

CITY OF LOVELAND
VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Loveland Museum/Gallery Upstairs Conference Room
December 9, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

The December 9th meeting of the Visual Arts Commission was officially called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Vice Chairman Andrew Svedlow. Commissioners present: Roger Clark, Josh Emrich, Nancy Jakobsson, Lynn Kincanon, Sherry Heckel Kuhlmann, and Andrew Svedlow. Rialto Theater Manager, Jan Sawyer, MaryJo Morgan, Fred Richart and staff liaison Suzanne Janssen were also present.

The farewell gift to Chairwoman Susan White was shared with the commission.

Suzanne announced that Carol Sarchet has resigned her position on the VAC effective November 29th, leaving 5 open positions to be filled in 2011. Interviews with all new applicants and one (of two) present commissioners have taken place. It is anticipated that the two re-applying commissioners will be reappointed and that the 3 recommended candidates will be appointed after the New Year.

Additions or corrections to the agenda: *Additions:* None *Corrections:* None

Additions or corrections to the November 23, 2010 minutes: None cited. Roger Clark motioned to accept the minutes as written. Lynn Kincanon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: No citizens were present to comment on VAC business; however, citizens MaryJo Morgan and Fred Richart were present to observe as part of their Leadership Loveland commitment. The commissioners introduced themselves to the guests.

Action Items

Rialto Bridge Update/Target Areas: Suzanne and Jan shared images from a Powerpoint presentation David Griggs shared during a recent Design Team meeting. Basic art needs and a more embellished “menu” of choices has been discussed by the Design Team art subcommittee.

The slide presentation provided examples of David’s past work and other images illustrating the variety of art deco elements and design concepts that suit the Rialto Bridge project. Images included historic photographs etched in glass, which could be used to illustrate the history of the theater. Many other images provided examples of significant infrastructure elements suitable for public art: flooring, the grand stairway, ceiling and exterior signage. Jan described how the incorporation of architectural elements presently on the façade of the Rialto Theater will carry over onto “The Bridge”.

More areas of interest: The re-use of the original Rialto Theater sign within the area referred to as “the hyphen” (a hallway created from the empty between the two buildings) was described. Additionally, Jan provided updated architectural renderings for the commission’s review. Jan described the floor plan for both the Rialto Theater and the Bridge. The use of art deco style is of particular interest and David expressed interest in using the flooring to join the two building spaces in a meaningful way.

Suzanne asked the commission for artistic direction to share with David, and a discussion of the dollar figure the commission could earmark for the project. A figure of \$75,000 was indicated to address the three areas targeted; however, that figure could be adjusted according to degree of ornamentation,

choice of materials, etc. Additionally, it was suggested that donors could be sought for specific rooms/areas within the expansion site or additional areas (such as exterior signage).

Andrew inquired regarding the history of the project, hiring of the artist, and choice of architectural firm. Clarification as to how (and by whom) the architectural approvals were made, including the choice of base materials, was sought. It was discussed that the City portion of public art funds will be approximately \$15,000. After much discussion, information regarding the actual construction costs vs. the artistic embellishment of the infrastructure is desired. The amount of money to be contributed by the private developer to the public art budget is also desired. While there was expressed interest in making the project "special," a determination of the equitable role for public dollars within this public/private partnership was desired. A menu of options (basic vs. more embellished areas) was requested by the commission. The balance of how public dollars are invested into this public/private project was of key interest to Andrew.

Bud Shark and His Indelible Ink Request: Maureen Corey was unable to attend the meeting; however, Suzanne distributed the information prepared regarding artists John Buck and Hung Lui (featured in the exhibition). Commissioners stated that the information provided did not adequately address why the artists' work should be considered for purchase. The commission requested that Maureen attend a future VAC meeting to present the purchase recommendation on behalf of the Loveland Museum/Gallery.

Staff/Commissioner Reports

Highway 287 Underpass: Suzanne reported that the removal of the Styrofoam forms from the east walls was completed but the vegetable oil did not release as easily as anticipated. Suzanne will tour the site with Mary Lucking and Janet Meisel-Burns in the next month. A dedication of the new recreation trail will not take place until the spring.

There was discussion regarding the use of the artwork as a coloring activity during the dedication. Suzanne stated that final approval had not yet been given by the artists, although it was under consideration. Commissioners questioned the reproduction rights retained by artists and felt this should be discussed at a future date.

Updated Budget: Suzanne shared the latest budget printout, which indicated a surplus of approximately \$136,000 of unencumbered funds. There was general discussion about whether the Loveland Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden funds were presently allocated in the 2010 budget. It was explained that the money for that project was not allocated to a specific line item and could not be physically encumbered until a purchase was identified. A detailed budget containing final year-end figures and projections for 2011 will be provided at the next VAC meeting.

Information Sharing: Sherri passed the large binders (regarding L M/G Sculpture Garden) to Nancy for review.

Roger Clark commented on how supportive City Council has been to the arts in Loveland through the adoption of the Office of Creative Sector Development, ArtSpace and the (anticipated) Rialto Bridge project in 2010. Enthusiasm within the arts community is high.

Andrew commented that, as Chairman, he will try to keep meetings succinct and more formal to ensure that nothing is missed during the meetings. The norms by which meetings are run may also be a topic of discussion for the VAC retreat this winter.

A retreat date should be finalized in January (once new commissioners are appointed by City Council). There was discussion about having the retreat on a Friday, hosted at Andrew's residence.

Adjournment: Citing no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting length: 55 minutes