

CITY OF LOVELAND VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Loveland Museum/Gallery Upstairs Conference Room
April 8, 2010 ** 5:00 p.m.

The April 8th meeting of the Visual Arts Commission was officially called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Chairwoman Susan White. Commissioners present: Randy Amys, Roger Clark, Nancy Jakobsson, Josh Emrich, Lynn Kincanon, Sherri Heckel Kuhlmann, Andrew Svedlow (via Skype from the Ukraine) and Susan White. Mayor Cecil Gutierrez and Councilwoman Joan Shaffer, and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen were also present. Carol Sarchet reported her absence in advance.

Additions or corrections to the agenda: **Corrections:** None. **Additions:** Action Item: Window art

Additions or corrections to the minutes: **Corrections:** Deaccessioning Policy: End of line 2: Sherri requested to change the end of line 2 to read “in specific circumstances” rather than “with specific reasons.” Nancy Jakobsson seconded the motion. Sherri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen comments: There were no citizens available to comment.

Elemental Discovery II by Sheldon James: Sheldon James’ proposed design concept to coordinate with the mural, *Elemental Discovery*, was submitted for approval. Susan White expressed her pleasure with the drawings and felt they “would be awesome” next to the mural. All commissioners agreed. Roger Clark motioned to accept the design for *Elemental Discovery II*. Sherri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Entranced by the Mbira by Gift Muchenje: Commissioners were asked for feedback regarding the Civic Center site for the relocation of *Entranced by the Mbira* by Gift Muchenje. Suzanne indicated that Roy Guthrie has expressed interest in assisting with the relocation. Susan Ison suggested that relocating the stone work near the steps (in the planter) may be a better location than closer to the bridge due to the great number of utilities and structural issues associated with that location. Susan White felt it was important to keep the sculpture at the Civic Center site but was open to looking at the stairwell planter. Lynn recommended placement across the street from the Rialto Theater; however, due to the uncertainty over the potential remodeling of Fourth Street and the probable need for relocation of the sculpture if placed at that site, that location was viewed as problematic. Susan and Suzanne will revisit the Civic Center site to determine placement in the planting bed. This item will be addressed next month.

2010 Transformations Project: The final list of boxes was distributed for the commission’s review. Two additional locations (Walmart location near the Highway 287 Underpass and the Starbucks on Highway 287) were not pictured but should be included on that list. Suzanne reviewed the schedule for the Transformations Project with the commission. (Artwork selection committee meeting on April 29th, followed by an artist meeting in May.)

Window Art: There is a desire to remove the existing icicle design on the windows at the Mr. Neat’s building. There was discussion about showcasing local artist’s artwork; however, the lack of lighting and access to the building is problematic. Andrew mentioned contacting Sandy Sawyer with the school district’s LISA Program for design concepts in the fall of 2010. Ultimately, it was determined to

commission a new spring/summer design now by contacting the 2009 Transformations artists, and seek assistance from the LISA program in the fall

Library Expansion Design Concepts: Suzanne reported that ONSITE Artists were confused by the March 18th memo from the VAC/Library subcommittee regarding design feedback. After some explanation, David Griggs requested a meeting with City and Library staff to address the concerns. At that meeting, he requested that staff prioritize the Library design concepts. Suzanne distributed a revised memo (see below) with changes in red.

NOTES FROM 3-18-2010 DISCUSSION REGARDING LIBRARY EXPANSION ARTWORK

Updated on 3-24-10 to show priority of projects

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION DESIRED: Exterior, entryway and lantern.

#1 Priority: Robert Tully's Sculpture: Love the concept and execution. Clarity desired on color of stone. Architects can get quote for pouring the concrete pad closer to time of installation (to get best price).

Lighting of sculpture desired from above (out of reach) due to the potential of vandalism and to be in compliance with LEED requirements. Two light fixtures will be added to the "faux" wall to light both sides of the sculpture.

Priority #2: Lantern: Liked the concept and inclusion of text/texture provided by words on the glass works, shadows on the walls, etc. Clarification needed on lighting source(s) for Lantern. Would special fixtures be required, if so, style, cost, etc.

Concerns expressed by Library staff that the glasswork felt too contemporary and "cool" for the overall nature theme and color palette already selected by architectural design panel. Could color palette be changed to reflect blues/greens as seen in other areas of Library (warmer, organic tones)? Also, a desire for more organic shapes rather than the rectangular shapes presented.

Priority #3: Virginia Folkstad's "Pages" concept: Color of stone? Desire to move the location to the other side of the façade, beginning near the Robert Tully piece (at the faux wall) and continuing to the interior of the building along brick wall to the lantern. **Incorporation of glass with dekeled edges when entering into interior area of vestibule into the Lantern space.**

Priority #4: Stairwell: Susan Cooper: Incorporation of glass and text as presented for the galleria to be interpreted into this stairwell space. Text more readable than in lantern. Possible incorporation of plexi-glass panels of text to allow for changing of verbiage.

Priority #5: Entryway: Can the entry way be interpreted to pull in some of the glass/color/shapes that will be in the Lantern area?

Priority #6: Jim Green's sound artwork: Depending upon the cost, there is an interest in incorporating sound in the entryways and Lantern area. Preference over natural sounds, possibly mixed with words. Preference is to avoid cast artwork to house sound unit(s).

