

ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
April 24, 2018

Attendees: Jennifer Drake, Tina Johnson, Trudy Elliot, ~~John Bruning~~, Mark Johnstone, Ashley McCormack, ~~Greg Lewis~~, ~~David Groth~~, Ali Shute, ~~Deanna Goodlander~~, Troy Tymesen, Vonnie Jensen, Teresa Runge, Amy Evans

Guests: Roberta Larsen, two high school students (inaudible)

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: Chairman Drake added an action item to the agenda – Mural Project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The students were asked about their attendance at the meeting today, and about their favorite public art pieces.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: INAUDIBLE.

Motion and seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:

Motion and seconded to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

INAUDIBLE.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Tymesen said that the City has been approached by a potential donor, Dr. David Schreiber, of Coeur d'Alene, who is in possession of an art piece known as "The Valentine," which is a bronze, life size sculpture of a man and a woman on a bench, created by artist George Lundeen. Based on his research, Mr. Tymesen said there are about 21 of the sculptures across the country, and three in private collections. Dr. Schreiber would like to have the sculpture placed in a park. Mr. Tymesen is researching the art donation process, and Dr. Schreiber is looking for a write-off opportunity and working with his accountant on the valuation process. The internet value of the piece is \$150,000. Mr. Tymesen said they are working with the Parks Department on some potential locations. researching the process by which we can accept artwork – he is looking for a write off opportunity and working with his accountant on the valuation process. Chairman Drake suggested that Mr. Tymesen continue looking into it in regard to suggested locations, costs of installation, etc. and place it on the next meeting agenda. It was clarified that the donation policy is different and original works of art are not required.

INAUDIBLE.

Mr. Tymesen updated the commission on the progress of the Riverstone art piece by Ken Spiering, and asked about the proposed location for the piece. Commissioner Elliott said that the piece will be located just north of John Stone's new office building, where there is electricity and plenty of room. Mr. Tymesen said that the commission can expect the piece to be installed the end of June, and noted that the artist is very excited and has a very good plan when he comes on site in regard to attaching to the foundations, construction fencing etc. The City will assist with locates, etc.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

(see below)

REVIEW OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE CHANGE RE: ARTS COMMISSION TERMS:

There was extended discussion regarding Arts Commissioner terms. Commissioner Johnstone suggested that, rather than making immediate changes, the commission should step back and look at the larger picture. He noted that there is a problem in that there are members that don't attend the meeting, and commented that if we are looking for people to continue on for their expertise and guidance, they don't necessarily have to be voting members. INAUDIBLE. There was further discussion regarding a consultant. Chairman Drake said that she loves the idea of a consultant and doesn't think that it is going to happen right now in Coeur d'Alene as it is a hard sell. She noted that there have been times when the existence of the Arts Commission is almost a miracle itself, let alone saying that the commission is going to be spending more money, not on art that the public should enjoy, but on paying a person who is going to tell them what they should do.

Commissioner Johnstone said that the commission would still make the decisions, but he believes that the Public Art Fund would enable them to hire staff. He noted that the commission has the money and can certainly move forward and give some recommendations to the council that they want to spend money to hire a consultant. Chairman Drake said that they could if they wanted to, but that Commissioner Johnstone is the first person who has ever been adamant that they need it. She noted that it is certainly something that could be discussed and if the commission voted to do it, they could bring it forward. Council could still say "no" as they have oversight of what the commission approves and chooses to do. INAUDIBLE.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of members on the commission. Chairman Drake said that she would be more interested in not reducing the size of the commission, but in clarifying their ability to hold people accountable regarding missing meetings, etc. Commissioner Johnstone suggested that the number of commissioners was increased because the commission was taking on more administrative roles than what they originally envisioned.

There was further discussion regarding term limits, and concern was expressed about people holding on forever, which is not necessarily a good thing. A question was asked about whether there was a way to make short-term changes as opposed to long-term changes. Councilmember Evans said that the Arts Commission is the only board, committee or commission in the City with term limits. Chairman Drake said that right now they are in the unique position of being a large group, but also a relatively young group, and they are not making inconsequential,

unimportant decisions. There is a very steep learning curve to what the Arts Commission does and Chairman Drake said that they keep backing themselves into a corner when they have institutional knowledge leaving and a new group who really doesn't know how to handle it yet. She noted that they have a large budget and a lot of technical things and so they just keep finding themselves between a rock and a hard place when it comes to term limits and turnover. Commissioner McCormack said that the long-term ramifications can be difficult, and asked if the commission has bylaws. Chairman Drake said that they have a policy. Commissioner McCormack suggested adding membership requirements to the policy.

Mr. Tymesen said that all Arts Commissioners are appointed by the mayor and council, and that there is an opportunity for the council to find a non-performing commissioner, and it is one way in which they can help somebody move along. There should be a couple of points where if a commissioner is not active, they wouldn't be reappointed. He would propose to strengthen the commissioner requirements with presenteeism, and then do away with the term limits.
INAUDIBLE.

MOTION to accept the proposed three-term limit. Motion failed for the lack of a second.

INAUDIBLE.

Mr. Tymesen said that another option that could be considered is to modify the ordinance so that it eliminates term limits, with a plan that would increase the requirements for commissioners in regard to attendance, participation in subcommittee work, etc. INAUDIBLE. Councilmember Evans said that the commission needs to focus on figuring out how to move the projects forward without putting the burden on one or two of the commissioners, which is what is happening right now. INAUDIBLE. A commissioner said that, in her opinion, that is the key to this process – having an “out” so that the commission has the opportunity to release members. INAUDIBLE.

