

**CITY OF LOVELAND VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2012 5:00 p.m.
LOVELAND MUSEUM/GALLERY AUDITORIUM**

The June 14, 2012 Visual Arts Commission meeting was officially called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Sherri Heckel Kuhlmann. VAC Commissioners present: Roger Clark, Angela Canada Hopkins, Nancy Jakobsson, Alyson Kinkade, Lynn Kincanon, Maryjo Morgan, and Margie Rosborough. Councilman Phil Farley, Doug Erion, Janet Meisel-Burns (Parks Planner), Artist Robert Tully and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen were also present. Josh Emrich reported his absence in advance.

Regular Agenda Items

Additions or corrections to the June 14th, 2012 agenda: Action Item: Blair Muhlestein, *Out of the Best Books*

Additions or corrections to the May 8th, 2012 (Transformations Project Jury) minutes: Roger moved to accept as written. Nancy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Additions or corrections to the May 10th, 2012 (Special Meeting Auction) minutes: Maryjo corrected the spelling of her first name on all minutes. Nancy moved to accept as revised. Lynn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Additions or corrections to the May 17th, 2012 meeting minutes: Lynn moved to accept as revised. Maryjo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: There were no citizens present to address VAC business.

2012 Budget – June Update: Two budgets were distributed: 1) June 2012 overall AIPP, and 2) updated Loveland Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden.

Suzanne asked for volunteers to participate in the budgeting process for 2013, if desired. Personnel and operating expense are traditionally input then all remaining monies are allocated to the Art Purchases line items. Roger, Angela and Sherri will review the 2013 budget.

Action Items/Commissioner Reports

Loveland Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden – Doug Erion: Sherri reviewed the discussion from the last meeting. At that meeting, the VAC agreed on five key items and directed that those items be reviewed by the Museum Sculpture Garden Subcommittee. The VAC will then consider any feedback from the subcommittee. The five items are:

1. Simple language describing the goals of the Museum Sculpture Garden project will be finalized.
2. When the subcommittee submits a piece for VAC review and approval, the VAC desires the subcommittee to say how that piece fits with the goals of the Museum Sculpture Garden project.
3. The VAC desires recommendations from the subcommittee to be unanimous or significant majority.

Moreover, all subcommittee members should “weigh in” on each piece, unless they are on vacation.

Key issues must be submitted by subcommittee for the VAC’s review. This information may come back through the VAC liaison(s) of the subcommittee.

The VAC desires to add at least one additional VAC representative (and likely two) to the subcommittee.

4. Suzanne will keep a running list of all purchases, purchase prices, and overall budget, so that the VAC knows where it stands financially on this project at all times. She will provide this information to the VAC upon consideration of each new purchase.
5. The VAC doesn’t want to create bureaucratic nightmare, but it does want to facilitate good communication between itself and the subcommittee.

Report out from Subcommittee: Margie discussed the current list of artists from which the VAC is seeking pieces. The VAC decided that the subcommittee should add artists to the list as the VAC purchases pieces and correspondingly removes artist names from the list. Susan said the subcommittee could continue the discussion and determine the “priority” artists. Sherri agreed and asked for VAC feedback to be certain all were in agreement with the direction given to the subcommittee. There was consensus. Doug announced that the Alexander Proctor sculpture approved at the last meeting was awarded to the VAC, following the original bidder being unable to complete the financial obligation. The bid was \$20,000 (approximately \$25,000 including premium and shipping). As purchases occur, the artist’s name is removed from the list and is replaced by another.

The original intention for this project was to have around 20 pieces for display in this collection. The VAC reserves the right to modify that number.

There was discussion about whether or not a majority of the subcommittee must agree on a recommendation. Currently, the subcommittee requires a super majority prior to moving forward with a recommendation. The subcommittee desires to continue this practice, and the VAC approves. In addition, the VAC and the subcommittee agreed that:

- Every member of the subcommittee will vote on a proposed piece, and significant points of the subcommittee’s discussion about a given piece must be presented to the VAC. For example,
 - How does the artwork fit into mission
 - Key points for commission discussion
- The subcommittee will determine who will present that information each time a recommendation is made.
- Roger agreed to participate as a subcommittee member. Sherri will also speak with Greg Hoff to determine his interest.

