

**CITY OF LOVELAND  
VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING  
Loveland Museum/Gallery Upstairs Conference Room  
June 10, 2010, 5:00 p.m.**

The June 10th meeting of the Visual Arts Commission was officially called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Andrew Svedlow. Commissioners present: Randy Amys, Roger Clark, Nancy Jakobsson, Lynn Kincanon, Sherry Heckel Kuhlmann, Carol Sarchet, Andrew Svedlow and Josh Emrich. City Councilman Cecil Gutierrez, Councilwoman Joan Shaffer and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen were also present. Susan White reported her absence in advance.

**Additions or corrections to the agenda:** Addition: Action Items:

**Additions or corrections to the May 13th minutes:** This item was tabled until the June meeting to allow all commissioners time to review the minutes.

June 10th and June 17th, 2009 artist interview minutes were distributed to the commission for review and approval next month.

**Citizen Comments:** Bob Eatman (Library Board), Treva Heiser and Tom Hacker (Loveland Reporter-Herald) were present to observe the meeting.

**Action Items**

**Transformations Project:** Suzanne reported that because artist Amelia Caruso declined participation in the 2010 Transformations Project, Diane Findley has asked the commission to reconsider her design, *Aspens*. After some discussion, it was determined that the original voting of the selection panel should be utilized. Roger Clark motioned that Suzanne review the votes from the April 29 artwork selection panel meeting and award the vacant box to the artist with the greatest number of votes, provided there was not a tie. If there is a tie, the vacant box should not be painted. Carol Sarchet seconded the motion, The motion passed unanimously.

Suzanne shared the final designs for Kim Stenson's *Coin* transformer box and David Hobbs', *Free*, traffic cabinet. The commission approved both designs.

**Loveland Public Library RFP:** Suzanne shared the draft of the Request for Proposals for the Library Expansion Project, which was read out loud for modifications. This project will require all submissions through the CAFE website and actual design concepts must be provided. Submitting artists will have access to the same materials that ONSITE Artists were given. The commission wordsmithed the RFP to include and approved the timeline for art review.

Andrew offered an explanation of integrated artwork for the guests present, reiterating that the VAC's initial concept was to have an integrated project. He explained that the commission deals with the placement of 3-dimensional sculptural forms. Occasionally, the VAC also works with architects and planners at the beginning of the project so that artwork is totally integrated into the fabric of the building rather than placing an object "after the fact." In this case, the desire was to go beyond the standard step of architecture of placing artwork "in the plaza," but to create a

project where the architect, planners and the artists really have an opportunity to create something totally unique for visitors and users of these facilities. Integrated artwork is seen as another element of contemporary art. Josh reiterated the sentiment by saying that there can also be significant cost savings by integrating artwork within the fabric of the building in the early planning stages of a project, rather than trying to retrofit artwork into a space.

Susan distributed a printout from the Pittsburgh Public Art Project that clearly addresses the various means of creating public art, and describes the integrated art process particularly well. Susan also reported that the construction bids for the project came in about \$2 million lower than anticipated. Therefore, the AIPP monies will be closer to \$50,000 rather than the anticipated \$70,000.

VAC/Library Subcommittee: Susan White, Josh Emrich, Nancy Jakobsson, Carol Sarchet (alternate). The subcommittee will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 14th to determine the final artwork selections.

Suzanne shared a letter received from ONSITE Artists received after her visit to inform them of the change in direction at the May 13th VAC meeting. In addition to expressing their concerns, ONSITE Artists requested an additional \$8,500 for work completed in anticipation of final approval of their design concepts. (The commission decided to not make a decision on this request until after all final artwork selection for the Library has been made. Clarification of ONSITE Artists' actual expenses will be sought.)

**(Letter attached on following page)**

# ONSITE ARTISTS A Working Artists Group

ONSITE is a collective of six established and award-winning artists. We work together and independently to offer the highest quality site-integrated art, from large-scale design to intimate details. We also offer Design Team and Master Planning services.

