

ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
June 23, 2020
City Hall, Conference Room #6

Attendees in Person: Jennifer Drake, Amy Ferguson, Troy Tymesen, Pricilla Bell

Attendees via ZOOM: John Bruning, Teresa Runge, David Groth, Ali Shute, Mag Behrmann, Mary Lee Ryba, Derek Kahler, Lindsey Sichelstiel, Teresa Runge

Guests: Chris Bosley, City Engineer

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Shute, seconded by Commissioner Groth, to approve the May 26, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Bruning, seconded by Commissioner Shute, to approve the May, 2020 Financial Report. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bell suggested that the Arts Commission consider commissioning a work of public art dedicated to or representative of human rights, human dignity, civil rights, equality under the law, social justice, etc. She suggested possibly using the 4-Corners location and noted that given the City's history, she thinks it would be appropriate to consider the art with prominent placement for people coming into town. Chairman Drake said that now is the time to do that sort of thing, and the 4-Corners area could be a good spot to consider.

Mr. Tymesen said that it is nice to have some locations in mind and noted that the 4-Corners location is very prominent. He suggested adding it as an action item on the next Arts Commission agenda. Chairman Drake suggested that the subcommittee could work on the right wording for the call and be ready to present it at the next meeting.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Tymesen said that the new Freedom Tree is coming along nicely and will most likely be installed this summer. The team has a couple of ideas of how to give it some shade as it faces south and the sun takes its toll on the wood. He confirmed that it will be placed in the McEuen plaza.

Mr. Tymesen noted that travel/airlines are opening up a bit better and they are hoping to do some updates on the Rainbow Arch and move the project forward.

DEBRIEF ON “UNCONQUERED” DEDICATION:

Chairman Drake said that the dedication went well and the statue was covered with a big black sheet, so it was a true unveiling. There was a good crowd and the Pinkertons spoke and did a great job. Chairman Drake also spoke briefly. The weather was great and everything went off without a hitch. She encouraged the commissioners to go and see the statue. Ms. Ferguson said that she picked up the bronze plaque today and the Parks Department will be installing it. Mr. Tymesen said that they have been in contact with the artist for Marker #11 and he will be picking it up in August.

REQUEST FROM BRUCE ANDERSON RE: STREET PAINTING 6TH & WALLACE INTERSECTION:

Mr. Tymesen said that the City and the Arts Commission received a letter from Bruce Anderson regarding street painting at the intersection of 6th & Wallace as a way to reduce speeds on the street. Mr. Tymesen reached out to the City Engineer, Chris Bosley, and the Street Department. Mr. Bosley said that he was not discouraging the art, but just wanted to put some qualifiers on it in regard to what to expect. In regard to traffic calming, it could have a modest effect on speeds in the area, and some communities do it, but it won't be as much as something physical like a raised intersection or curb extensions, etc. He also commented that the snow plows will scrape the art, and studded tires will also have an effect. The City does not have the talent, time or means to touch up the artwork every year and if there was a utility replacement where they would have to cut the street open, they wouldn't be able to repair the artwork.

In regard to crashes in the area, Mr. Bosley said that the letter talked about crashes that occur at the intersection. He noted that he checked his database and the Police Department database and there were only two crashes in the last five-year window so it is not a high crash location. He further noted that they did a pilot project on East Sherman by Moon Time and painted two crosswalks. The Planning Department did the work and used street park, but after the first summer the crosswalk was pretty much gone. East Sherman has a lot more traffic than 6th & Wallace, so the art would not wear at the same rate, but there would be wear. He suggested possibly using thermoplastic, which is used on some of their crosswalks, which is made out of plastic and heated down and melted into the pavement. It would last a lot longer but would be expensive to do an entire intersection like that.

Commissioner Bell asked if the distraction of the painting itself could cause an accident. Mr. Bosley said that there is always the fear of distracted driving causing crashes.

