

CULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

4:30 P.M.

LOVELAND MUSEUM/GALLERY

503 N. Lincoln Ave.

Loveland, CO 80537

The June 22, 2010 meeting of the Cultural Services Board was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Juanita Cisneros in the Upstairs Conference Room of the Loveland Museum/Gallery.

Board members present: Juanita Cisneros, Leslie Snow, Kris Ortmann, Dena Kirk, Rose Watson, Peggy Schwarz and Jan DesJardin. Also present were City Council Liaison Kent Solt and Cultural Services staff members Susan Ison, Jan Sawyer and Michelle Standiford.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

- Jan Sawyer added “House Manager Position” and “LHAT” to the Rialto Reports. Rialto Reports also was moved before Museum reports.

Additions or Corrections/Changes to the Minutes

Juanita corrected her board report, last sentence to “In addition, an office at Centerra regularly uses the Museum website to inform their clients of upcoming events saying it was very ‘user friendly’.”

Peggy Schwarz moved to accept the May 25th, 2010 minutes as amended; Leslie Snow seconded. All approved.

Board Reports

Jan DesJardin visited the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown and shared some highlights of this beautiful museum. They had a wonderful photography display.

Kris Ortmann commented on how great Robin Dodge’s sunflower window art looks in the former Mr. Neats windows. She also mentioned that her neighbors went to Santa Fe and Taos and went into a gallery there. The owners of the gallery knew of the Loveland Museum/Gallery and thought Loveland had the best museum.

Juanita Cisneros is enjoying watching the progress being made on one of the transformation boxes in her neighborhood. She also visited the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center while the center was celebrating their 40th anniversary. At their silent auction, Juanita won a Cal Ripken bat.

Rialto Reports

Rialto Bridge

Last Tuesday, the City Council voted at the second reading to approve the City's portion of the design fees for the Rialto Bridge project. The project is now entering the design phase. Jan met with Troy Peterson earlier in the week and he felt that this process should begin the first part of July. Part of this process will be providing opportunities for the public to offer their opinions and visions for this space.

Walby Sculpture Dedication

The dedication event went really well with approximately 300 in attendance. 185 guests remained for the film *Sullivan's Travels*. The sculpture *Persistence of Memory* has been really enjoyed by staff and the public.

House Manager Position

Jan Sawyer reported that she had received 17 applications for the house manager position. Out of those, there were 4 very strong candidates. She offered the position to one of them and will start training this person over the weekend. Jan will provide more information to the Board once the selected candidate has confirmed and the paperwork is finalized.

LHAT

The Rialto Theater was not chosen for the League of Historic Theaters award this year despite having a great entry. Jan Sawyer hopes to get some critiques at the upcoming conference to help us in the application process for next year.

Rialto Theater Miscellaneous

Kris Ortmann inquired about the status of the electronic sign for the marquee outside the theater. Jan Sawyer reported that after reviewing it, she felt it would be a wonderful addition but that the cost of the sign prohibits acquiring it at this time. It may be something to reconsider when the Rialto Bridge projects gets further along. However, she needs to make sure to keep the colors less flashy so as not to deter from the theater's historic status.

Missoula Children's Theater is underway this week with *Beauty Lou and the Country Beast*. Hazel Miller will be performing at the theater on Sunday.

Susan Ison house managed the theater for the IONA concert and reported it was a very loud concert and some guests left due to the volume. However, those that remained loved the show. The group has some very devoted fans with people coming from Canada, Montana, California, Oklahoma, Arizona, Pennsylvania and Utah to see them.

Museum Report

Chuck Close Exhibit

Chuck Close is known for doing very large, pixilated portraits. He is very well-known and in the class of Wayne Thiebaud. Chuck Close has a photography and poetry exhibit that staff would like to bring to the Museum in 2012. It would cost \$25,000 - \$35,000. The Erion Foundation has pledged \$12,000 for this exhibit.

Budget

Staff is currently working on preparing the department's budget for next year. This budget will reflect no growth and the cuts that were implemented to this year's budget will remain for 2011 as well. In addition, staff also has been directed to prepare a second budget due in July that reflects a 20% cut in the budget in the event the referendums on this November's ballot pass. This would mean the loss of programming and staff.

Triad Exhibit

Opening reception was held during Night on the Town on June 11th. An Indian restaurant from Longmont came and sold food. Aakash Mital's band performed and poetry was read as well. Despite the rain, it was well attended. Shipping the exhibit proved challenging and left Quinn Johnson with limited time to set the show. He worked some long hours the week before the show. Guests have enjoyed the exhibit and attendance has been good.

Kris Ortmann inquired about the *Mapping India* exhibit in the Foote Gallery. She is concerned about the offensive language on some of these older maps. So far, visitors have not commented on the language; but rather, have mentioned how beautiful the maps are.

Lone Tree School – Loveland Historical Society

Summer school sessions started last week. Suzanne Janssen and Susan Ison attended on Friday to watch the children do their final presentation. The kids thanked Scott Waterhouse for all the donated construction time in repairing the damage caused by the vandals. In addition, Susan Ison thanked the Loveland Historical Society for their \$3000 donation. This will go to fix and replace many items in the school house as well. The overall response from the community has been supportive. 9News has also been following the school and recently did a report on instructor Teri Johnson and the summer school program. In addition, there is still a chance to get restitution from the kids who did the vandalism. Facility staff has done a lot of work on the school house as well. If there is money left over after all the repairs are made, Susan would like to give some of it to that department to defray their expenses in the repair process also.

There is one item that is not repairable and that includes a pre-1940s dictionary. Jennifer Cousino has been having difficulty locating a replacement for that item. She may post a request in the newspaper or pursue E-Bay.

Alley Naming

Susan received the report on the Alley Naming and there were lots of suggestions for names for the six downtown alleys. She is not sure where the project goes from here and will report back on the process and what names are chosen.

Downtown RFP

In reviewing the plans, the biggest surprise to the Downtown RFP was the new design idea that would take the Museum expansion and flip flop it from north of the building to south of the building and expand the Museum over or through 5th Street to the parking lot. This would allow more of a connection between the Museum with Rialto Theater. Ultimately, this would mean selling the Sequel building to allow for different development. Susan pursued the idea with the Fire Department to see how this would impact them if 5th Street was blocked. It has been great to see all the different ideas that have come from this process.

Art Lab

Art Lab is booked with artists through October. They are still seeking musicians to perform during Night on the Town.

Cherry Pie Celebration

Michelle Standiford has been working on the postcards, posters and fans for this July 24th event. Kim Akeley-Charron is working on confirming the judges.

Miscellaneous

- Susan shared the coloring book designed and printed for the Medina Exhibit
- New “Wanted” posters of the staff have been made and posted on the jail
- Michelle created the youth classes’ postcard that was shared with the Board. It was more cost-effective to have them sent to the printer rather than trying to print them in-house on our little printers.
- Susan shared the staff responses to this year’s “crazy” question asked at the annual reviews. This year’s topic was to write their career epitaphs. Responses were very creative.
- Michelle gave an update on the e-newsletter statistics provided by Constant Contact. We currently have 179 recipients with approximately a 50% open rate. This is above the nation’s average.



The next Cultural Services Board meeting is scheduled for July 27th, 2010 at 4:30 pm in the Loveland Museum/Gallery conference room.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm with a motion from Leslie Snow and a second from Jan DesJardin.

Submitted by Michelle Standiford