

**CITY OF LOVELAND
VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Loveland Museum/Gallery Upstairs Conference Room
January 13, 2011, 5:00 p.m.**

The January 13, 2011 meeting of the Visual Arts Commission was officially called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Vice Chairman Andrew Svedlow. Commissioners present: Angela Canada-Hopkins, Roger Clark, Lynn Kincanon, Sherry Heckel Kuhlmann, and Margaret Rosborough. Josh Emrich, Alyson Kinkade, and Nancy Jakobsson reported their absences in advance. Staff liaison Suzanne Janssen & Susan Ison, Councilwoman Joan Shaffer and Mayor Cecil Gutierrez, Mac and Polly Juneau (Loveland High Plains Arts Council) were also present.

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

Additions or corrections to the December 9, 2010 minutes: None noted. Lynn motioned to accept the minutes as written. Sherri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: There were no citizens present to comment on VAC business.

VAC Appointments: Introductions of all present were made. It was reported that Roger Clark and Lynn Kincanon were reappointed to the commission for three year terms. Angela Canada Hopkins, Alyson Kinkade and Margaret Rosborough were also appointed by City Council to fill vacant positions.

A revised phone listing was distributed for the commission to review. Sherri's phone numbers were incorrect. Correct numbers will be forwarded to the City Manager's office for updating.

Loveland High Plains Arts Council (LHPAC) Donation Presentation/Discussion: Polly Juneau reported that the 2010 Sculpture in the Park Show and Sale was highly successful, resulting in their 10th year with sales in excess of \$1 million. Additionally, sales were up 25% over 2009, with over 75% of the artists selling work during the event. Actual show attendance decreased by 20%. All artists had slightly larger booths than in previous years and many changed their set-up to allow for patrons to physically enter their space. Additionally, Polly acknowledged and thanked commissioners and staff who volunteer their time for this popular community event.

Detailed information regarding the 2011 LHPAC proposed donation was distributed to all. Polly provided a review of the donation selection process, which entails the LHPAC Board, Doug Erion and George Walbye reviewing the initial artist submissions. A technical/engineering review committee meets to discuss the Board's recommendation, paying particular attention to quality, structural and fabrication considerations. Their findings are reported back to the LHPAC Board. It was noted that the number of artists submitting new work for purchasing consideration was lower than in previous years. After careful review, the 2011 proposed sculpture donation was determined: *Bean Pods* by Loveland

artist, Tony Hochstetler. (Photo below.)



This bronze sculpture of a locust tree bean pod stands 5 1/2' tall, weighs 200 lbs. and is 3/7 in the edition. Installation will be similar to the photograph provided. The work will be cast at Bronze Services and a local patinaeur will be used. The commission did not express concerns regarding safety, maintenance, technical or aesthetics.

The number of bronze artists applying for Sculpture in the Park has decreased presumably because of the high cost of their chosen medium in the present economy. Consequently, the inventory of available new work is lower than seen in past years.

Councilwoman Shaffer asked about the lower attendance yet higher sales experienced this year. Mac commented that, for *Sculpture in the Park*, it seemed clear that buyers appreciated having more room to move about to view the artwork, which resulted in higher sales. LHPAC's focus is targeting towards art buyers rather than mass marketing. Polly distributed the 2010 show catalog to commissioners who did not acquire one during the show.

Bud Shark and His Indelible Ink Exhibition: Maureen Corey presented information regarding artist Hung Liu and provided images of her work, including images of Liu's artwork that was not displayed during the recent exhibition. Maureen explained that Hung Liu works from historic photographs taken during the Chinese Cultural Revolution and continues to use these anonymous photographs in her work.

Maureen recommended the purchase of two original prints from the exhibition, *The Maiden* and *The Martyr*, both part of the Unofficial Portraits series. Basic elemental human activities are given historical, cultural significance. Liu's washes signify the veil of memory (as if remembering), obscuring and revealing bits of history in her artwork. She also uses images of cultural importance, Chinese symbols which add interest as each layer is uncovered.

