

# **CULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MINUTES**

**Tuesday, December 8, 2015**

**4:30 PM**

## **LOVELAND MUSEUM**

**503 N Lincoln Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537**

**I.** The December 8, 2015 meeting of the Cultural Services Board was called to order at 4:33pm by Jan DesJardin in the downstairs Foote Gallery/Auditorium of the Loveland Museum.

**Board Members Present:** Juanita Cisneros, Jan DesJardin, Louise Kauffman, Teresa Mueller, and Kris Ortmann. Desiree Eremondi and Dr. Dierdre Cook were absent.

Also present were Susan Ison, Cultural Services Director; Bryan Zellmer, Rialto Theater Center Manager; and Tegan Hollen, Office Support Specialist.

### **Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

Kris Ortmann asked that a Reporter Herald Newspaper Digitization item be added to the Board Reports section of the agenda.

### **Additions or Corrections/Changes to the October 27, 2015 Minutes**

There were no additions or corrections/changes to the minutes.

### **Approval of the October 27, 2015 Minutes**

Kris Ortmann motioned for the October 27, 2015 minutes to be approved. Teresa Mueller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **II. Agenda Items**

### **Board Reports**

**CSB Accomplishments Update** – Kris Ortmann reviewed and recorded the activities that CSB members participated in during the past two months.

**Board Applications/Interviews** – Susan Ison informed board members that three applications were submitted for the two Cultural Services Board vacancies. Interviews will be conducted in early January after a new City Council liaison has been assigned to the board. Expiring members will need to attend future meetings until the new members are appointed.

**Reporter Herald Newspaper Digitization** – Kris Ortmann asked about an update regarding the storage and digitization of the Reporter Herald newspaper archive. Susan Ison explained that the Museum will partner with the Loveland Public Library to preserve these newspapers. The plan, pending further discussion with the Reporter Herald, is to have the Museum store the physical newspapers in the new collection storage building and the Library digitize newspapers for public use.

## **Cultural Services Department Reports**

**Museum Report** – Susan Ison spoke about current and upcoming events and exhibits at the Loveland Museum as well as other news.

- *Museum Questions:* Olson Kundig, the architect firm chosen to work with the Loveland Museum on plans for a potential expansion, provided Susan Ison with a set of eight questions to ask volunteers, community partners, and other community groups to guide their work. These questions included:
  - *What do you like about the current Museum?*
  - *What don't you like about the current Museum?*
  - *If you could make changes, what would they be?*
  - *What sort of attitude do you think the new addition should convey?*
    - *Understated*
    - *Iconic*
    - *Modern*
    - *Traditional*
  - *How could the Museum become a better gathering space for the community?*
  - *What would you want an out-of-town visitor to understand about the Museum and our city by seeing the building?*
  - *What would make you enjoy coming to the Museum more often?*

Responses from the Cultural Services Board included:

- Board members appreciate that the Museum is accessible to everyone, specifically regarding admission. The Museum is free except for the Main Gallery exhibits, but admission is often discounted with coupons or free on certain days and evenings.
- Board members also enjoy the Museum's focus on both local history and art, and that Museum programming is relevant to exhibits, but also offers a new angle for visitors to experience.
- Board members expressed that they feel the Museum could use more space for both its collection as well as exhibits, events, and classes, and that the redesign of some of these spaces could be done to make the Museum more inviting. This discussion included thoughts about adding a Museum café and bar, more lounge space, or more seating for visitors to use to sit and observe artwork.
- Board members thought that future Museum visitors need to know what the American Association of Museums accreditation means, perhaps how much work went into obtaining accreditation for the Museum and why it is important.

Board members also want visitors to know that the Museum is a City facility and that the community values it.

- *Recent Activities:* Susan Ison reviewed the 2015 Holiday Tree Lighting event, mentioning that it was well attended. Jan DesJardin provided similar feedback about the amount of people at the event and noted the printed maps with coupons provided to guide attendees this year were helpful. Overall, board members agreed that the changes made to the event format this year were well received.

**Rialto Theater Center Report** – Bryan Zellmer spoke about current and upcoming performances and events at the Rialto Theater Center as well as other news.

- *Recent Activities and 2015 in Review:* Board members were presented information about the highlights of 2015, including a number of shows that sold out or were near sell outs. These events and performances included both Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra performances, a number of the silent films shown, the Christo lecture, and the Vienna Boys Choir performance.
- *Rialto Film Program:* The new film program at the Rialto is moving forward with an advisory committee meeting scheduled for January 2016. This committee will help determine which films will be shown and the program will potentially debut in May 2016.
- *Footnote Lagoon Concerts:* Bryan Zellmer has met with Kaiser Permanente regarding funding for the concert series and will raise additional funds through January 2016, after which he will begin putting together the schedule and selecting performers.
- *Dave Brull:* Bryan Zellmer informed board members that Dave Brull has returned to work from medical leave.

### **City Council Report**

There was no City Council Report given at this meeting due to the pending assignment of a new liaison to the board.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Jan DesJardin and the Cultural Services Board wanted to express their thanks to Councilor Ralph Trenary for his service at the City Council liaison.
- Susan Ison presented the redesigned General and Membership brochures for the Museum as well as the new Membership brochure for the Rialto.
- Susan Ison spoke about the recent article in the Loveland Reporter Herald about the Shadow in the Arts program held at the Museum.
- Susan Ison reminded board members about Connecting the Dots, the professional development program Jenni Dobson, Curator of Education, has created. This program will continue in 2016.
- Tegan Hollen provided everyone with a schedule of the 2016 meeting dates for the Cultural Services Board.

**NEXT CULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING:** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 4:30 pm in the

Loveland Museum upstairs Conference Room.

### **III. Adjournment**

The Cultural Services Board meeting was adjourned at 5:41pm.