

**HAILEY ARTS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD**

February 19, 2008

**Present:** Pat Robinson Webb, Mark Johnstone, Becki Keefer and Melissa Graves-Brown. Patty Lewis, Stacy Smith and Carol Brown were not in attendance.

**Called to order**

Melissa was welcomed as our new commissioner.

**Presentations**

**1. Presentation from Joe Castle, sculptor, for display of local art in Hailey parks**

Joe showed photos of his sculptures, and would like to place them on display in Hop Porter Park, with the hope that future displays would incorporate other artists' work, as well. The sculptures would need permanent concrete pads; perhaps the city would install them.

Joe said that several cities, including Bellingham, WA and Lawrence, KS, have temporary sculpture programs that are a great event for the communities and for their artists. In Lawrence, the program is administered by their Arts Guild, who issues an annual call to artists for letters of intent and a resume with photos of their work. It appears that they have a theme each year, and artists are chosen from over 500 applicants. Their Guild gives each artist a small stipend (+/- \$500 - \$1000); local businesses sponsor the event. Awards are given to winning art – "People's Choice", "City's Choice", etc. Wenatchee, WA has a similar event. The pieces of art are left up for four months to a year. Joe would like to make this a premier event for Idaho and for Hailey.

The Commission discussed the potential for integrating this into an art education opportunity for children, and various locations. Becki suggested a larger park than Hop Porter, while Pat and Melissa liked the idea of placing them along the street integrated into the walkways. Local businesses could sponsor individual pieces at their business. It would be good for the community and good for merging artists.

Pat asked Joe about liability for the pieces; Joe said that he has his own insurance, but when one of his pieces was damaged in Bellingham, that city paid for the repairs.

There was a brief discussion about private art displayed in public, and public art that belongs to the public. This Commission feel that any art available to the public, even performances, would be considered public art. Mark suggested siting the pieces on private property along Main Street; we want to make art an integral part of our community. Joe asked about siting art along the bike path, but that would be a question for the Blaine County Recreation District. Melissa felt that once the businesses see it, then they would all want to participate.

Pat & Melissa were both excited about the proposal and felt it would complement the Art Walk to be held this summer. Pat said that we would talk to businesses and give them a choice to sponsor a piece of art. Joe explained that as this is a pilot project, the Call for Artists should start with Idaho artists and not a greater region. We would have to work out any potential conflicts with galleries that might already be showing an artist's work.

Melissa volunteered to talk to CK's Restaurant to see if they would be interested in this pilot program. The lack of public funding would require private sponsorship. Pat asked if it would have to be public Call to Artists, but Mark felt that art displayed on private property would not require a public Call to Artists.

2. **Presentation from Quigley Canyon Developers regarding Proposed Public Art**

Mark said that he had talked to the applicant's representative, John Gaeddert, who was unable to make this meeting. Mark repeated that art had to be designed by an artist in order to be considered art.

**Business in Progress & Board Reports:**

1. Report on Artists List

Pat said that she has a handful of completed forms, and that we should all have some blank forms to hand out. Completed forms should be passed along to Pat, who will get them to Leslie Tresher for input.

2. Report on ArtWalk Summer 2008

Melissa reports that her Friday Art Walks are gaining in popularity and are very successful and much appreciated by the public. Pat said that the next one is the Friday before Memorial Day in May. They are approaching businesses and filling up the calendar for July. All participating businesses are paying for the advertising. Melissa and Pat will bring samples of what they have been working on.

3. Mural Ordinance

Mark talked with Beth Robrahn, City Planning Director, who is working on sign ordinance revisions, and the Mural part would be included.

**New Business:**

Heather Dawson, the new City Administrator, joined the meeting. We asked her about funding for our projects. She explained that the Council set aside a small amount (+/- \$3000) for the various Commissions, but we would need to make a formal request to her for access to those funds. Mark asked about the funding generated from the Percent for Public Art Ordinance. Heather explained that she is working with the Public Works Manager to develop CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) priorities. They will be pulling the Citizens Advisory Committee back in to help identify the top three projects for each category.

Heather added that she had recently been in Grand Junction, Colorado, where art is displayed for the public, judged and awarded; the art changes out each year with new pieces. She would prefer to see art placed on River Street rather than on Main Street.

**Minutes:**

No minutes to approve; Heather said that when they are approved, we are to forward them to Tracy, who will post them on the City's website for public access.

**Adjourned.**