

CITY OF LOVELAND VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Loveland Museum/Gallery Upstairs Conference Room
January 14, 2010 5:00 p.m.

The January 14th meeting of the Visual Arts Commission was officially called to order at 5:05p.m. by Chairwoman Susan White. Commissioners present: Chris Buford, Roger Clark, Nancy Jakobsson, Lynn Kincanon, Sherry Heckel Kuhlmann, Carol Sarchet, and Susan White. City Councilman Cecil Gutierrez and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen were also present. Randy Amys and Andrew Svedlow reported their absences in advance.

Additions or corrections to the agenda: Corrections: Susan White recommended a revision of agenda to postpone the first two action items, VAC Reappointments and VAC Elections, until February 2010, as not all candidates for the Visual Arts Commission had been interviewed. **Additions:** None

Additions or corrections to the minutes: Corrections: Sherri inquired as to whether or not the minutes should reflect there were concerns expressed over which of the expenses pertaining to artwork relocations were to come from AIPP budget. Suzanne indicated that it is in the minutes but, it could be reiterated/stated more strongly. Sherri felt that the minutes should state that determining those expenses was to be an action item. Carol motioned to accept the minutes as revised. Nancy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: Suzanne read an email sent by Sharon Citino (City Attorney) expressing her appreciation for *Elemental Discovery* by Sheldon James and the transformer boxes Downtown.

Action Items

VAC Reappointments: This item is tabled until February 2010.

VAC Elections: This item is tabled until February 2010.

Loveland High Plains Arts Council (LHPAC) Donation Presentation/Discussion: Harry Love, President of the LHPAC Board, introduced Polly Juneau and Kim Summit (VP of LHPAC Board) and provided an update of their 2009 accomplishments. Additionally, he personally recognized the contributions of each Visual Arts Commissioner, Councilman Gutierrez and staff liaisons.

Sales from 2008 allowed for the purchase an installation of 7 new sculptures in Benson Park, which now boasts 130 sculptures valued at over \$4 million. The year 2009 posed challenges for artists and each of the sculpture shows. Changes in the 2009 show from prior years:

- A reduction in the number of artists participating allowed for more space per artist and additional artwork pieces were allowed on display
- Sales down 15-20% but still very strong

Looking forward into 2010: The LHPAC Board will have a retreat to look at the following questions: “Where do we go from here?” and “What happens when Benson Park is full?”

This year’s donation proposal is a large, monumental work, *The Bell Keepers* by Bruce Papatto, valued at \$84,000. The piece will be cast at Art Castings in Loveland. Suzanne inquired as to the narrative behind the sculpture and Roger asked if Polly could ask the artist for more detail about the historic event depicted. Placement of *The Bell Keepers* will be determined. Chris asked why the Board chose this sculpture over other submissions. Harry indicated that this work appeared unique amongst the other

submissions, as well as the other artwork presently within Benson Park. *The Bell Keepers* was consistently at the top of each voting round and the Board felt that, if the work could be acquired within the budget, *The Bell Keepers* would be a unique addition to the sculpture garden.

The legal notice will be run in the Loveland Reporter-Herald and the official motion for acceptance will be made at the February meeting.

Chilson Center Expansion: Keven Aggers: Suzanne reported that the Parks Department is very interested in having public art on-site; however, they were adamant about not meeting with the Visual Arts Commission until the architects/staff presented their plans to the City Council. Keven Aggers will be present at the February VAC meeting to discuss the project. Parks staff was present at a meeting with the ONSITE Artists in December and expressed interest in Virginia Folkestadt's artwork. Suzanne provided the architectural renderings of the proposed building expansion. Similar to the Library, the recreation division is using water as their theme for the site.

In addition to the new spaces created with the expansion, particularly an exterior wall near the pool, Keven feels that the existing reception area and the space between the gym and the locker rooms (which will remain the same) present wonderful opportunity for public art.

Library Expansion Update: ONSITE Artists Contract: December 22nd, a meeting was held between representatives of the Parks, Cultural Services, Library and Facilities staff, Mark Belford (Architect) and the ONSITE Artists team. Five of the six artists were in attendance (David Griggs, Susan Cooper, Virginia Folkestadt, Robert Tully, Emmett Culligan), along with Kathryn Charles, ONSITE Artists' Executive Director. During this meeting, each of the artists gave a quick presentation of their artwork, which demonstrated a wide breath of knowledge, skill and talent. There was open communication with Mark Belford as the artists inquired about present themes, desires and a "wish list" for the site.

Mark Belford was open to hearing all artwork concepts the artists may present. The artists will use water as their overriding theme, and strive to bring the outdoors inside. ONSITE Artists would like to begin work immediately on the project, providing the VAC approves their fee of \$100 per hour (with a maximum expense of \$5,000) for the design work. The artists' group will come to the February meeting with design concepts within the anticipated \$70K-\$80K range for the expansion. It was also noted that the commission could choose to use additional funds for public artwork at this site, if they decide it's appropriate.

