

CITY OF LOVELAND VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019
5:00 PM
Loveland Museum, 503 N. Lincoln Avenue

Approved by:
Abbie Powers
8.1.19

The July 11, 2019 VAC was called to order at 5:06pm by Chairwoman Abbie Powers. Commissioners present: Abbie Powers, Angela Brill, Blas Estrada, Bruce Gueswel, Greg Hoff, Maryjo Morgan, Margie Rosborough, and Sara Turner. Absent: Jade Windell and alternate Phyllis Moore. Others present: Mac Juneau (Loveland High Plains Arts Council), Myrna Terrones, Ed Aitken, Mark Lyons, Art Terrones and artist Werner Schreiber and Heather Schreiber (representatives of the Associated Veterans of Loveland), Sean Hawkins (Executive Director, Loveland Downtown Partnership) with son Jack Hawkins, Councilwoman Kathi Wright and staff liaisons Susan Ison and Suzanne Janssen.

- A. **Attendance:** Reflected above.
- B. **Additions or Corrections to the July 11, 2019 meeting agenda:** VAC Action Items: Item H was moved to Item B. and Staff Updates Item D was moved to VAC Actions. **Staff Updates:** Addition: Sculpture donation, *Escape* by Curtis Zabel
- C. **Additions or Corrections to the June 6, 2019 meeting minutes:** Angela moved to accept the minutes as written. Maryjo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. **Citizen Comments:** No residents were present to speak on VAC business.
- E. **Budget:** The July 2019 budget was distributed and reviewed. All AIPP project figures were updated. Format changes were made to the spreadsheet for ease in identifying unallocated funds.

VAC Business/Action Items

- A. **Mural Application: Associated Veterans of Loveland and the Loveland Veterans of Foreign Wars:** All representatives of the project introduced themselves. Angela Brill, who coordinated this project and grant request, explained that the project consists of three phases, chronologically illustrating military endeavors spanning World War I to present day. The initial project phase will begin on August 17, 2019. The intent is to complete all three phases by mid-2020.

Artist Werner Schreiber presented his concept for two small murals to be painted at the entrance to the VFW facility located at 305 N. Cleveland Avenue. The designs will feature the iconic image of "Rosie the Riveter" to be painted onto the south facing façade and an eagle and flag design on the north facing façade of the entry. The images were clip art in presentation; however, the actual paintings will be more artistic in nature. Werner will use acrylic paints in direct application and spray brush techniques. (Angela assured the commission that the "Rosie the Riveter" image presented is in the public domain.) The mural grant request was for \$1325. The AVL plans to bring additional grant applications for

each phase as the project progresses. The budget was based upon \$15-\$25/sq. ft. finished mural surface.

Greg moved to accept/approve the application as presented. Bruce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Special Treatments 2019:** Suzanne provided a recap of the VAC decisions made at the June 6 meeting regarding special treatments. At that meeting, the maintenance committee recommended that all artwork listed receive maintenance, some as originally requested, others slightly modified. They recommended that *Pause for Reflection*, for which a complete repatina is recommended, receive a hot wax treatment and be placed on a “watch list” in order to monitor possible patina changes over the next 6 months-1 year. There was additional discussion about the level of maintenance for outdoor sculpture in the public realm. The maintenance committee’s recommendation was approved.

A follow-up meeting was held with Mac Juneau and Pat Kipper regarding special treatments. Several possible causes of the patina failure on *Pause for Reflection* arose during that conversation. (Examples included installation near the water, metal failure, overspray from Parks maintenance, and fertilizer/chemical accumulations from the neighborhood). Mac did not agree with the VAC’s direction to postpone a repatina.

A follow-up memo was sent by Pat Kipper stating vandalism was the cause of the patina failure for *Pause for Reflection*. Mac reported that Pat Kipper has observed patina changes for *Pause for Reflection* since 2016, when a sticky substance (presumably from vandalism) was found on the arch of the sculpture. Based upon the current City agreement, Mac felt an insurance claim should be filed to cover the patina damage. It was noted that the City was not notified of the vandalism nor the patina changes. Hot wax treatments were recommended (and performed) on the sculpture in 2017 and 2018. After analyzing possible causes, Pat surmised that the unidentified sticky substance was the most likely cause for the damage

Suzanne stated that she would file the property damage form. After much discussion, Sara moved for the VAC to cover the cost of a repatina (up to \$4,000); however, an insurance claim should be filed right away in case that expense is covered. Maryjo seconded the motion. (Note: It may be possible to remove *Pause for Reflection* after the sculpture show and save \$1,000 of the removal cost.) The motion passed unanimously.

Margie questioned if the placement would remain the same, as it is potentially problematic. Currently, there are no plans to relocate the artwork. Abbie expressed that the VAC should have further conversations regarding the maintenance of the collection, particularly as the collection continues to increase each year and finding a sustainable model is necessary.