Doug mentioned that Maureen has brought up the subject of scale and desired direction. As the pieces get larger, the price goes up and availability becomes more scarce. Presently, Doug is searching for 30” or higher. There was general discussion; however, there wasn’t a desire to make the physical size a determining factor in purchases. This subject will remain at the discretion of the subcommittee.

- Review of all Purchased Sculpture to Date: Following the conclusion of the meeting, the commission went to The Sequel Building to view all sculptures acquired for the Loveland Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden. The general consensus was that the present collection worked very well together, each adding to the story of significant American sculptors from the mid-19th to late 20th centuries.

The VAC hardily thanked the subcommittee (especially Doug Erion) for all their very good work on the Museum Sculpture Garden project.

Mehaffey Park Design Concepts Presentation – Robert Tully / Janet Meisel-Burns: Janet provided the VAC with a thorough update of the Mehaffey Park Project. Key highlights are below:

- As an additional 10 acres have been added to the original design of Mehaffey Park, the Design Team has been problem solving with the design process
- Public access has been finalized from 29th Street
- The timeline for the project has been delayed about 12 months; seeding will take place sometime in mid-to-late March and the park is expected to open mid-September 2013
- There was a detailed review of the park's original master design
- Mehaffey Park is intended to be a neighborhood and community park but is not intended for massive use (such as Fairgrounds Park and Loveland Sports Park)
- The Overland Trail is believed to have passed through this site and will be reflected in various ways within the park. The overriding theme for the park was determined to be “the settling of the West,” including the trials and tribulations that settlers encountered on their journey west.
- The master plan will be updated to reflect the new land acquisition

Robert Tully Art Design Concepts: Robert Tully presented the following PowerPoint presentation for the commission:

ART PROPOSAL:

Compass bench
Stone mosaic
Reflection column

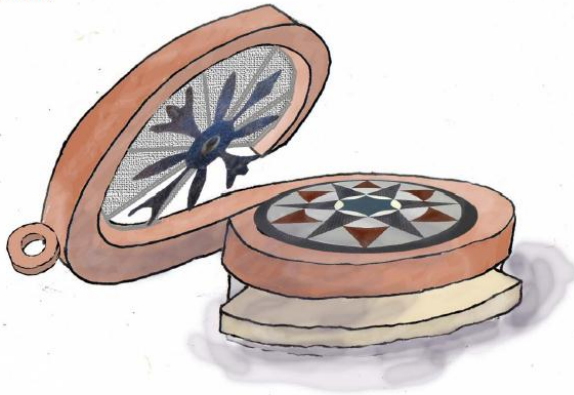
SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- Foundations included in art budget
- Post caps eliminated and mosaic wall reduced from 7 x18 to 6 x 16'
- Bench design revised with armrest but benches would be an option not included in the art budget. Concrete texturing also would be an option.
- Column 12' high and more inset marble but no detailed carving. Sandblasted wording for Overland Trail added to column.

Compass Rose Sculpture

COMPASS SCULPTURE:

Same design with 8' and 12' height options (see budget).
It would work as standalone art in a row with benches in landscape as proposed on hill.



CIRCLE BENCH



HALF CIRCLE BENCH
WITH ARMREST
5' LONG, 36" HIGH, SANDSTONE AND
POWDER-COATED STEEL
Robert Tully



Stone Column

OVERLAND TRAIL REFLECTION MARKER

Sandstone blocks with white
marble and red granite inlay.
12 feet high x 12 inches square.

When viewed from higher in the
park, the column makes a
reflection in the lake that is part
of a line commemorating the
Overland Trail.

