

CITY OF LOVELAND VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, December 12, 2013
LOVELAND MUSEUM/GALLERY: AUDITORIUM
5:00 PM: Regular VAC Business

The December 12, 2013 VAC meeting was officially called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Sherri Heckel Kuhlmann. Commissioners present: Roger Clark, Greg Hoff, Angela Canada Hopkins, Nancy Jakobsson, Maryjo Morgan, Judy O’Gorman, Charlie Jackson and Margie Rosborough. Also present were: Artist Margie Ellis, Jessica Benes (Reporter Herald), Moses Garcia (City Attorney), Councilman Phil Farley, VAC alternates Abby Powers, and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen.

Preliminary Matters

Additions or corrections to the December 12th meeting agenda: Maryjo Morgan requested to add discussion of Fire Station #2.

Corrections to November 21st meeting minutes: Greg Hoff was not present at the meeting. Nancy Jakobsson moved to accept the minutes with the correction. Roger Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen comments: There were no citizens present to comment on any VAC business.

VAC Business/Action Items

Transformer Cabinet, *Beyond Tomorrow* by Margie Ellis, VAC Members: Sherri provided information on the November 14th meeting decision and emails regarding modifying the transformer box, *Beyond Tomorrow*. She also explained that since that meeting, Canadian artist Steph McGowan had contacted City staff and alleged that one of her pieces of art had been plagiarized on the *Beyond Tomorrow* box. Sherri said that in the weeks since that email, Margie Ellis had explained that all sides of *Beyond Tomorrow* were “inspired” by other artists’ work found on the internet. (See attached letters from Margie Ellis.)

Moses Garcia, an attorney for the City of Loveland, gave a broad overview of copyright law and explained that the Visual Art Commission is not qualified (nor is the City willing) to make a legal determination regarding the artwork. Suzanne also gave a brief overview of the deaccession policy and the contract that was signed by Ms. Ellis, claiming ownership of all rights to the artwork she did for the VAC.

Ms. Ellis talked about her intentions when creating the artwork and offered possible solutions. There was lengthy discussion regarding the issues surrounding this transformer cabinet. Ultimately, Charlie Jackson moved to restore the box to its original look. Nancy Jakobsson seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 ayes and 2 nays.

Fire Station #2 Artwork, Suzanne: Ken Williams provided modifications for his original design concepts at Fire Station #2, which now fall within the original budget. Margie moved to accept the modifications as presented, barring concerns from the Fire Station design team. Roger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

List of 2013 Accomplishments and 2014 Goals: Suzanne distributed a preliminary list to the VAC and asked for additions and changes to be completed before the January meeting.

Staff Updates

VAC Interviews: Interviews of 4 applicants were conducted by Susan, Suzanne and Councilman Phil Farley. There will be discussion about the applicants and the final decision is anticipated next week.

TAAP 2-D Artwork: Call for Entry is out for the TAAP 2-D Artwork. The deadline has been extended to the first week of January.

Equinox by Action: The artist team had their first meeting with City staff. Moses Garcia attended the meeting and hopes to finalize the contract before year's end. The group is hoping to meet with McWhinney Enterprises next week to discuss the site tests completed in 2008 and there will be another meeting to discuss the painted finish on the sculpture. The VAC will be informed of that date once known and were invited to attend.

Letter to I-25/Highway 34 Finalists: The thank you letters will be going out to the artists who participated in the project this week.

City Council Update

- Phil Farley noted that the City's general fund revenues exceed expenditures by \$13.1 million.
- There was a discussion about the revitalization of downtown. The Destination Downtown event went very well and will be broadcast on Channel 16.
- The "quality of life" survey showed that people like living in Loveland.
- City Council discussed oil and gas regulations, marijuana regulations and the terms that were not mentioned in the original resolution, specifically relating to smoking on the front porch.
- Comcast Cable wants to build their new office in Loveland and are working to find a specific site.

Information Sharing

- Greg Hoff shared that in there is a wonderful collection of Western Art at the Russell Museum in Great Falls, Montana.
- Suzanne mentioned the Reporter-Herald is interested in working on a phone app for the public art collection (beginning with Benson Park). More information will be shared in January.

Adjournment Citing no further business, Charlie Jackson moved to adjourn. MaryJo seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm

Meeting length: 1:20.