Susan shared the status of the maintenance endowment with Mac, indicating that additional private donations to the endowment will be accepted. It was suggested that, for an endowment to provide a higher return on investment, a more aggressive investment policy is likely needed. Despite several attempts, the City has been unable to locate a municipal artwork endowment to serve as a model for Loveland. Susan shared that the City Attorney would come to a VAC meeting to talk about the endowment and the policy responsibilities to be undertaken by an endowment committee.

Follow-up discussion for this item concerned the role of the maintenance committee and their recommendations; providing input regarding future sculpture placements and patinas; the potential need for financial contributions to accompany sculpture donations, and the ongoing

level of maintenance for the public art collection. Several commissioners expressed confusion over meeting procedures when they are uncomfortable making a decision or they need to request additional information prior to doing so. It was explained that commissioners may voice their concerns and may choose to postpone decisions until they are comfortable moving an issue forward.

C. Sean Hawkins, Downtown Projects Opportunities for Collaborations: As a follow-up to the conversations begun at the April 17th VAC Retreat, Sean expressed support for identifying collaborative projects between the Downtown Development Authority and the Visual Arts Commission. Both groups expressed specific interest in downtown beautification and cited the following potential projects:

- a. Alleyway beautification
- b. Artistic crosswalks
- c. Permanent and Temporary murals
- d. Trash enclosures
- e. Possible new TAAP locations

Possible mural locations

- a. The north wall of The Foundry parking garage
- b. West wall of The Foundry parking garage
- c. Former Loveland Reporter-Herald building (Museum expansion site)
- d. DaVinci Alley—east side of Burke's Tavern
- e. The building to the east of Thompson Park, east side of the alley
- f. Fourth Street Gallery (asbestos remediation pending)
- g. Former Johnson Press building (west of the railroad tracks)
- h. Alleyway behind Desk Chair

Crosswalks

- a. 3rd and Cleveland Avenue
- b. 4th and Railroad Avenue

Sean described a project in Bend, Oregon of temporary, rotating artwork installations that are mounted to a steel frame. The project resulted in greater public visibility for the businesses and reduced graffiti in the alley. Sean recommended choosing 3-4 collaborative projects and moving forward to develop the concepts. A committee of Sean, Blas, Sara, Angela (and Abbie as backup) will research and recommend projects and locations. Sean indicated that the DDA could likely contribute \$10,000 to the downtown projects.

D. My Favorite Things by Daas: Suzanne reported that several site delays have adversely affected Daas's timeline for the mural. Consequently, Daas's contract has been extended into the first week of August. Because sidewalks for Lincoln Avenue and Second Street could not be closed at the same time, Daas was restricted to hiring one painter (as opposed to two) to assist with the project. Additionally, the completion of the Marriott Hotel was delayed several weeks, which affected Daas's ability to move over to the Second Street façade. It was determined that flaggers are needed while painting the final section of the façade due to OSHA restrictions for vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

Suzanne reported Daas' concerns over the application of the clear coat and stated that the clear coat will need to be reapplied in two years. The project's contingency fund was used to pay for the clear coat materials. While Daas is not requesting additional monies, it was recommended that the commission consider reimbursing expenses that were no fault of the artist.

Angela moved to pay for the flaggers and any additional barricades required for OSHA compliance while painting the Second Street façade. Blas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Staff was asked to obtain the cost for the mural clear coat for further VAC discussion.

- E. The Foundry Parking Garage, Elevator Doors:** Susan shared that historic images have been chosen for The Foundry parking garage elevator doors. The wraps will be printed and installed within the next few weeks.
- F. Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park, DeWitt Godfrey (Conference call), Title TBA:** (Greg Hoff recused himself from this agenda item and left the conference room.) Suzanne provided a brief overview of the June 12 on-site meeting between DeWitt and City Parks, Recreation and AIPP staff. During that site visit the complexities of the installation, which will require transporting concrete over the river to the installation site, became evident. Additionally, there are significant restrictions regarding vehicle traffic and weight loads that were not known during the application and contractual phases of the project.

DeWitt bid the sculpture installation through several local contractors. Hoff Construction was awarded the artist's bid; however, that bid was \$13,000 over the artist's projected cost. A conference call with the artists was held to discuss this matter.

DeWitt stated that the original installation estimate was created based on his experience with similar installations and early site information. Most notably, the construction bridge was removed, creating limited access for concrete trucks. There are currently strong restrictions regarding accessible pathways and weight loads for the new bridges. These restrictions make excavation of the site more time consuming and expensive, particularly as all excavated material must be hauled away from the site. These restrictions were unknown until the site visit. DeWitt stated that the cost of the actual foundation is slightly more than \$11,000. The additional unforeseen expenses (site work, excavation and removal of the material) is roughly the same cost.

