

Riverstone Public Art – Trudy Elliott

Community Arts (formally Summer Arts) Christina Hull (Chair), Jared Helm

Public Archives Project – Mark Johnstone

Mural Project - Christina Hull

Mill River project – Nancy White (Chair), Christina Hull

Performing Arts – Jared Helm (Chair), David Groth, Nancy White

DOODLE POLL RESULTS – ANDERSON

Ms. Anderson announced that the results of the doodle poll for the selection for another date for the Arts Commission meeting would be the third Wednesday of the month, starting at 4:00 p.m. The first meeting, if the commission agreed, would be on June 17th.

The commission concurred.

OLD BUSINESS:

UTILITY BOX UPDATE/GREEN BOX UPDATE - HOLM

Mr. Holm announced that the winners of the Utility Box Beautification project have been selected. The quote for the installation from Cart Wrappers will be \$13,000, all inclusive. Staff will send out the winners to the commission.

RAINBOW ARCH BIDS – DODGE

Commissioner Dodge explained that he had three bids with the lowest for sanding and painting would be \$1,600. At the last meeting he stated that he knew someone who was familiar and sent the plans to the Phillips engineer who told him two things that could be approved: The cables were too small and should be the size of a “quarter” and the color of the cables should be white to make the arms appear brighter. He stated that his friend will make a model to show how this will look and when done, he will bring it to the commission. He asked the commission for their approval to make the model and the commission agreed.

GRAFFITI/MURAL WALL PROJECT UPDATE

Chairman Drake apologized that she was responsible for this call and hopefully will get something to staff this month. Commissioner Hull inquired if the Arts Commission uses social media when sending out their call for artists. She feels that this would give another avenue for artists to go to. She stated that she would volunteer to be administrative support if this happens. Staff stated they will look into this.

MCEUEN ART WALL – DRAKE

Chairman Drake stated that she is working on this call and promised it will go out this month.

ART IN RIVER DISTRICT- LARSEN

Commissioner Larsen stated that she had a meeting with John Stone regarding public art in Riverstone. He asked when will “Kate” be returned and the type of art he would like to see in Riverstone would be something interactive.

Commissioner Larsen invited Mr. Stone to attend our next meeting to discuss what his vision is for art at Riverstone.

“KATE” UPDATE – HOLM

Mr. Holm stated that Mr. Clemons has signed the contract with the city to install Kate and that he met with the Arts Commission a few years ago when Kate was taken and asked if the commission would like to spend the extra money to have it mounted differently to make it more difficult to take and stated that the commission did not want to do that.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Dodge, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.