INTERIOR OF BUILDING

Galleria: Library and Facilities staff believe the artwork presented by Virginia and Susan would compete with other visual elements in the space. It was made known that the Library intends to use the walls for

display of children and adult's artwork, postings, etc. Concerns that the pages/words concepts will be lost visually in an area that will be very active with Library related materials (as opposed to a blank wall space for showcasing the artwork). Concerns expressed over the additional lighting required as architects have determined the galleria will have "cloud clusters" of lighting (several groups of 3 cylindrical fixtures suspended from ceiling). Library staff felt that the galleria should not be a priority for additional artwork.

Another meeting is scheduled with ONSITE Artists for April 29th at 4:30 p.m. to address Library design concepts and 5:30-6:30 p.m. for the initial design concepts for the Chilson Center expansion.

Susan Ison shared an email from Dan Ostermiller to many local artists, Nikki Garshelis and Keven Aggers regarding the hiring of ONSITE Artists for the Civic Center projects. The initial email was not sent to the Visual Arts Commission. There has been no direct contact from Dan Ostermiller to the Cultural Services Department. Susan Ison wrote a response to Don Williams to share with City Council which addressed the contracting of ONSITE Artists for the Civic Center projects. This memo has also been shared with Mr. Ostermiller.

There was lengthy discussion amongst the commission as to the best way to proceed with the concerns. Andrew reiterated that the timeline for the Library and Chilson Center expansions were problematic and the commission took responsibility for their charge within the City. Hiring ONSITE Artists was a practical, responsible choice as this six-member artist group has extensive experience with integrating art within the fabric of a facility. The commission enabled artwork to be present at those sites specifically because the necessary decisions were made in a timely fashion, given the construction schedules. Additionally, the decision to move forward was a partnership decision with the other City departments. The breadth of ONSITE Artists experience was discussed, specifically, the diversity of media the group is able to present given their cooperative structure. The benefits of working collaboratively with six artists was seen as having positive impact upon the projects.

Roger Clark will meet with Dan Ostermiller and George Lundeen to explain the timeline concerns. If concerns still exist, the artists will be encouraged to formally voice their concerns to the Visual Arts Commission.

Library artwork relocations will be contracted through Northwest Colorado Construction (Ken Williams).

Persistence of Vision by Pat Kennedy: All is on target for the May 24th installation. The concrete pad has been poured by the Facilities Department. Suzanne requested assistance with the dedication for set-up and clean-up. Nancy Jakobsson and Lynn Kincanon have offered to assist. Susan Ison reported that the Rialto Theater Guild donated \$1,600 for a black metal bench to be placed near the sculpture (in front of Henry's Restaurant). The sculpture dedication will take place on Wednesday, May 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Budget Format: Ten-Year projections were distributed to the commission. Additionally, the revised yearly budget showing the 2009 actual figures and the 2010 projections were discussed in detail. Feedback regarding the budget and the new format was favorable.

Andrew signed off Skype so CAFÉ could be accessed through the Internet. Prior to signing off Andrew gave a brief description of his living quarters and the town in which he temporarily resides. He finds the

town interesting (and relatively unchanged since the 1940s) and finds the teaching and Ukrainian people spectacular. He will return to the United States after May 29th.

The Art Advocacy Project (TAAP): Six finalists were recommended for inclusion in the 2010 TAAP by the jury selection panel. Each of the proposed sculptures were reviewed online. The finalists are:

- *Pink Amaryllis Bulb* by Charles
- *Ayse* by Belgin Yucelen
- *Couple* by Charolette Zink
- *See Through Other Eyes: Spotted Owl* by Ellen Woodbury
- *Blue Grama* by Kevin Shaffer
- *Uncomplicated Moon* by Reven Marie Swanson

Overall impressions of 2010 CAFÉ submissions: The number of on-loan temporary sculptures in other Colorado cities is now more commonplace and the number of local artists applying for the program was low, even though the People's Choice Award for 2010 was made known to artists. There was discussion regarding renewing existing contracts for an additional year should the VAC not accept the recommendations of the jury selection panel.

A review of present TAAP sculptures was made. *Heron Rising* by Rosetta has been offered to the commission to purchase for \$36,000. Lynn asked the commission to revisit the purchase even though exact placement is uncertain. Lynn recommended placing the sculpture at the SW corner of Fifth Street and Lincoln Avenue, in the present location of *The End of Hope* by Amos Supini. Mayor Gutierrez indicated that, although specific plans are uncertain, remodeling activity along Fourth Street is likely and a location for *Heron Rising* will then become apparent. Converting the sculpture back into a fountain is desired provided maintenance issues can be adequately addressed. Lynn made a motion to purchase *Heron Rising* by Rosetta for \$36,000, and leave the sculpture on its present site until a suitable fountain location can be developed. Nancy Jakobsson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Clarification as to whether or not an artist could have multiple pieces in TAAP was sought. It was determined that only one piece per year should be accepted.

Roger Clark motioned to accept all of the proposed sculptures but not retain the 2009 TAPP sculptures. Randy Amys seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Information Sharing: Susan Ison shared that the April 13th City Council Study Session would address the proposed Rialto Theater Bridge project.

The Coloradoan news article regarding the relocation of *Transcendence* by Collen Nyanhongo was distributed.

The commission was asked to meet on Thursday, April 22nd to review the Governor's Invitational Show and Sale.

Meeting Length: 1 hour 55 minutes