

Abbie R Powers      *Approved*

**CITY OF LOVELAND VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018 5:00 PM  
LOVELAND MUSEUM, 503 N. LINCOLN AVENUE, LOVELAND**

The September 6, 2018 VAC meeting was called to order at 5:12pm by Chairwoman Abbie Powers. Commissioners present: Angela Brill, Blas Estrada, Bruce Gueswel, Greg Hoff, Maryjo Morgan, Abbie Powers, Margie Rosborough, and Jade Windell. Absent: Sara Turner. Councilwoman Kathi Wright and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen, Cindy Mackin (Visitor's Services Manager), Mindy McCloughan (CEO, Loveland Chamber of Commerce), Dan Willadsen (Parks Manager, P & R), Kelly Smith (Parks Planner, P & R), Bryan Harding (Planning Manager, P & R), Jill Hood (Electrical Distribution Designer, Power Dept.) and Kim O'Field (Technical Specialist, Power Dept.) were also present.

- A. Introduction of Blas Estrada, New VAC member:** The commission introduced themselves to Blas Estrada, a new VAC member.
- B. Attendance:** Reflected above.
- C. Additions or Corrections to the September 6, 2018 Meeting Agenda:** Several items were moved from Staff Updates to VAC Action Items:  
Item K: Loveland Mural Grant, *Ladyface* Mural by Wildrose Hamilton, 426 N. Lincoln Avenue  
Item L: *Water & Power* maquettes by Mark Leichliter  
M: The Foundry, *Shimmering Hues to Solar Muse* by James Dinh and Michael Stutz  
**Staff Updates: Additions**  
Item I: Bill Reed Tour(s): Public Art Tours  
Item J: Kum & Go sign
- D Additions or Corrections to the August 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes:** Angela motioned to accept the minutes. Maryjo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Citizen Comments:** There were no additional residents in attendance to speak regarding VAC business.
- F. AIPP Budget:** The September 2018 AIPP budget was distributed and reviewed. Four additional projects added to page 2: Downtown Event Power Cabinet, Police Regional Training Institute, Viestenz-Smith Park and Highway 34 Median. There were no questions or comments regarding the budget.

**VAC Business/Action Items**

- A. Viestenz-Smith Memorial Artwork:** Parks Staff Presentation: Parks Planner Kelly Smith provided a detailed description of the renovations made to the Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park following the September 2013 flood that devastated the Big Thompson Canyon. Phase One was completed in

November 2017. This phase (a FEMA project) concentrated on making the park more resilient to future floods and ecologically sensitive to the river. Three Civilian Conservation Corps buildings remain on the site. Biotechnology and bioengineering have been integrated into the redesign for slope stabilization, erosion control, and the restoration of native plantings. Additionally, the Big Thompson River was relocated to its natural (south) trajectory. Kelly indicated that the park's character has dramatically changed from a manicured, urban park to a foothills mountain park with non-irrigated native grasses. There is no longer potable water, irrigation lines or a caretaker living on-site. Phase Two of the project focused upon expanding the parking lot and creating concrete walkways for visitors. The mountain park is scheduled to open to the public on September 28, 2018.

Kelly asked that the AIPP funds generated from Phase Two and recent improvements at the Loveland Sports Park be combined to create a memorial in remembrance of the 55 memorial plaques that were washed away during the 2013 flood. (Of the original plaques, only 12 have been recovered, all in severe disrepair.) The department was open to an artistic interpretation of a memorial, incorporating artwork beyond a listing of names and dates. Families whose plaques had been destroyed were notified that a memorial of some kind would be built at the Viestenz-Smith Park; however, the form was not identified. Kelly stated that the individual memorial donor program for that park has been discontinued.

The commission reviewed a sample Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the project. An aerial photograph of the park's master plan was suggested and will be provided to the finalists. After discussion regarding an appropriate amount of money for the project, Maryjo motioned to approve \$40,000, with the ability to increase that amount, if needed, for the memorial design concept. Greg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (This item was revisited near the end of the meeting and there was much discussion about possible installation sites, including how to best protect the artwork from vandalism and future flooding. Ultimately, it was determined to leave the project budget at \$40,000 and see how artists are able to interpret the site.)