Chairman Drake said that it appears from the letter that they are wanting to do the project themselves and are just looking for permission. Mr. Bosley said that they would need to get an encroachment permit. Mr. Tymesen said that City staff could approve the request in a permit process, but their art expertise is relatively limited. Chairman Drake suggested that the requesters could be instructed to come up with an idea and bring it back to the Arts Commission for review and approval, after review by the City Engineer, etc. Mr. Bosley said that the pavement isn't in great shape at the location, but they would make sure that they don't repair the

intersection anytime soon and work around it. There are already patched potholes in the intersection. Commissioner Ryba asked if the commission might want to have some kind of a plan for these types of requests. Chairman Drake said that they can wait to see how it turns out before they make any kind of plan for future requests.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Behrman, seconded by Commissioner Bell, to respond to Bruce Anderson’s letter with instructions to proceed with the permit process, and requiring that the proposed artwork be presented to the Arts Commission for approval, and the City Council. Motion carried.

“SUFFRAGIST” STATUE DEDICATION UPDATE AND APPROVAL OF PLACEMENT:

Mr. Tymesen said that Ms. Ferguson met with Lisa Nunlist today and walked the site with her. The dedication is scheduled for August 18th. A permit application has been submitted, and the City will arrange for the set-up of a sound system, chairs, and a 6-foot table for the League of Women Voters. She will also check with CDA TV to see if the dedication can be videotaped. Terry Lee will do the unveiling, and they are looking into having the statue covered. Mr. Ferguson will also talk to the CDA Press for coverage of the event, and will seek assistance from Commissioner Shute on the creation of a flyer. Ms. Ferguson will also send out a press release, and email the flyers. The event will begin promptly at noon with a Pledge of Allegiance. The statue will be going on Front Avenue, just off of the pavement on the promenade area west of the existing statues.

Commissioner Shute said that she met last week with the group that did the bulk of the fundraising and they are feeling a little displaced, which is unfortunate. They want the Arts Commission to take on the dedication, but feel like they are not being consulted and it is a little frustrating for them. The group raised 90% of the money that was raised for the sculpture. They would like to use some of the money that was raised to produce a documentary about the piece. The filming team is heading to the foundry to film videos of the foundry and the work in progress there. They will also be doing interviews with Terry. It is not going to be all about Terry, but also about the history of the suffragist movement. The documentary will be a 20-25 minute piece and will include some aerial shots of the celebration as well as the dedication itself. Mary Lou Reed is probably the main contact for the dedication. Chairman Drake asked if there was someone else who would want to make comments on behalf of the group that did the bulk of the fundraising. Commissioner Shute suggested possibly Ruth Pratt. She said that they definitely wanted Terry Lee to speak, and had talked about the possibility of having some music at the dedication. They also want to make sure that the major donors are recognized. Chairman Drake said that if they come across anybody that feels strongly that someone from that group should speak, she would be happy to include them as well. Commissioner Shute said that she would email the group and invite them to participate and at what level, and if they have any suggestions. Mr. Tymesen said that he would help to bridge any misunderstandings and work on the program.

Commissioner Shute said that they are sending out a personal invitation to each of the donors. Discussion ensued about the limited space and social distancing. Commissioner Groth suggested making it a Facebook Live event. Commissioner Shute said that she will suggest that as a way

for people to participate online rather than in person at the event. Ms. Ferguson said that possibly Jeff Crowe from CDA TV could assist with that.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Shute, seconded by Commissioner Ryba, to approve the location of the Suffragist statue on the Front Avenue Promenade, directly to the west of the Terry Lee statues. Motion carried

CONTINUED DISCUSSION RE: COMMUNITY ART FUNDING:

Chairman Drake said that she was approached by Councilmember Miller who had an idea about doing a one-time grant opportunity using ignite funds to support the professional community arts organizations that are in the districts to help them get through the summer season and the pandemic crisis. Chairman Drake said that she thinks it is a great idea for organizations like the symphony, summer theater, etc., and it might be a great workaround to utilize ignite funding. Councilmember Miller talked to ignite and they are on board with the idea. Mr. Tymesen said that the last he heard, everybody that Councilmember Miller has talked to has been generally supportive of the idea.

Commissioner Bell said that she thinks it is important to get the ball rolling quickly, and that her concern is they will end up with more COVID-19 and another lock down next year. The commission has to think about what would happen if they can't have a season next year as well. Mr. Tymesen said that Councilmember Miller suggested use of the funds for up to 36 months. Chairman Drake said that part of the grant would be to keep the organizations afloat so they can figure out how they are moving forward in the seasons to come. She confirmed that it would be a grant, with no payback expected.