Suzanne Janssen  
Public Art/Business Services Manager  
Art in Public Places  
Fifth and Lincoln  
Loveland, CO 80537

June 1, 2010

Dear Suzanne,

Onsite Artists received your letter of May 26, 2010, informing us of your decision to end our agreement with you at the end of the design phase, and to open a call to artists for the completion of Loveland's new Public Library Expansion art project.

We are both disappointed and concerned with your decision, especially since we have worked together now for many months. As you requested, Onsite Artists began working on the Library Expansion project six months ago. We worked diligently to meet the fast track deadlines and have completed an approved design that is ready to build. Your recent letter states that you have fulfilled your portion of the Library contract. Technically, that may be true, but we were requested to continue working on the designs to make them ready for final approval. We did this work with the understanding that we would have the chance to build the designs, and be compensated for our design fees during the course of the project.

We understand your need to consider the desires of artists in your local community as the next phase of this project begins. However, given the significant relationship we have established with you over the last several months, we believe we should (1) be compensated for all work completed since your last payment to us (uncompensated design fees listed on following page), and (2) pre-approve Onsite Artists as finalists for your open call to artists.

We look forward to hearing from you soon to discuss our next steps. A separate letter is forthcoming in regards to Onsite Artist's work on the Chilson Center.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Charles, Director  
Onsite Artist

## Design Fees:

Exterior Stone Pages	\$1500
Exterior & Interior Glass Pages	\$1445
Interior Wall	\$731
Interior Lantern	\$4392
<u>Consultation &amp; Coordination</u>	<u>\$500</u>

\$8568

Andrew expressed his positive feelings towards ONSITE Artists and that the selection of this group of artists was within the parameters of the commission's authority. While he was sympathetic to the concerns expressed by prominent local artists, he felt that the commission had made a commitment to ONSITE Artists. He felt that the commission and Library representatives were on-board with the design concepts, the architects had developed a relationship while working with ONSITE and, as of March 2010, only "clear sailing with ONSITE was on the horizon." From Andrew's perception, since the artwork was already in the final stages of acceptance, ONSITE artists should be accepted as a finalist in this process. Sherri, Randy and Roger all reiterated Andrew's sentiments. Nancy motioned to accept the RFP as edited. Randy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hatfield Chilson Recreation Center RFQ:** This project will require artists' qualifications consisting of professional references, 10 images of past work and residency within a 150-mile radius. Randy motioned to pay (up to) three finalists \$1,000 for presentations. Sherri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VAC Subcommittee: Roger, Sherri, Andrew, Randy and Lynn (alternate).

July 22nd at 6:00 p.m. for the artwork review meeting.

VAC August meeting date moved from August 12th to August 19th at 5:00 p.m.

Roger motioned to accept the modified RFQ for the Chilson Center. Sherri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Rialto Bridge RFQ for Design Team:** Susan spoke with Randy Shortridge, the architect for the Rialto Bridge project, regarding his experience in working with public artists. Randy indicated that he has worked successfully with artists on past design teams, and felt they could work together to identify public art opportunities. Randy indicated his preference for artwork that is functional (such as benches and gates) and integrated into the building. The anticipated AIPP monies generated is estimated at \$20,000, unless the commission decides to add additional funding. (The total project estimated at \$4 million: City portion 50%) Roger felt that the

commission should consider spending more than \$20,000 for the project as this building will have high public usage.

Susan and Suzanne will review the RFQ based upon VAC feedback on the other RFP and RFQ. The commission decided to pay artists an hourly rate to serve on the design team. Residency within a 150-mile radius will also be required.

Roger Clark motioned to spend up to \$5,000 for the artist to serve on the design team. Randy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. An updated hourly rate comparison will be sought. Rialto Bridge subcommittee: Lynn, Nancy, Carol, Susan White, Roger, and Josh (alternate).