- B. Valentine's Event – Art Placement: Economic Development Staff Presentation:** Mindy McCloughan and Cindy Mackin presented information regarding the community's Valentine Remailing Program and celebration activities. The Chamber of Commerce received a grant for a new downtown Valentine event to be held February 8-9, 2018. That event will include the following: Laser projections upon a large heart display, "Sweetheart Love" art gallery featuring local artists, interactive art displays, live music, a snow slide, neon biodegradable balloon release, chocolate tasting and wine/beer tastings, and a little Miss Valentine & Cupid Contest. As part of this celebration, the Chamber will create a large sculptural LOVE sign, inspired by the *Love Locks* bridge installation in Paris. This 10' x 33' x 3' metal *Love Locks* sculpture, engineered and fabricated by Doug Rutledge, has a mesh backside designed to support the weight of metal locks. The public will be encouraged to attach their personal locks or purchase locks through the Chamber of Commerce (a fundraiser for the ongoing maintenance of *Love Locks*).

Commissioners provided feedback on the design for the Chamber of Commerce's consideration and several expressed their enthusiasm for the project. This project will be owned and maintained by the

Chamber of Commerce and will be permanently installed near the Visitor's Center along Highway 34. Because of its placement within the City right-of-way, Mindy asked the commission for placement approval as presented. Greg motioned to accept the installation of *Love Locks* as presented. Jade second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Downtown Power Cabinet: Water Dept. Presentation:** Jill Hood and Kim O'Field presented plans for the installation of a new downtown event power cabinet to serve community special events. In October, the frame for the special event electrical cabinet will be installed at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Fourth Street. The electrical components will be encased on the backside of the frame, leaving the front surface available for public artwork. Jill shared historic photographs of the original steel I-beams installed within the Big Thompson Canyon in 1925. Recently, these poles were replaced by new wooden poles to carry the City's high voltage system. One of these original steel poles was used to construct the new downtown event cabinet. If agreeable, Jill recommended that the public artwork honor the City's linemen by visually illustrating the work involved in maintaining the City's electrical distribution system. (Additionally, it was noted that a second cabinet will be installed onto a brick wall behind The Cactus Grill. Artwork placement is unknown for that site at this time.)

The commission was enthusiastic about the project. The commission discussed several options for the front panel. The historic top-hat insulators were also discussed and there may be interest in replicating the insulators to place atop the frame. Casting the insulators in aluminum was seen as a possibility.

Final decisions: Staff was directed to develop an RFQ for a metal artist to create a panel using historic or iconic images, paying homage to, and illustrating the history of, the City's electrical linemen. The panel could be backlit. If a laser-cut metal piece is proposed, spacers could be installed between the artwork and support panel to create additional dimension/depth to the work. Greg moved to have staff develop an RFQ for a Larimer County artist to create sculptural artwork of metal (or similar durable material) to include backlighting, with a budget up to \$5,000. Maryjo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kim stated that she will write a press release and assist with promoting the history of Loveland electrical distribution near the time of installation.

- D. Downtown Public Art, Trash Enclosures:** Staff reported that the initial estimates for the cost of downtown trash enclosures came back significantly higher than budgeted in 2018. Therefore, the Downtown Development Authority monies for the trashcans, benches, public art, and trash enclosures will be combined to purchase the trash enclosures for Backstage Alley. A collaborative committee between the City and the DDA will continue to develop ideas for Backstage Alley and Sweetheart Alley in order to find solutions to this funding issue. Staff will bring additional information back to the commission once known.
- E. Police Regional Training Institute:** Feedback on the RFQ was solicited from commissioners. The RFQ will be posted once the monetary figure for the artwork has been determined.

**F. VAC Purchases:** Commissioners visited Artworks Loveland to view Jan R. Carson's work, *The Screaming Dreams of Flowers*. Angela shared that Jan received her Master's Degree in Fine Arts from Colorado State University and recently won the prestigious Arrow Award from the Cherry Creek Arts Festival. The commission discussed Jan R Carson's artwork, a 16' x 4', 5-panel silk work. Bruce moved to purchase the Screaming Dreams of Flowers by Jan R. Carson for \$26,000. Margie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Purchasing Decisions: A decision regarding procedures for VAC commissions vs. artists bringing work to the VAC will be addressed at a future meeting

**G. 2018-2019 TAAP 3-D:** The TAAP 3D Committee met prior to this VAC meeting to discuss the overall on-loan sculpture project and ways to increase artist participation in 2019. The following recommendations were suggested by the committee:

- ❖ Artist honorarium increased to \$2,000 per sculpture
- ❖ Reinstitute the People's Choice Award (\$500): It was noted that a new method of collecting public feedback is likely. (Blas suggested an app for the voting process.)
- ❖ Applications to be listed on the CAFÉ website in November
- ❖ Past artists to be notified when TAAP 3D applications are available on CAFE
- ❖ Artist deadline for submission is the beginning of January
- ❖ VAC to approve the 2019 sculpture recommendations no later than the March meeting
- ❖ Verbiage to be added to the TAAP application asking for temporary artwork that is designed to morph or transition over the year through exposure to the elements. Safety considerations will be taken into consideration and should be outlined in the applications.) Possible media might include fiber, wood, paper, etc.
- ❖ Installation of TAAP sculpture to take place in mid-May
- ❖ VAC to consider purchase of a TAAP sculpture at the March meeting, prior to de-installation
- ❖ \$20,000 to be budgeted every year for a sculpture purchase; however, an annual purchase is not required.
- ❖ Three additional sculpture pads are desired for the program (4<sup>th</sup> & Garfield and Fourth & Cleveland, possible locations at The Foundry): 9 total

The TAAP 3-D 2019 budget will be app. \$43,000.