When asked about the foundation structure, DeWitt responded that the entire circular structure requires a uniform concrete pad and (24-36") footings that are poured on site. DeWitt added that there is no way to know what lies below the installation site, as the park is largely an amalgamation of river riprap and boulders. If rock is hit during excavation, the structural engineers will work with the contractor to ensure the foundation is adequate. Any additional cost for that potential issue has not been resolved. The Parks staff is confident that the contractor has the expertise and equipment to address any issues that arise on-site. There was discussion about the park's topography, remote location and concern over the lack of detailed information regarding the site/site restrictions. At the request of the VAC, Greg re-entered the room to describe the process by which the concrete will be hauled over the bridge (in mud-buggies). He then left the room.

There was much discussion regarding the unforeseen challenges and expenses associated with the installation. Maryjo recommended the AIPP develop a series of questions for City departments to consider and answer prior to the releasing future RFQs. Sara motioned to approve the \$13,000 for the increasing cost in installation, and that overage will be paid by future parks-related AIPP funds. Bruce seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

- G. Bus Shelters:** Susan shared images of painted bus shelters for the commission's consideration. This concept will be considered in a future meeting.
- H. Painted Piano Project – Public Request:** In May, two separate individuals contacted Suzanne about developing an outdoor painted piano program. A Longmont business owner has offered to donate two painted pianos to the City to jumpstart the program. Additionally, a Loveland resident offered her upright piano for this endeavor. The commission discussed the necessary steps in developing this project further. After considering the concept in relation to the other downtown projects to be undertaken this year, there was no motion to move forward with pursuing a piano project.

Staff Updates

- A. *Fearless Girl* by Kristen Visbal:** The tabletop iconic sculpture, *Fearless Girl* by Kristen Visbal, was installed in the vestibule of the Museum. The new walnut plinth fabricated by the Base Shop is beautiful.
- B. Winter Holiday Council RFP:** Multiple City entities are currently fundraising for downtown décor and a meeting will be held to coordinate efforts. The artist request for holiday vignettes around the Foote Lagoon will be funded by the City Manager's office. The RFP will be updated and distributed in mid-August. The fundraising committee will work on acquiring sponsors for the lighting the trees within the Civic Center.
- C. Library Artwork Installations:** Suzanne reported that *Green Torrents* by Alan Adler, *The Flower Arranger* by Mark Thompson, *Desert Hues* by Betty Carlisle, *Still Life with Roses* by John Encinias and *Feather Ghost* by Emily DuBois were installed on the second floor of the Loveland Public Library. The triptych, *Prairie Hills* by Roy Wilce, will be installed once the framing is completed.
- D. Sculpture donation, *Escape* by Curtis Zabel:** Suzanne reported that *Escape* had been installed prior to a legal agreement being signed/approved by the donors and the City. Several key pre-installation contract elements (Metro District approval, acceptance of the installation plan by AIPP staff, a signed property easement and a conservator assessment) were unfulfilled and the final paperwork remains incomplete. The Legal Department will review the final documents once received. Because of the conditional acceptance of this donation, this item may come back to the commission for re-approval.
- E. Boards & Commissions Dinner:** A Citywide Boards & Commissions Dinner will be held on September 9, 5:30-8:00pm at Fairgrounds Park. There will be a centerpiece competition between all boards. Commissioners were asked to bring an item (a photo of their favorite sculpture, etc.) to the September meeting to create this centerpiece.
- F. Maintenance 2019: Special Treatments:** This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

G. Maintenance Endowment: This item was addressed at the end of the Special Treatment discussion.

City Council Update

- City Council is discussing an ordinance for the November ballot to allow dispensaries in Loveland.
- A new buyer for the former County Building at the corner of Cleveland and 6th Street is sought. Council is looking at new possibilities for the site.

Information Sharing

- Susan shared a photo taken during a public art tour she led for the City of Aurora. The tour included downtown, Creatorspace, Artworks Loveland, Artspace and Benson Sculpture Garden.
- Susan share a June 30 positive comment from the RH Line regarding the mural, *My Favorite Things* by Daas.
- Maryjo shared the July issue of her publication, titled West Loveland Neighbors, which features Phyllis Moore and her husband Jim.
- Angela shared information on the Artworks mural fundraiser, titled *Outside the Lines*.
- Suzanne reminded the commission that the six new Benson Sculpture Garden sculptures would be dedicated on Saturday, July 14 at 10am.
- Abbie announced her 30% off silk scarf sale.
- Angela announced that The Polychotomy of You, Me, and We | Paintings by Michael Anthony Simon exhibit will open on July 12th.
- Sara reported that Studio Vino will be coming to downtown soon.

Adjournment: Sara motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:11pm. Maryjo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting length: 3:05

Important VAC Dates

Upcoming 2019 Regular VAC Meeting Dates at the Loveland Museum: August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5

AIPP Appreciation Event: Susan Ison: Thursday, 9/19, 2019. 6:30pm