**Kitchen Alley Alleyway:** Mayor Gutierrez recommended the commission move forward with utilizing the renovated alleyway (between Kitchen Alley and Baja Grill). While the renovation is terrific, the space lacks color and dimension. Mayor Gutierrez recommended the commission give thought to a public art project for that location. Mosaics and murals may pose a nice solution; however, the facades of both buildings are rather fragile so care will need to be taken. Roger stated that historic murals were of interest to the Historical Preservation Commission. Other elements discussed were: the need for shade, open to incorporating other media, perhaps the incorporation of textiles, flags, and overhangs to create shade.

This item will be tabled for a few months due to the present workload. A master plan for downtown murals/artwork will be revisited.

Mayor Gutierrez reminded commissioners that an alley naming contest is underway on the city's website.

**Highway 287 Underpass:** The artist presentation for final design work will take place in July as issues regarding some concrete panels need to be worked out. All is on target for the fall installation.

**Window Art:** Mr. Neat's Building: Robin Dodge is under contract and has begun painting the sunflower design. Suzanne, her son Austin, and Robin spent a total of 13 hours scraping and preparing the windows for painting. Suzanne requested the commission pay for this service in the future.

Thrift Store Windows: Sheldon James has offered to paint the windows of this building as a Night on the Town activity, possibly using public participation, at no charge. There was much discussion.

Roger motioned to allow Sheldon James to paint the windows. Lynn seconded the motion. Sherri questioned allowing the project without a policy in place as other artists may relish the opportunity to do so, as well. Andrew looked at the project as a donation and suggested requesting sketches as requested in the donation policy. The motion was withdrawn and reworded by Roger. The new motion stated that the commission move forward to see how the project complies with the new donation policy, and if it does, allow the artist to paint the

windows once there has been a review of his sketches. Lynn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TAAP:** Dedication is on Friday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Rialto Theater lobby. A copy of the schedule for Night on the Town activities was distributed.

**OzMill by Tim Upham:** The sculpture was reinstalled on Friday, May 29th. Commissioners were informed that the paddle wheel section and bearing system were redesigned as they had been scrapped by the artist.

**Entranced by the Mbira by Gift Muchenje:** Suzanne shared photos of the proposed locations for the installation of the sculpture. Relocation will be within two weeks.

### **Staff Reports**

**Sculpture in the Dark:** Suzanne asked if any commissioners would like to serve as a judge for the Sculpture in the Dark snow sculpting competition sponsored by Engaging Loveland in December 2010. Josh volunteered to serve as a judge.

### **Information Sharing**

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.: The Community Foundation will host a press conference which will address all City arts initiatives currently being offered to support local artists. The event is open to the public and all commissioners are encouraged to attend. The press conference will be held at the Art Lab on Fourth Street.

The Cultural Services Department seasonal calendar and Triad exhibit information was distributed.

Roger Clark shared that he does not wish to have the 150-mile radius residency limitation on future requests for artist calls for entry. There have been presentations from artists in other states made to the VAC and the commission should not limit future projects. Susan agreed, with the exception of artists serving on design teams, as a matter of ease in communication with the architects.

A meeting will be held on June 16th between city staff, Councilwoman Shaffer and Mayor Gutierrez in an effort to reach an understanding regarding early integration of the AIPP in City capital projects.

It is anticipated that an event will be held at the Chapungu Sculpture Garden with second weekend in August. The event will be educational in nature, specifically addressing family and African culture.

Lynn shared information regarding the Loveland Youth Gardeners Garden Tour on Saturday, June 26th. There will be a silent auction (bird baths), private lunch and boat rides offered in addition to the tour.

Roger shared how many fantastic comments he has received regarding the *Persistence of Vision* by Pat Kennedy. Commissioners thanked Roger for the great job he did serving as emcee of the dedication on May 26th.

**Adjournment:** Sherri motioned to adjourn. Andrew seconded the motion.

**Meeting length:** 1:55