Greg moved to accept the TAAP 3-D committee recommendations. Margie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**H. Metrolux Murals:** The City's Historic Preservation Commission has expressed interest in collaborating with the VAC in creating murals upon The Foundry's Metrolux Theater. While early drawings allowed for artwork installations, it is unknown how the Metrolux Theater owners currently feel about the possibility of murals. The commission was in favor of the project provided the Historic Preservation Commission was able to match funds 50:50. Additional information will be brought forward to the commission once known. A subcommittee will be formed should this project move forward.

- I. AIPP Marketing Materials:** Newsletter: In an effort to develop a season ticket package, the Rialto Theater separated their programming season brochure separate from the Cultural Services aka! Newsletter. The season ticket packages have been very popular, resulting in increase sales revenue. Consequently, there was staff discussion about separating the Museum and Art in Public Places programming information, in an effort to find the most effective ways to reach our respective audiences.

Estimates were distributed for a bi-annual AIPP publication which illustrated the cost of continuing with printed publications (mailed to households). The estimates show significant AIPP printing and mailing cost increase. Commissioners were asked for feedback on the best way to reach the public:

- ❖ Strong sentiment was expressed for electronic communication: 1) on the website, 2) through an easily navigable, mobile app.
- ❖ Presence (perhaps an ad) in the Museum and Rialto Theater publications providing current projects and where to find the information
- ❖ AIPP section of the annual report made more readable for the general public.
- ❖ AIPP webpages
- ❖ A half-page flyer to the schools sharing the AIPP collection (possibly in a summer scavenger hunt format)

Loveland: *A Work of Art* Brochure: A draft of the updated AIPP brochure was distributed for commission feedback. Several commissioners expressed positive feedback on the re-design. The brochure will go to print once final text is written.

- J. Upcoming VAC Events/Meeting: September 12, 2018, 5:30pm at the Loveland Museum Joint Meeting with Cultural Services Board and Backstage Rialto:** Commissioners were encouraged to attend this meeting to interact with the other boards and to assist Jill Stilwell (consultant for the department master plan) in determining how the boards can best support the department.
- K. Loveland Mural Grant: *Ladyface Mural* by Wildrose Hamilton, 426 N. Lincoln Avenue:** Request for additional funding: Staff reported that the new windows have been installed and the mural is considered complete. Additionally, the bronze recognition plaque has been ordered and a small dedication will take place at the November Night on the Town. Building owner Christina Gressianu, sent a letter to the VAC requesting additional funds to cover unforeseen materials and equipment charges for the project. After discussion and review of the original application, Angela moved that the VAC stay with the original amount of the grant and do not add additional these costs for supplies. Maryjo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- L. *Water & Power* maquettes by Mark Lechliter:** Staff shared that Mark Lechliter sent an email offering to sell the original maquettes for *Water & Power* (powder coated steel, 36”h x 12”l and 4”d). There was discussion regarding the actual cost of the pair (which could have been interpreted as \$1500 each or \$1500 for the pair). There was additional concern over the location for public display. Staff will seek clarification on the price and commissioners will consider future placement, possibly the Service Center, City Hall (Utility Billing) or the Library.
- M. The Foundry: *Shimmering Hues to Solar Muse* by James Dinh and Michael Stutz:** On September 6th, staff received an email from Michael Stutz stating that *Shimmering Hues to Solar Muse* could not be

fabricated and installed as originally presented due to recent tariff increases. Two alternative variations of the project were proposed:

- 1) A full-sized installation of the *Solar Muse* on Lincoln Avenue facade. There would be no lighting included as presented. No artwork to be installed on the Second Avenue facade.
- 2) Two small, identical *Solar Muses* installed on each facade. There would be no lighting on either facade.

There was much discussion as both alternatives were unacceptable. Significant disappointment over the artists' delay in acquiring materials was also expressed. Greg moved that the contract and the artist's check be cancelled. Jade seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The artist contract will be cancelled and the artists will return to the City the uncashed check.

