

Hailey Arts Commission
November 5, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Mark Johnstone, Jessica Miller, Erica Niemi, Jim Spinelli

Commissioners Absent: Andy Lewis, Joe Castle

City Staff Present: Tracy Anderson, Heather Dawson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m.

Minutes

Niemi made a motion to approve the October 1, 2009 meeting minutes. Miller seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

Training Workshop with Karen Bubb

Johnstone reminded of the upcoming public art workshop with Karen Bubb, Public Art Manager for the City of Boise. The workshop will be on November 16. The morning session, from 10 to noon, will focus on what and why of public art. The morning session is open to the public, as well as commissioners, elected officials and staff. There will be a brown bag lunch for anyone who wants to stay for further discussion. The afternoon session, from 1 to 3, will provide training on the public art project process. The afternoon session is intended for commissioners and staff.

Rodeo Grounds

Johnstone gave an update on the rodeo grounds project. The master plan concept was approved by the Hailey City Council, and the architect is moving forward with cost estimates. The proposed visitors' center/museum will potentially house historical and artistic elements. Artistic elements may be incorporated elsewhere at the project site. The most immediate activity is fundraising, with a fundraising brochure that will be completed and mailed out in the next few weeks. Any commissioners are welcome to attend the rodeo grounds meetings and assist with fundraising efforts. The next meeting is scheduled for November 17 at 4:30 p.m. in Hailey City Hall.

Hop Porter Trees

Johnstone reported that nothing would happen with this potential project until spring. A Call for Artists is being considered, but the project might also be a direct commission. More to come.

Youth Activities during a Month of Art

Niemi stated that the Wood River Women's Charitable Foundation letter of inquiry had been submitted for children's art programming, and that some ideas from that program could be used on a smaller scale during A Month of Art if the grant is not successful. Anderson gave the grant timeline. From the letters of inquiry, the foundation will select a number of applicants to submit full grant applications in January. Award would not be forthcoming until the fall of 2010.

Johnstone stated it would be a good idea to discuss potential children's programming ideas with the Wood River Arts Alliance, and perhaps also get some input from Pat Robinson on the Art Attack program. The alliance hosts the Children's Art Festival in January. There was a discussion about asking the alliance if they would be interested in moving that festival to July. Spinelli and Niemi agreed to follow up with the alliance and Pat Robinson.

Commission Membership

The commission had a general discussion about its empty commission seat, and potential commissioners. Timi Saviers was mentioned by Niemi; she lives at the bottom of Indian Creek, in the county; Johnstone mentioned his contacts with the Sun Valley Center for the Arts, and their time constraints. He has one more center staffer to talk with about the commission seat. Johnstone stated that Lewis had forwarded two names as potential commissioners. Johnstone had spoken with one, but has not heard anything more from either person.

Planning & Zoning Focus Group

Johnstone collated the few comments he received on the Comprehensive Plan Update, and forward those comments on to the Planning Director.

Setting Goals for 2010 Month of Art

Johnstone stated that it was a good time to start thinking about goals for next year's Month of Art. He said the event would still feature some type of exhibition of art and a night of music. Other ideas brought forth by the group were:

- Have more than one Night of Music (more resources would be required)
- Night of poetry
- Day of drama
- Sidewalk chalk art for children
- Move WRAA Children's Art Festival to July (Spinelli/Niemi to follow up)

New Business

Graffiti Wall

Niemi brought forth the idea of establishing a graffiti wall, with one potential location being the Hailey Skatepark. It would be a freestanding wall built specifically for the use of graffiti artists. It could be spray painted over monthly, and employ some type of self-policing system. Niemi stated that this type of project would protect business owners' property, and so they might be interested in supporting it. Christopher & Co. has already expressed support.

Miller stated that this would be a good project because it attracts youth, is multicultural, and suggested including a professional graffiti artist in some capacity. Miller also suggested Castle as a good resource, and suggested that Niemi complete some further research on the idea. Johnstone said that SPARC and Forecast Public Art would also be good resources.

Collaboration with Historic Preservation Commission

Johnstone reported that he had attended the last Historic Preservation Commission meeting to learn of that group's interest in promoting historic buildings around Hailey, such as through a walking tour. The idea of somehow incorporating the Mallory Collection and artists' interpretations of buildings/images was also discussed. The Mallory Collection is an historic

photo collection owned by the city and housed in the Hailey Public Library. The Historic Preservation Commission is currently working on a project to digitize the collection and make it available electronically. The collection should be of interest to scholars throughout the west.

Anderson mentioned the availability of grant funding from two bodies: the Idaho Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. These funds could be used to initiate a more comprehensive interpretive project that could involve a lecture series, etc., involving the library and others.

Johnstone asked for volunteers to attend the Historic Preservation Commission. The commissioners agreed attending the meetings on a rotation basis could work well.

Adjourn

Spinelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Miller seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.