Commissioner Runge said that she likes the idea and asked about what they envision as the top dollar amount that the commission can offer. Chairman Drake said that she thinks it would depend entirely on the organization and it would be something that the Commission would have to decide that they feel comfortable with. She noted that the Lake District fund is very healthy, and wants the grants to be enough to actually make a meaningful impact. Commissioner Bell said that without paid staff, those organizations will not be able to keep going, and she thinks it is a great lifeline.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Runge, that the Arts Commission move forward with a one-time bridge grant for professional performing organizations, and that the Performing Arts/Community Arts subcommittees meet together to draft guidelines, and a timeline that can be approved at the next meeting of the Arts Commission. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON "INSPIRED" PUBLIC ART SCULPTURE:

Mr. Tymesen said that he spoke to the artist, and predicts that the statue will be done within two months. He noted that it has been quite a process. The statue will have a spire that is 36 feet, 9 inches above the ground. There will be seven colors of blue powder coat on the statue. The artist said that he has spent 7,172 hours on the statue. It will be located on the south end of the skate park, by Memorial Field and the playground. Mr. Tymesen said that if he receives pictures from the artist, he will share them with the commission.

MURAL FESTIVAL UPDATE:

Commissioner Kahler said that mural festival became impossible to pull off this summer with everything happening. It was the perfect storm. His recommendation is to postpone it and possibly try to get it going next summer, which would depend on how everything goes with COVID. He would recommend that the subcommittee meet and figure out the best way to plan it out for next summer. That way they would have more time to get more businesses involved, and possibly more artists and more sponsorships and make it a bigger, more well-planned event with less hitches.

UPDATE ON UTILITY BOX BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT:

Ms. Ferguson said that all of the artists have signed and returned their contracts, and have had their artwork scanned. She is sending off two wrap requests per week, as was requested by CartWraps. Several of the TDS nodes are also ready for wrapping and Ms. Ferguson will keep in touch with TDS regarding when the others will be done.

FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mr. Tymesen reviewed the proposed Arts Commission budget for next year, and noted that the Council is meeting to discuss the budget on July 8th.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

Mayor's Awards in the Arts: Commissioner Shute said that she had a discussion with Commissioner Runge this afternoon, and they discussed the need for a contingency plan for the awards in case of continuation of COVID issues. She sent out an email to the subcommittee to meet next Wednesday to come up with a couple of plans depending on what the situation is. They tossed around an idea of maybe doing a Facebook feed of the Mayor presenting the awards, which isn't ideal. Commissioner Shute also said that she will also hopefully be able to talk to Chuck Shirley at the Resort about a way to possibly limit the amount of people at the event by requiring tickets, which would enable them to space people out. She further noted that she still hasn't received confirmation from Mr. Shirley on the date.

Performing Arts: Commissioner Groth commented that he would be happy to help with the grants project. She asked if the closing of Sherman was a dead issue. Chairman Drake confirmed that the Council voted against it.

Ped/Bike Brochure: Commissioner Moss provided an email update. She noted that she is scheduled to meet with Debbie Frisbie on Monday, June 29, to review, update and renumber the current public art pieces that are on the Art in Motion brochure. Once that is done, she will meet with Commissioner Shute to talk about a re-design. She also noted that there are quite a few of the current brochures so the new brochure will not need to be in circulation until 2021.

4-Corners Entrance: Commissioner Bruning said that he talked to Ms. Ferguson and they are going to get together one day next week. He suggested that, in light of the earlier discussion about a theme for the art, the subcommittee should probably talk about how they want to address it. He will schedule a meeting next week. He also noted that he still has to meet with Bill Greenwood to get an exact location of the artwork.

Commissioner Bell offered to attend the meeting with the subcommittee. Chairman Drake asked Commissioner Bell to look at the current subcommittee list and let her know what subcommittees she would like to be a part of.

Chairman Drake mentioned that someone she knows wants to do a Black Lives Matter project. He will send a letter and will attach some examples so the commission can discuss it more at next month's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Commissioner Groth, seconded by Commissioner Behrman, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Ferguson
Executive Assistant