

**SANDPOINT ARTS COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019  
4:00 PM CITY HALL UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM  
1123 LAKE STREET**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elle Susnis, Barry Burges, Hannah Combs, Matt Kerr, Patricia Walker, Carol Kovalchuk

**COUNCIL/STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** City Staff liaison Aaron Qualls, Linda Heiss, Sarah Gilmore (Minutes)

**COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:** Holly Walker

**Chairman Susnis called the meeting to order at 3:59 pm.**

Matters from the Public: None

Approval of Nov. 12, 2019 Minutes: Motion to change ‘quiet’ to quite. Motion to approve with noted changes. **Motion passes unanimously.**

Financial Report:

1. *Financial report update:*
  - a. *Downtown District:*  
\$100,991.27 remaining.
  - b. *Northern District:*  
\$96,743.71 remaining.
    - o \$49,936.94 for Schweitzer round about

Old Business:

1. *Election of Arts Commission Chair and Vice Chair:*
  - a. *Commission Chair: Nominate Ellie by Matt Kerr*
    - i. *Seconded by Barry and Hannah – passed unanimously*
  - b. *Vice chair: Nominate Carol Kovalchuk*
    - i. *Seconded by Matt Kerr – passed unanimously*
2. *Art on Loan Sculpture Proposal from Artist Mark Kubiak:*

Art piece described as 6.5 feet high and very heavy, commissioned by Mark Kubiak. Location would depend on whether the sidewalk could handle the weight of the installation. Aaron mentions that Cedar just got reinforced concrete and could be a good spot, but says that Mark

recommended it should be in a nice, contemplative place. Algorithm 5 is the name of the piece. Mark is offering it for a long-term loan. It is two pieces together, and Aaron says the back portion could be used as a bench. Ellie says that if we put it in a park, we'd probably have to install concrete footing as well. Matt Kerr brings up the parking lot before the City Park on Bridge Street. Comments regarding how that'd be a nice sculpture garden/area. Aaron shows location on map and concept drawings. Aaron says it's a good time to weigh in public art to go in this area due to discussions surrounding its consideration as an improved open public space.

Ellie asks that if the commission does want to pursue this, what are its next steps? She mentions that the commission needs to make sure it is not in conflict with other projects, or is not in the way of traffic views, and that it is not blocking pedestrian traffic etc. Ellie is questioning whether we discuss locations now, or if we vote on it without knowing a definite location.

More discussion ensues surrounding the city beach location and whether this is good place. Ellie mentions that it might be good to put it in a place that doesn't usually get finding, like SURA districts. Barry asks if we have an inventory of prospective places to possibly put art. Aaron says there is a future public art installation map and pulls it up. Aaron identifies where the Northern and Downtown SURA districts are.

Hickory Park is discussed, but there is concern that it is a 'hangout' place for individuals who may have intentions to deface the installation. Ellie mentions there are other pocket parks, such as Third Street Pier. Aaron says that that commission collectively should come up with some locations, and then staff can go through and review them.

Ellie suggests that on the waterfront south of Memorial Field at Lakeview Park could be nice because it is out of the SURA district. Barry suggests placing the installation near the Bonner County historical museum. Ellie mentions south of memorial field has plans to be revamped in the future; Patricia agrees that this could be nice because it is out of an athletic/play area. Ellie says she's good with Lakeview Park. Aaron mentions that Linda is working on ADA accessible infrastructure. Aaron says the timing of these improvements are questionable compared to the refurbishment of the field work. Ellie clarifies that this area has a disadvantage due to the improvements of the area potentially being far into the future. Aaron says that the commission would want to talk to consultants and Dan (staff) to make sure it is not in conflict with existing projects that are happening. Aaron mentions that because it is outside of SURA, then the foundation would have to be funded separately. Matt and Carol confirm that they imagine it should be down by the water.

Barry asks for clarification on what third street pier looks like and how installing the piece there could work. Ellie expresses that some bicycle pads just got installed in the area. Aaron clarifies that we don't really want to take up the existing grassy areas. Matt Kerr asks why not put it out on the concrete pad in the water, and discussion resolves the fact that some of that area is underwater depending on the season. Aaron brings up the fact that the statue of liberty is constantly climbed on and jumped off of, which is another consideration; the water is not very deep next to the end of the pier. Aaron clarifies that the installation up for discussion is easy to climb on due to its design. Ellie says lets keep third street pier as an option on the list.

Ellie brings up the parking lots before City Beach again that have the Sandpoint Byway Trail running next to them. Aaron brings up how the commission discussed sculptures being installed on the path before. Ellie says it sounds like some of the places up for discussion are going to be under construction at some point in the future. Aaron confirms that there is no hard and fast date for installation that needs to be decided on because construction could be years in the future. Aaron says there is more parking proposed for city beach that will be discussed in the Parks and Recreation meeting after this one. Aaron confirms that City beach is looking at things holistically in terms of what to do next.