Chairman Drake noted that her term is up in two months and there is no vice-chair. So, whoever is about to be elected to Vice Chairman would suddenly be taking on the position of Chairman in two months, and Chairman Drake doesn't think that anyone in the room really understands what being Chairman means. It will be a really quick “hit the ground running” situation. Chairman Drake noted that the commission will be losing her and Commissioner Bruning, who has also been on the commission for six years, and there is presently no staff liaison. Councilmember Evans said that the City is down on some positions, and it is just a reality. Chairman Drake commented that the commission has this conversation frequently and never really come to a conclusion. There are so many pros and cons to having term limits that there will never be a unanimous “yes” or “no.” Right now they are trying to “put their finger on the dam” to try and avert a crisis. INAUDIBLE. Chairman Drake said that there is a lot of responsibility which goes with being on the commission and that it is a working commission, and not just attending meetings.

Mr. Tymesen confirmed that the commissioners would be reappointed at the end of every term. Commissioner Johnstone asked if it would be possible to ask the city council for an exception, rather than to actually change policy. (inaudible)

Chairman Drake said that if the commission goes to no term limits, they need to beef up the policy in regard to absences, and maybe include once a year peer reviews, etc.

MOTION to extend the term limit period to three terms with provisions that the Arts Commission strengthen the expectations for commissioners, with some kind of accountability, and then, if it is extended to three terms for now, the commission can come back and take the term limits away. No second.

Chairman Drake said that the commission can vote to remove the term limits now, knowing that everything that they do goes before the mayor and council for their approval.

Mr. Tymesen suggested doing away with term limits, with reappointment at the end of every 3 year term. The commission can work on internal mechanisms regarding absences, etc. That way the Chairman can be seated, the commission can get a Vice Chair, and those that are participatory can be recognized at their 3 year anniversary date.

MOTION AMENDED and seconded to remove term limits, with the provision that the commission strength their policy (inaudible).

Mr. Tymesen said that council can be advised about the recommendations for strengthening the policy.

Motion carried, with Commissioner Johnstone abstaining.

(inaudible) **Commissioner McCormack** said that she wouldn't mind spearheading the policy changes/new member training.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Commissioner Trudy Elliott was elected as Vice Chairman.

RECOMMENDATION OF ARTS COMMISSION MEMBER SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Chairman Drake said that the subcommittee has done one round of interviews for the current vacancy, knowing that there will be at least one vacancy coming up within the next two months. Chairman Drake will check in with Commissioner Bruning regarding whether he wants to be reappointed. The recommendation for the current vacancy is Robert Larsen, and then they will do another round of interviews during the coming month.

MOTION and seconded to recommend the appointment of Roberta Larsen to the Arts Commission. Motion carried.

“INSPIRED” UPDATE:

Mr. Tymesen said that the City will be assisting Mr. Sanchez with the pad site. Mr. Sanchez has been working hard to get his piece done per his contract. Mr. Tymesen said that he administratively modified Mr. Sanchez's contact with an amendment that gave him a payment of

about \$9,000 so that he could keep going with the project. The payment did not impact the budget.

Mr. Tymesen also mentioned that council approved the contract for the upper level Library bike rack at the last council meeting.

MURALS:

Chairman Drake said that the murals subcommittee met. She noted that one out of the two murals from the first year were completed and their thought was to reign it back a little bit and only focus on one project this year. The location proposed is the retaining wall at the boat launch. It would probably need to be power washed and possibly primed again. Chairman Drake suggested doing the top 6 feet of the wall. She noted that there is about a foot and a half of water in between the dock where the artist would be standing and the wall, but it should be easily accessible. The site is also highly visit from the boardwalk, the resort, and from all of the docks, boats, etc. The length of the retaining wall is about 220 feet, and the cost would be about \$15,000. Hopefully, by focusing on one mural and not having to shut down traffic or deal with any safety issues, the call would be very simple and could be sent out as soon as Ms. Ferguson is able to do it, with selections made within the next couple of months, and then the artist completing the mural in August or September. Chairman Drake said that she has not talked to the City about it yet. (INAUDIBLE) Mr. Tymesen said that he would like to present the idea to staff as there is some signage in that location that is very important.

MOTION and seconded to approve of the boat launch retaining wall location for the mural project. Motion carried.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Utility Boxes: The call has been issued, and the selection committee has been assembled. Commissioner Elliot confirmed that there were four locations, and a total of 6 boxes. The artist stipend is \$600.00 for one boxes, and \$800 for a double box. Two of the box locations will be paid for by the stormwater utility.

ArtCurrents: Mr. Tymesen said that they have been doing a little maintenance that was found to be necessary. The Streets Department is welding some of the nameplates, and missing nameplates are being replaced.

Ped/Bike Brochure (INAUDIBLE)

Library Bike Racks: The lower bike rack is going out for a call again soon.

Art on the Islands: Mr. Tymesen said that the Parks Department is coming up with a few possible locations. (INAUDIBLE)

Seltice Way Roundabouts: The call has been issued. (INAUDIBLE)

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

It was agreed that a subcommittee would be created to review the budget so that it is ready to be presented at the next Arts Commission meeting. (INAUDIBLE)

Subcommittee Members: Chairman Drake, ????

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION and seconded to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Ferguson
Executive Assistant