Representatives from the Library, Library Board and the Facilities Department are expected to be present at the presentation.

Commissioners were sent an email link to www.lynnlarttoform.com to review prior to the meeting. Lynnel is the company presently considered by the architects for the Library's glass panels within the fireplace room and the children's area. The budgets for the glass walls are \$6000 and \$7,200 respectively. This budget is not part of the AIPP budget. Sharon Anhorn and Robin Evans are two respected local artists and it was suggested that perhaps they should be considered for the project. Whether or not the architects will be able to obtain artwork from the local artists within that budget, is questionable. There was a strong inclination to allow the architects to continue on their present pathway and not involve the VAC in the glass panels, other than in a consulting capacity. ONSITE Artists were also given the link to Lynnel and will work with the design chosen (and may present ideas of their own).

Details as to how much of the budget will be consumed by the removal, storage and reinstallation of the existing artwork needs to be determined prior to final selection of pieces.

Sherri moved to allow ONSITE Artists to proceed with design concepts, with a maximum expenditure of \$5,000. Nancy Jakobsson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Accomplishments and Goals: Suzanne provided a list of the commission's 2009 accomplishment and 2010 goals to date. That list is below:

2009 Accomplishments

New Art in Public Places brochure published

22 new outdoor works of art added to the Downtown business district

Approved seven new sculptures for Benson Sculpture Garden and Walbye Family Donation
(to be placed in front of the Rialto Theater)

Artwork commissioned for the Highway 287 Underpass

Maintenance for artwork collection

Three New Programs Developed in 2009

The Art Advocacy Project (called TAAP - "Tap"): Six sculptures on temporary loan for one year

Transformations Project: 18 power transformer boxes painted with unique and diverse designs

Elemental Discovery by Sheldon James: Downtown Mural located at 5th Street and Cleveland Avenue

Goals for 2010

Continuation of The Art Advocacy Project (TAAP) May 2010-2011

Continuation of the Transformations Project

New public art commissions for the Loveland Library Expansion

(including the relocation/storage and reinstallation of existing artwork)

New public art commissions for the Chilson Recreation Center Expansion

(including the relocation/storage and reinstallation of existing artwork)

Approval of donation(s) for Benson Sculpture Garden

Revision of current Acquisition, Donation and Deaccession Policies

Artwork research for Museum/Gallery Expansion Sculpture Garden

Completion of Highway 287 Underpass

After review, Susan White added the following (the next morning): Dedication of funds for Museum/Gallery Expansion Sculpture Garden

Participation in Boards and Commissions Summit (2 reps needed): Lynn Kincanon and Carol Sarchet will represent the VAC at the Wednesday, February 17th Boards and Commissions Dinner held at the Stonehouse Grill at the Marianna Butte Clubhouse.

PTTSAAES by Robert Mangold Maintenance: Suzanne noted that Turning Leaf Printing was to submit a bid for repainting the sculpture, which is badly scarred by skateboarders. Two painting products were being compared: Pinnacol 460 vs. a red marine finish paint. She had not yet received the bid but was anticipating it to be no more than the original painting of the sculpture (\$1,400). Nancy Jakobsson motioned to repaint PTTSAAES, with an amount not to exceed \$1,400. Chris Buford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Date for January Retreat: The date for the retreat was postponed due to multiple schedule conflicts. After much discussion, it was determined that a new date would be chosen at the February meeting. (Nancy recommended later in the meeting that the VAC retreat be held Downtown so that the commission could easily walk to potential sculpture installation sites.)

Date for Policy Review: Sherri will review her calendar for dates and times that work to review the proposed policies.

Cultural Services Newsletter: Susan shared that the Cultural Services newsletter will undergo changes due to budget constraints. The inclusion of Art in Public Places activities is desired as a means of community outreach and to provide a means of sharing commission business. The newsletter redesign is 24-pages and the expenses would be shared as follows: the Museum having 11 pages the Rialto Theater having 9 pages, and the Art in Public Places Program having 4 pages. The cost to the VAC would be approximately \$3,500 if the newsletter is sent 3 times per year or \$4,700 if sent 4 times per year. Nancy felt it was a great idea and more people would be inclined to read the newsletter than if the commission were to produce a separate mailing. Susan White prefers a quarterly newsletter and expressed that it would be a great way to pull more citizens in for a jury process such as TAAP or Transformations. Suzanne expressed interest in using the newsletter to further develop the department's artist database.

Roger felt that the department staff should determine the number of mailings per year, although he did prefer quarterly, if possible. Sherri motioned that the VAC participate in the Cultural Services newsletter, whether it is mailed 3-4 times per year, with a cost not to exceed \$5,000. Carol Sarchet seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff/Commissioner Reports

TAAP 2010 Update: Suzanne proposed the following TAAP timeline for the commission's approval:

- Call for Entry live on CaFE: Feb 2
- Deadline for submissions: Friday, March 26th
- Jury Selection meeting: Thursday, April 1st
- Dedication date: Friday, June 11 at 6:00 p.m. (Night on the Town)

Additional Suggestions

- Citizen Selection Panel: Use same panel as last year as they understand the process but, replace those who are unable to participate this year with new citizens. This will create a rotation of people through the panel, with a maximum service of consecutive years served.
- VAC subcommittee will consist of Sherri, Lynn, Nancy, Carol and Susan.