Ellie tries to clarify how to approve this installation project. She suggests motioning to accept the commissioned piece for future installation and to have future talks with the City Attorney, and suggests listing the various places that were discussed to install the art. Aaron says its important to discuss the footing that would come with it. Hannah says the other thing is the drafting of the contract that will go together with accepting/funding the art installation. Aaron says yes, and we can research cost estimates for transportation and structural components. Ellie suggests wording the motion as ‘we are in favor of moving forward with exploring costs, location, legal contracts, and final approval.’ Barry moves that we accept mark Kuvyak’s sculpture for installation in one of the four locations pending staff recommendation and city council approval. Carol seconds the motion. **Motion passes unanimously.**

#### New Business:

##### 1. Review of Utility Cabinet Art Proposals (Linda):

Linda put together power point with photos. Says only one photo is missing because it came in a format that she could not access. Ellie asks whether we have enough photos to change the rest that are needed. Linda says yes, unless there is a specific place that might be best with a certain photo on utility box. Linda says that some of these submissions can be envisioned with one of both sides of utility box. Linda says its important to consider the shape of the boxes and the size as in height and length of photo. Patricia asks whether the photos will be tested for quality if they are blown up. Linda says yes, the people who are in charge of the photos being blown up specified the quality of photo resolution. Linda says Connie used photograph for one box and has a painting of that same photo, and Linda says it’d be cool to put that on the other side of the box. Linda is concerned that some photos like the one spelling ‘SANDPOINT’ from various photos would be lost, in terms of quality and interpretation’ if they were wrapped on boxes.

Linda asks what the next steps would be. Hannah asks whether there is software that can help the commission envision what a blown up photo would look like on the dimensions of the box. Linda said there is a company that the Commission can partner with in terms of procurement of envisioning art on boxes. Linda mentions that we should let the public pick one of the photos for the boxes. Ellie says in the past there has been a separate selection committee. Linda asks whether we should pick who is on that committee now so that the process can be continued. Ellie suggests we should determine what kinds of photos would look best on certain boxes (dependent on height/length/dimensions of box) before picking that committee and giving them photos. Linda and Carol agree.

Ellie says that there is typically only 2 SAC members, 1 chair and 1 other; there should be 2 regular citizens; 3 professional artists, 2 who are actually artists; whatever staff are available; 1 city council member. Aaron clarifies that some of these will be here for a while, so it's important to ensure there is an appropriate balance of art-minded folks and semi-experts that should be on the selection panel to ensure it's a good vote. Linda asks whether we should talk to Jennifer to see if we should put out a public announcement. Aaron says that usually SAC members make a recommendation of names to the mayor. Ellie says it probably doesn't matter how we do it, so we could probably do public announcement. Aaron says that the business with some of these boxes in front of them should have a say in where they go.

Linda clarifies that there is a map/list and she will find that PowerPoint. Linda says that some are destined for historic photos while some are good for any kind of art. Ellie says please send list and the commission can hash out who to add for selection panel and the group can go from there. After that, they can figure out where to suggest where art should go.

Linda clarifies phase one (3 more boxes), phase two (July first funding rolls over), and phase three. It would be good to ensure what the commission wants to install is ready and decided on by Phase two.

No more comments from Commission.

#### Matters from the Commission/Staff:

- New City Council liaison: Ellie says we should probably figure out who this is
  1. Comprehensive Plan Update:
    - a. Housing and neighborhood survey out right now
    - b. Aaron working with Linda on Community Character and Design survey tomorrow. Looking at current goals and objectives in plan to see if they still apply. Asks commission to let him know if they want to include any additional questions to that survey.
    - c. Multi-modal transportation review in February – taking advantage of winter carnival to get community input
  2. Parks and Recreation Master Plan
    - a. Happening right after this meeting
    - b. Design charrettes happening at Little Panida tomorrow starting at 8 a.m.
    - c. City Council meeting tomorrow: workshop to gather more feedback
  3. City Website
    - a. Ellie says a public art archive email was sent and there is an opportunity to develop a free public arts map. Carol clarifies that there is a template for that and we can do that if we want to. Ellie says there is a spreadsheet that is the beginning of a Sandpoint Public Art Collective inventory. Carol says that she can spread an inventory spreadsheet as a google doc. Discussion regarding old Monarch Coffee being bought and possibly knocked down, and how this would affect a mural that exists on the wall facing the post office. Carol says the piece is shearing so bad that it might be more valuable to just decommission the art piece. It would be nice to have an inventory by summer to give to the public. It is mentioned that Hannah

would benefit from having that at her business. Discussion regarding how this would take a long time because of GIS work. Barry asks whether a brochure is possible. Discussion regarding how this would take time and money, and whether it would provide public benefit. Aaron brings up 'Stories' that was created for historical sites in Sandpoint. Discussion about how there were printing costs, donated labor for the graphic design. Carol says an archive would benefit national exposure which could attract visitors. Aaron thinks a link from the national archive to Sandpoint's website would be beneficial because it wouldn't take up staff time. Carol said it would be cool to have a bio about the artists too. Ellie asks whether it would be helpful to have volunteers.

4. Meeting Time: Second Tuesday is hard for people to meet, but council chambers are hard to find an opening for meetings. All commission meetings will now be held in council chambers for video recording. Aaron suggests doing a doodle poll might be the best, and there is general agreement that that works. Confirmation that the commission meetings definitely need to be held in council chambers.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.**

DRAFT