

**ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 26, 2022
City Hall, Conference Room #6**

Attendees in Person: Executive Assistant Sherrie Badertscher, Accountant Stephanie Padilla, City Administrator Troy Tymesen, Chairman Mary Lee Ryba, Vice-Chairman Jennifer Drake, Commissioner John Bruning, Commissioner Abby Light, Commissioner Teresa Runge, Commissioner Lindsey Sichelstiel, Commissioner David Groth, Student Representative Adeline Smith.

Guest: Terry Lee

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mary Lee Ryba called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: There were none.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Chairman Ryba introduced new commissioner Abby Light. Commissioner Light explained she was happy to be on the Arts Commission (Commission) and was currently the program coordinator for the Arts & Cultural Alliance. She said she had grown up in Coeur d'Alene and attended the University of Idaho where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree. She most recently lived in Calgary, Alberta, where she worked at art galleries and a history museum. Chairman Ryba also wished to welcome Katie Linder to the Arts Commission and looked forward to hearing about her background at the next meeting.

Council Liaison Evans noted Council had requested the Commission review the Otocast Audio Guide App at the end of one year of use and evaluate how well it had worked and make any adjustments needed at that time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Groth, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to approve the February 22, 2022, minutes. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT:

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Runge, seconded by Commissioner Sichelstiel, to approve the March 2022, Financial Reports. **Motion carried.**

DONATION OF ART PIECE “WWII ARMY SOLDIER” BY TERRY LEE: Chairman Ryba introduced artist Terry Lee who gave an update on his latest project the “WWII Army Soldier.” He explained it was part of the History Walk collection located on Front/6th Street which consisted of the Logger, Construction Worker, Suffragist, Farmer, and soon to be completed Miner. He said he had been contacted by Mr. Bud Ford who wished to commission a WWII Army soldier to be

added to the History Walk collection. Mr. Ford has since passed away yet Mr. Lee has been in contact with Mr. Ford's son who expressed the family's desire to see the project completed and would continue to finance it. He noted Mr. Ford had been an asset to the community and the Ford Family donation would be approximately \$50,000. Mr. Lee said the plaque would state: "In honor of the military that served for the freedom of our nation, Lieutenant Bud Ford and Lieutenant Charlie Ford RA." He has started on the sculpture and expects it to be completed by the end of 2022. He noted he would be working on another piece titled "WWII Naval Nurse" in 2023, had secured a model, and would be presenting it to the commission next month. He mentioned "The Minor" was progressing and was currently in metal and expected to be completed by the end of May.

Vice-Chairman Drake asked where Mr. Lee imagined placing the nurse and had he thought to place it near the WWII soldier, with Mr. Lee responding he thought there would be room in the area near the other History Walk statues to place it, yet would like the City and Arts Commission's input on placement. Chairman Ryba asked how donated art work was managed, with City Administrator Tymesen responding the City enters into donation agreements with the donors, and accepts the responsibility of maintaining the art.

Mr. Lee thanked the City for their timely cleaning of the "Suffragist" sculpture after it had been vandalized. He noted it had some water spotting after the cleanup, and he had removed it using a hot wax treatment which also helped to protect the metal coating.

MOTION: Motion by Vice-Chairman Drake, seconded by Commissioner Sichelstiel, to accept the future donation of the art piece titled "WWII Army Soldier" by artist Terry Lee into the History Walk collection. **Motion carried.**

DISCUSSION OF MAINTENANCE OF THE CENTENNIAL TRAIL UNDERPASS MURAL "IT'S A CUTTHROAT WORLD": Arts Commission Liaison Padilla explained she had been contacted by Trails Coordinator Monte McCully who requested the maintenance needs of the mural be brought to the Arts Commission's attention. She said there were some outdoor elements that were affecting the mural and the paint had started to peel and flake off the concrete. City Administrator Tymesen mentioned the deicer used on the roads was most likely the reason for the paint failing, and they were finding that painted concrete was not sustainable in North Idaho winters. Several Commissioners asked about repairing the mural and Mr. Tymesen said he would check with the City's concrete experts to see what options there may be to repair it. Commissioner Groth stated the worst thing to be done would be to let it fall apart and neglect it. He said there have been other murals which lasted much longer and maybe there were better materials to use, yet recognized paint on concrete doesn't last for long periods of time.

NORTHWEST BOULEVARD/95 UNDERPASS MURAL REQUEST: Ms. Padilla explained Mr. McCully had also asked the Commission to consider a mural on the underpass which intersects Northwest Boulevard and US-95. The Centennial Trail runs past this area and it had been subject to constant graffiti. It had been the City's experience that underpasses which had artwork were not graffitied like the plain concrete ones. Vice-Chairman Drake stated she would look at the area, take pictures, and bring the project back to the Commission next month for further discussion.