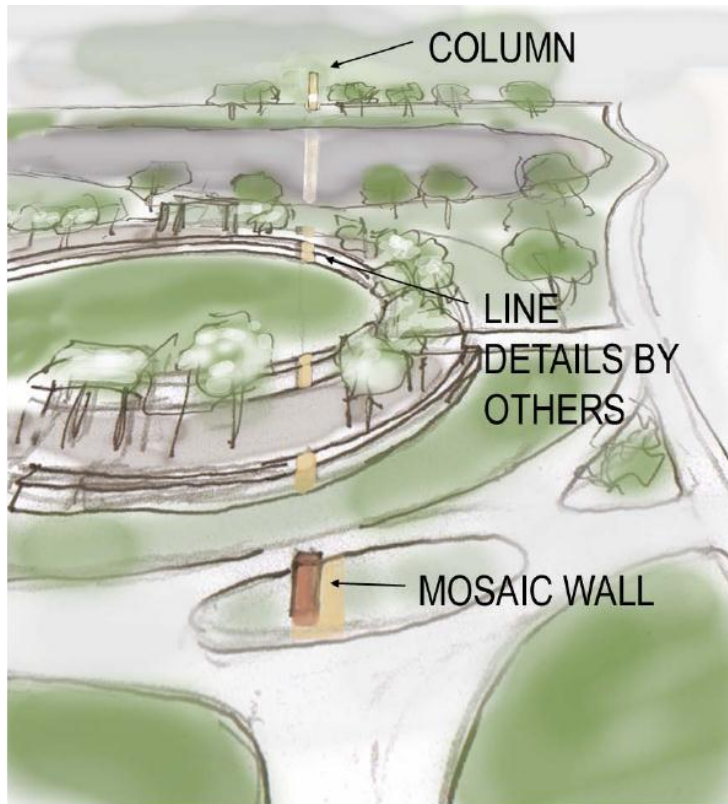
Solid stone blocks with holes in
the center are set onto a central
1 1/2" stainless steel pipe that is
threaded and tightened down
with a nut at the top. This is an
engineered post-tensioned
system.

The opposite side of the column
matches this one.



Mosaic Wall

STONE MOSAIC
Overland Trail Scene
6 x 16 feet
Mehaffey Park, Loveland
Robert Tully



OVERLAND TRAIL LINE COMMEMORATION

BUDGET SUMMARY 6/12/12

Compass sculpture bench	8' high	\$26,400	
	12' high		\$38,900
Stone mosaic		18,900	
Overland Trail column		<u>9,700</u>	
TOTAL		\$55,000	\$67,500

OPTIONAL BENCHES (5' long)

Circle bench	\$2,070
Half circle with armrest	1,700
Half circle no armrest	1,600
Bench (no backrest)	1,200
Concrete texturing/carving/sandblasting	\$80/ hr

Robert appreciated the topography of the park project. His task was to incorporate some historical artifacts into the design and artwork that was integrated into the design. Robert searched for fresh interpretations of the Overland Trail. Ironworks were also an inspiration for the coloration and overall feel of the designs. The Design Team reviewed about 7 elements that were honed to the three major elements presented.

Compass Rose: This sculptural representation of the compass illustrates the risk and challenges encountered traveling West. The steel sculptural bench is about 8' - 12' tall. The center design is a stone mosaic, oriented to the south. The steel is powder-coated, with perforated metal used for the top decorative design of the compass, which is designed to be slightly whimsical. The artist will include sand-blasted lettering of "choices" made along the journey to create a stream-of-consciousness poem reflecting life's choices. The scale of the work has yet to be determined. All areas of the compass will be constructed according to safety standards and sturdy enough for public use.

Benches: There are additional elements of 6' x 5' sandstone benches with powder-coated steel designed to tie into the compass sculpture bench. Several modifications of this full-circle design were also presented. (There is presently not enough money in the art budget to support the purchase of these benches but they may be considered by Parks.)