Transformations 2010 Update: Suzanne proposed the following TAAP timeline for the commission's approval. Suzanne reported that the timeline was backed up to allow artists to begin painting prior to the intense summer heat.

2010 Timeline

- Call for Entry out of February 16th
- Deadline for submission: April 16th
- Jury Selection Panel: Wednesday, April 28th, 5:00 p.m.
- Artists to begin painting by mid-May
- Completion of transformer boxes: August 31
- Dedication: Friday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m. (Night on the Town)

Additional Key Points

- Northern Colorado artists (Longmont north permitted)
- Susan requested that there be a call for a citizen panel, larger review space and a formal selection process (similar to TAAP).
- VAC Subcommittee: Roger and Lynn

Dan McQueen (Staff Liaison for Water & Power) will be retiring soon. He recommended the use of a large new box that will be installed at Madison Avenue and Highway 34. It was determined to wait until construction was completed and citizens have become accustomed to that intersection prior to the painting

of a box at that location. Major roadways and a completion of the boxes Downtown in desired is 2010. Susan suggested choosing a transformer box near the Old Course on 29th Street.

Susan Ison asked to return to **The Art Advocacy Project (TAAP)** discussion and inquired as to whether or not the commission would be open to holding a citizen vote (“People’s Choice”) award and purchase of one TAAP sculpture each year. There was much discussion regarding the pros and cons of holding a public vote. Suzanne shared that People’s Choice purchases can be problematic as it is often difficult to host a fair voting process. Roger recommended that in 2010 the commission allow for a way for the public to vote on a People’s Choice award; however, the work is not automatically purchased. This voting process could be promoted in the newsletter (and online) and the sculpture could receive special recognition (plaque). Roger motioned to begin the People’s Choice beginning in 2010. Carol seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger moved to form a subcommittee to determine if the commission will purchase *Heron Rising* by Rosetta, and whether or not it is feasible to become a fountain. There was general discussion and this motion was not addressed. Susan White recalled that the Library desires a fountain on the patio (of the expansion). Nancy indicated that she felt the patio seemed to be an ideal location. Another location suggested was at the corner of Fifth Street and Lincoln, in the planter presently occupied by *The End of Hope* by Amos Supini. Susan White asked that all commissioners give serious thought to the placement of artwork at new sites. Both Chapungu sculptures need to be given serious consideration as they are important artwork within the collection. Lynn recommended relocation of *Entranced by the Mbira* become this month’s homework!

Northwest Colorado Construction provided an estimate for the removal of *Need to Know* by Hollis Williford, *The Knowledge Giver* by Seth Vandable and *Entranced by the Mbira* by Gift Muchenje was \$3,560. This estimate could be doubled for all of the other sculpture within the Library. Ken Williams preferred not moving *Entranced by the Mbira* more than once. Suzanne will inquire as to whether or not it could be stored at the Chapungu warehouse, if needed.

Highway 287 Underpass: Federal highway funding for this project has been postponed until July 2010. The timeline for the artwork has been extended until late fall. Mary Lucking and Pete Goldlust are okay with the extended timeline.

2010 Budget Format: This item was tabled until February as the year-end financials were not yet available from the Finance Department. Approximately \$250,000 is anticipated to be carried over from 2009 into 2010, with \$175,000 of that figure earmarked for the Loveland Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden acquisitions.

Information Sharing:

Susan Ison shared that LMG made the Denver Post’s 2009 Top 10 Art Exhibits with *Wayne Thiebaud: 70 Years of Painting*. Additionally, she mentioned an Article in the Coloradoan newspaper regarding the Phyllis Walbye Film Series and the dedication of *Persistence of Vision* by Pat Kennedy on May 26, 2010. Suzanne shared that when Jan Sawyer met with the Historic Preservation Commission about the 90th Anniversary of the Rialto Theater, it was mentioned that May is Historic Preservation Month. The commission asked if the VAC would be interested in expanding the anniversary celebrations. Suzanne asked if the commission was interested in closing off Fourth Street, getting tents and hiring a band for the dedication. The commission was in favor of supporting these expenses.

Carol shared textile work and the artwork of Janet Echelman. Coincidentally, Nancy shared artwork by the same artist! This artist was featured in Public Art Review several years ago.



Councilman Gutierrez mentioned the City Council Retreat scheduled for Friday, January 9th and Saturday, January 10th.

Water Sky Garden by Janet Echelman, 2009, British Columbia

At 6:39 p.m., Carol motioned to adjourn. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting length: 1:34