PERFORMING ARTS GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE: Mr. Tymesen noted the grant recipients had been utilizing their performing arts grant funds. He said approximately \$46,000 had been disbursed from the \$100,000 grant. He noted Inland Northwest Opera had used their grant funds to start a mobile opera truck. Chairman Ryba suggested inviting the groups to give an update at a future Commission meeting.

APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MARY LEE RYBA TO THE ARTS COMMISSION: Vice-Chairman Drake stated Commissioner Mary Lee Ryba had been on the Commission for three (3) years and recommended her reappointment.

MOTION: Motion by Vice-Chairman Drake, seconded by Commissioner Groth, to recommend the reappointment of Mary Lee Ryba to the Arts Commission. **Motion carried.**

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

Chairman Ryba stated some of the subcommittee assignments needed updating and asked if there were any volunteers for any of the vacant committee positions. Commissioner Groth stated the Storm Drain Art project had been completed and said the subcommittee could be removed from the list. Council Liaison Evans suggested a subcommittee be formed for the upcoming East Sherman Arch project and Vice-Chairman Drake volunteered to chair it, with Commissioner Sichelstiel and Chairman Ryba also volunteering for the committee. Chairman Ryba suggested a subcommittee be formed for the Riverstone Shade Structure project and selected Commissioner Light to chair it.

Mayor's Awards in the Arts: Chairman Ryba stated she was now chair of the committee and asked if anyone would like to volunteer, with Commissioner Light and Vice-Chairman Drake volunteering to help.

Utility Box Beautification: Commission Liaison Badertscher mentioned once the weather warmed up, CW Wraps were ready to complete the remaining boxes. She asked if there were any other boxes to wrap or was the project now completed. Mr. Tymesen stated he would check with the Streets Director to see if there were any other prime locations the Commission may wish to consider wrapping.

Arts Commission Applicant Review: Chairman Ryba stated there weren't any current applicants to review but since there were upcoming vacancies on the Commission it may be a good time to discuss the process. Ms. Badertscher mentioned the opportunity had been advertised on the City's website and Facebook page since December 2021, and the City had run an ad in the local free Nickel's Worth paper. She said she could add the vacancy to the Facebook page again, and possibly send out a press release. Council Liaison Evans said she would make an announcement during Council comments at the next Council meeting. She stated it would be a great opportunity to invite others to be part of the team who may not be as familiar with the Commission.

ArtCurrents: Commissioner Runge stated she would be leaving the Arts Commission in the near future and Chairman Ryba had volunteered to chair the ArtCurrents subcommittee. Commissioner Runge said they would be sending out the call in May with the goal of acquiring a few new pieces for the program. Commissioners Sichelstiel and Light also volunteered for the committee.

Audio Guide: Chairman Ryba mentioned she would like to be added to the committee and would like to include Commissioner Linder as well. She said a good topic came up during the Council meeting discussion regarding marketing, and she said the committee would need to work on marketing to ensure the guide was a success. Commissioner Bruning stated he was happy to have them on the committee and would be reaching out to them in the future to work on the development and marketing of the guide.

Performing Grants: Commissioner Groth mentioned there used to be a concert series at North Idaho College and he would like explore an opportunity to bring in national acts to Coeur d'Alene. He said he hadn't investigated the finances of it, but felt it would bring in great energy to the area. Chairman Ryba suggested contacting the talent manager of the Sherman and 5th Street park area to see how they coordinated their events. Student representative Adeline Smith asked to be added to the committee.

Ped/Bike Brochure for Art: The Commissioners suggested the Otocast Audio Guide information be added to the brochure.

Four Corners Entrance: Commissioner Bruning noted the concrete pad had been poured and he thanked the City for the great work. An ADA compliant sidewalk had been added as well, and they were working towards an installation date of May 23. He said he would work on the dedication program and Commissioner Groth suggested having a student speaker at the dedication.

4th Street Parking Garage: Vice-Chairman Drake asked if the artist was happy that Council had approved the increased budget and design changes, with Ms. Badertscher stating Ms. Celeste Cooning was very appreciative of the Commission and City working with her on the projects budget and design changes. Ms. Badertscher noted Ms. Cooning had submitted her engineered stamped plans, was working on coordinating installation, and had secured a local electrician to assist with the electrical hook-ups. Ms. Padilla added they were working on securing the encroachment permit as well.

Mural Festival: Vice-Chairman Drake volunteered to be added to the Mural Festival subcommittee. Chairman Ryba stated the committee was on-hold at this time.

Riverstone Shade Structure: Commissioner Light said the project would most likely be completed next year, and they were working to secure additional donations at this time. Mr. Tymesen noted the project required 24" circumference pilings buried 14' deep in order to hold the sail, and a drill rig was required to set the pilings.

East Sherman Arch: Vice-Chairman Drake, Commissioner Sichelstiel, and Chairperson Ryba volunteered for the committee.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Runge, seconded by Commissioner Bruning, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting ended at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherrie L. Badertscher
Executive Assistant