The Overland Trail line will be illustrated in a linear fashion with the following two designs: Mosaic Wall and the Stone Column

Mosaic Wall: The wall consists of three sections of mosaic created of hand-cut rough-hewn stone pieces within the oval entryway. The elements (sky, clouds) featured with small reference to the Trail. A choke cherry tree, a river and a harsh desert environment is also shown. The wall

will be a 6' tall and 16' long diagonal. (The short end will be app. 3' tall.) The backside of the mosaic wall has not been finalized as the Design Team is not completely satisfied with the design. The wall is about 8" thick. Designs with carved concrete texturing, wrapped metal (in a quilt pattern) or a stone veneer are being researched for the backside of the wall. Vandalism on a mosaic could be problematic; however, pieces can be replaced. Clear-coating may be highly beneficial, as well.

Stone Column: This stone column is to be placed at the 22nd Street Entrance. It is a simple structure 12' tall made of blocks of limestone with white marble. Column made from lighter stone to capture the eye in reflection in the retaining pond. There will be script indicating it is a marker of the Overland Trail. The piece will be 12' square placed onto a concrete foundation. Stainless steel pipe runs through the sculpture. The column is made of heavy stone but has a delicate feel.

Design Team/Parks Staff Feedback

Compass Rose: Design Team's first choice is 12' circumference piece in order to have a presence within the scale of the park. It is an original and whimsical concept that speaks to the trek west. Exact placement is to be determined. They also like the full-circle benches-- preferably two benches as shown in the presentation.

Stone Column at 22nd Street: They liked reflection in the retaining pond and felt it would become an iconic marker for the park.

Mosaic Wall: They like the concept; however, the backside feels unfinished. There is a potential for graffiti on the wall as it provides a large "canvas." The mosaic wall in the visual line (of the Trail) is a nice concept. They want more research on how to make backside more attractive and graffiti-resistant.

VAC Direction

- Sherri suggested Robert come back with final recommendations.
- Develop the backside of the Mosaic Wall with additional choices (stone veneer, bands of color discussed). Poem, additional historic context, concrete form liner with way-finding devices, or same mosaic on both sides could be explored.
- VAC desired a final budget for the mosaic wall (with recommendations).

Blair Muhlestein. *Out of the Best Books*: The Muhlestein Gallery has inquired for permission to mold *Out of the Best Books* for future editions. There are concerns that copyright law prohibits re-molding the artwork; however, clarification is sought. The direction was for the gallery to provide documentation that Blair Muhlestein family holds the rights to re-mold the artwork for other editions.

Due to the length of the meeting many of the following items were tabled:

Transformations Project Recommendations

2012 Locations / Artists – Subcommittee Report: Subcommittee will meet directly after the meeting.

Agreement with Power Department: The AIPP does not have jurisdiction over the removal of cabinets. It was reiterated the AIPP signed an agreement with the Power Department stating that there is an understanding the boxes are federally regulated and AIPP has no control or authority over the utility cabinets.

Adopt-A-Garden Program – Lynn Kincanon: Tabled until July

The Art Advocacy Project (TAAP) 2012: Date for Subcommittee De-Briefing Meeting: Debriefing meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on July 12th.

Mural at Rialto Theater: Tabled until July.

Leslie Cleaners’/FIND Thrift Store Site: This project was been delayed. The FRP may be discussed in July.

Staff Reports/Updates

Rolling Dancing Moon by Reven Swanson Installation: Separate from the installation of this sculpture, the City will make significant changes (tree removal) at the grounds surrounding the Visitor’s Center and Chamber of Commerce buildings to create greater visibility from Highway 34. The site for installing the sculpture has been identified but installation is not expected until mid-to-late July.

I-25/Highway 34 Interchange: The IGA has been received and will be reviewed by the Legal Department.

AIMS Mural: The RFP for the project will take place very soon through the Office of Creative Sector Development.

The Gathering by Linda Prokop: Site Improvements: Tabled until July.

There was no City Council report.

Information Sharing: Lynn announced the Loveland Youth Gardener’s tour is on June 23rd. There will be 12 artists featured within the seven gardens. Tickets are \$15.00 each.

All commissioners viewed the sculptures at The Sequel Building. Following the viewing, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting length: 2:22