Sentiment was expressed that the addition of color is greatly needed on The Foundry Parking Garage and could be specifically sought as the project moves forward. Maryjo added that the commission did learn that both sides of the parking garage should be cohesive, which lends itself to one artist/artist team in the future. At the time of the original presentations in February 2018, the commission did not choose alternate artists as they expressed preference for re-opening the RFQ, if needed. Commissioners shared how they preferred to move forward and expressed the following: Color is desired; list the RFQ for both facades, muralists, mosaic artists (or similar treatments) are desired.

## **Staff Updates**

### **A. Recent Installations**

- a. *Wings* by Joe Norman: Staff reported that the Public Works staff is pleased with *Wings*, which was installed on Sunday, August 5th. Joe Norman is expecting to install the species plaques in late September/early October. Shawn Fetzer provided staff with information regarding the lighting software, which can be programmed for color, etc. Staff will work with Joe Norman to determine how *Wings* should be lit.  
Greg expressed that the artwork felt too low on the bridge and was difficult to see when driving. Several other commissioners agreed with that assessment. Staff will seek clarity on the installation height decision.
- b. *Braids at Hanging Lake* by Martin Lambuth: *Braids at Hanging Lake* has been installed on the incorrect side of the fireplace; however, Maryjo and staff will determine if public artwork in storage can be installed in the Fireplace Room to create a more cohesive look. (Or, the artwork will be re-installed on the other side of the fireplace.)

### **B. Upcoming Installations**

- a. Mountain Lion Avenue Roundabout: Installation expected for the last week in September. Photographs of the artwork have been received. The work is quite impressive in size and is about 75% complete. The artist is currently getting installation bids and Shawn Fetzer will provide current utility diagrams to assist placement. Lighting and irrigation may be possible through the Public Works Dept., if the budget allows.
- b. *Fearless Girl* by Kristel Visbel: The artist provides bi-monthly project updates. Shippers Supply will deliver the artwork to the Museum once complete.

### **C. The Foundry:** This item was already addressed.

**D. Maintenance Endowment:** This item was tabled as there was no update.

**E. Pulliam Building:** This item was tabled as there was no update.

**F. Annual Maintenance:**

- ❖ Two sculptures, installed in ponds, are yet to be maintained due to Risk Management's concerns over potential hazardous run-off. These concerns are being addressed and the work is expected to resume within a few days.
- ❖ Pat Kipper will begin his special treatments in late September.
- ❖ The water pump for *Water Carriers* by Herb Mignery was replaced by Aspen Landscape Management.

**G. Highway 34 Beautification:** At a recent City Council meeting, Councilman Overcash expressed that the Highway 34 median near Lake Loveland is unsightly and should be addressed. Mark Jackson, Public Works Director, will oversee a City-wide committee to identify issues and present possible solutions to the problem. There will likely be a public art component to this project. Details will be shared as known. Commissioners were asked to share comments regarding the project. Bruce indicated that artwork would need to be resistant to vehicle traffic.

**H. Bill Reed Public Art Tours:** LISA coordinator, Heather Hanks, approached Museum staff about hosting several tours of Cultural Services' amenities for 45-60 Bill Reed teachers throughout the year. Specifically, she is interested in finding ways to incorporate art processes within educational disciplines and identify art resources. These tours will begin with a public art tour in October. Maryjo, Angela and Margie volunteered to assist with the tours, as needed. More information will be provided as this project moves forward.

**I. Kum & Go:** A new Kum & Go station will open in east Loveland, near Crossroads Boulevard. The corporation customizes an 8' painted ampersand sculpture for new Kum & Go stations and has requested the use of *Equinox* within the artwork. The VAC does not need to approve the use of the sculpture's image; however, permission will be sought from the artists.

**City Council Update**

Councilwoman Wright was no longer present due to a prior commitment.

**Information Sharing**

- ❖ Parks and Recreation is hosting a "Yes, and..." business seminar on October 30, 10am - 3pm at the Rialto Theater. All commissioners are invited to attend. (Susan will email the flyer to all.)
- ❖ Suzanne circulated a thank you letter to the Loveland High Plains Arts Council for commissioners' signatures.
- ❖ Maryjo shared that "Pastels on Fifth" will be held on Saturday September 8th. Additionally, Alternatives to Violence is hosting a golf tournament on September 28th.
- ❖ Artworks Loveland is hosting the 310 Member Appreciation on October 5th. All commissioners will receive an invitation to the event.
- ❖ Bruce shared the image of a well-crafted ampersand sign.
- ❖ A recent Reporter-Herald R-H line comment regarding *Wings* was circulated.

**Adjournment**

Greg moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. Jade seconded the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting length:** 3:12