Maureen noted that *The Maiden* is the final available print of that series. She also noted that *The Martyr* is held at the CU, Boulder art collection. Andrew commented that *The Maiden* has a more contemporary, less photographic quality about it when compared to the other images. Commissioners discussed each print noting that these prints would add an element of Chinese art which is currently missing from the public art collection (adding diversification to the collection). The intended location for installation is behind the Front Desk of the Museum/Gallery, depending upon the prints chosen. The price is 30% off of the \$6,000 price (each). Roger asked if the artist could come to the Museum to speak about her artwork during the dedication.

Prior to making a purchasing decision, the budget was discussed, and the anticipated 2011 expenses were outlined.

Sherri motioned to purchase *The Maiden* and *The Martyr* by Hung Liu for \$8,000. Margaret seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2011 Subcommittee List and Project Calendars: The commission reviewed the proposed dates. TAAP (The Art Advocacy Project): Sherri, Angela and Margie agreed to serve on the TAAP subcommittee. Nancy was volunteered to serve again on TAAP.

Transformations Project: Lynn, Roger, Josh and Alyson will serve on the Transformations Project subcommittee.

Emails will be sent to all subcommittee members to determine their respective planning meetings. The call for artists for both projects will be postponed until after the February VAC meeting.

David Griggs Rialto Bridge Design Concepts Presentation: Susan Ison clarified the construction budget for the Rialto Bridge Project, citing the contributions of the City, Community Foundation and the private developer to the Art in Public Places program. The anticipated funds generated are estimated at \$26,500. Susan indicated that David Griggs would be focusing upon the “Hyphen” area of the project, glass surfaces, and the portal between the Bridge and the Rialto Theater. These will be flooring and glass work is likely. Additionally, alternate treatment of the stairwell and the ceiling of the community room are anticipated. David will offer the cost of each design concept so a priority list can be determined.

There were concerns expressed by a commissioner about the use of public dollars above the AIPP fund generated/donated. Susan referenced the use of public art dollars in DIA to enhance the environment for all vendors within that space. Others felt that the analogy did not necessarily fit the Rialto Bridge project as artwork did not occupy individual shops/restaurants. The issue for some was how to best utilize additional public dollars on the project. One commissioner felt that offering an opportunity for the public to see/comment on the proposed designs (in person) would be wise.

The decision to go beyond the 1% of the AIPP funds resides wholly with the commission. Susan reiterated that the architect is very open to maximizing the AIPP budget by incorporating elements within construction process. Susan will provide guidance to David (asking for a menu of design choices) so that the artist can present his ideas at the February meeting. Clarity was given regarding the role of the Rialto Bridge Design Team vs. the original VAC subcommittee.

Heron Rising by Rosetta: Fountain estimates from two vendors (Aqua Engineering and Northwest Colorado Construction) were shared with the commission. Due to the extensive nature of construction needed to bring the plumbing to City code, prepare the existing planter, add a meter and build the installation site, estimates were roughly \$18,000. One contractor suggested it would be easier to scrape the present site and start anew. After discussion regarding the installation and possible future use of that site, the commission unanimously determined to take no action in moving *Heron Rising* by Rosetta at this time. After relaying the site considerations to Rosetta, the artist indicated that she is content with the postponing the move until a future date.

Financial Sustainability and CEF Committees: Mayor Gutierrez outlined public meetings regarding the City's Capital Expansion Fees and the Financial Sustainability Study to address the anticipated deficits within the 2012 budget. Sherri offered to participate as the VAC representative for the CEF committee. Roger will represent the commission at the Financial Sustainability meeting.

2010 Achievements / 2011 Goals: Suzanne shared the preliminary list below and commissioners were asked for additional input:

2010 Accomplishments

- *The Bell Keepers* by Bruce Papitto: Approved for installation at Benson Sculpture Garden
- *Persistence of Vision* by Pat Kennedy: Approved donation and installed at the Rialto Theater
- Installation of the artwork for the Highway 287 Underpass
- Artwork collection maintenance
- The Art Advocacy Project (called TAAP - "Tap"): Six sculptures on temporary loan for one year
- Transformations Project: Nineteen Northern Colorado artists transformed 20 power utility boxes with unique and diverse designs
- Artwork research for Museum/Gallery Expansion Sculpture Garden
- Artists commissioned for the Loveland Library Expansion (including the relocation/storage and reinstallation of existing artwork)
- Artists commissioned for the Chilson Recreation Center Expansion (including the relocation/storage and reinstallation of existing artwork)
- Artist hired to serve on the Design Team for the Rialto Theater Bridge
- Revision of Acquisition, Donation and Deaccession Policies
- Commissioner participation in the planning efforts for the Office of Creative Sector Development
- Approval/Coordination of Downtown Window Art for vacant buildings

Councilwoman Joan Shaffer added two additional accomplishments: 1) Purchase of *Red Rocks Divide* by Joshua Been and, 2) Purchase of *Heron Rising* by Rosetta

2011 Goals

- Evaluate the continuation of The Art Advocacy Project (TAAP) May 2011-2012 Program
- Evaluate the continuation of the Transformations Project
- Approval of donation(s) for Benson Sculpture Garden
- Installation of new and existing artwork at the Public Library
- Installation of new and existing artwork at the Chilson Recreation Center
- Commission and installation of artwork at the Rialto Theater Bridge
- Determine final artist list for the Loveland Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden

The goals will be reviewed and discussed in more detail at the spring retreat.

Spring Retreat: After much discussion, commissioners determined two choices for the retreat: Saturday, Feb 5th (conflicts with City Council "Advance") and March 4th. Suzanne will email absent commissioners to determine their availability.

Staff/Commissioner Reports

Budget Wrap-Up 2010: The 2011 budget, outlined with present financial commitments, was discussed prior to the purchase of the original Hung Liu prints, *The Maiden* and *The Martyr*.

Chilson Recreation Center Expansion: Airworks Studio Update: Airworks Studio will present their revised design concepts in February.

Highway 287 Underpass by Mary Lucking and Pete Goldlust: The artist(s) are likely to come to Loveland during the first week of February to address the issues concerning the Styrofoam removal.

Public Library Artwork: *Harmony of Chaos* by Rafe Ropek: Rafe Ropek examined *Harmony of Chaos* and found that the electricity to the artwork had been turned off. The piece is balanced and rotates easily. Rafe noted that the proposed new location for this artwork is in a stairwell where rotation will not be possible. Rafe sought clarification from the commission as to whether or not they wish the piece to rotate, and if so, a new location is desired. The City's Facilities Manager expressed that the only possible place for the artwork was in the stairwell. There was much discussion regarding relocating the artwork outside of the Library; however, finding a location large enough to accommodate the 27 foot length is problematic. The artwork is site-specific and relocating the artwork violates the original intent of the artwork. The site for which *Harmony of Chaos* was originally intended will no longer exist after the Library expansion.

Commissioners were asked to consider alternative locations outside of the public library. If placed onto private (school) property the VAC would be responsible for the ongoing care unless that artwork was deaccessioned. The commission will consider possibilities at the February meeting. Suzanne will ask those commissioners (not present) to visit the artwork.

Information Sharing

Susan reported that Sunita Sharma (City Attorney) has stated that purchases for the Museum/Gallery Sculpture Garden do not need to be noticed and purchasing authority may be delegated to a third party.

The Office of Creative Sector Development has been approved by City Council and the commission is seeking applications. Additionally, there is one vacancy for the Community Marketing Commission.

Threads to China, programming held in conjunction with the Museum/Gallery's present exhibitions (*China Modern* and *Legacy of China*) features a special 8-course Chinese New Year's Celebration Dinner at the Asian Café on Saturday, February 5th. Several other programs relating to the exhibition will also be offered.

Adjournment: Sherri motioned to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting length: 2:07