

## City of Missoula Public Art Committee Minutes

September 19, 2023, 4:00 pm

Members Present: Kathi Olson, Chair, Dennis Lippert, Debra Parker, Danielle Vazquez, Mia Hanak, Erika Hickey

Members Absent: Tiana Grise, Mirtha Becerra, James Walter

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### 1.1 Roll Call

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### 2.1 8.15.23 Minutes

Correction - We will be approving the July minutes since there was no formal meeting for August.

Debra moves to approve the July minutes. Mia seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

### 4. BUDGET UPDATE

Kathi has passed out the budget report for August and a form on budgeting line items, the definition, and the numbers that correlate. She explains it is important that the committee understands these line items and knows how to decipher them.

The committee agrees this form is very helpful and thanks Kathi for making it clearer to them. The committee discusses the categories and subcategories for the line items.

### 5. ACTION ITEMS

### 6. NON-ACTION ITEMS

#### 6.1 Missoula Sculpture Park - Kathi

Kathi explains that the working committee has been working with Chuck Leonard and did a feasibility study for a Sculpture Park.

Kathi lets the committee know they have gone over everything with Donna Gaukler and with all the places that they reviewed in Missoula, the top 2 were Silver Park and Clark Fork National Park. Kathi explains both parks have pros and cons.

Nathan will send the committee the feasibility study and Kathi suggests walking through this feasibility study in depth with the committee at some point.

Kathi lets the committee know there has been a discussion to start calling this project a "Sculpture Walk" instead of a "Sculpture Park". Kathi suggests that we as a committee walk through the parks ourselves to weigh the options.

Mia asks, when you did the feasibility study and walk-through with Donna, did you just discuss the top 2 locations. Kathi answers yes.

Kathi adds that this group understands that the PAC will be integral in the planning process of this project. Mia asks if PAC would be the fiscal sponsor for this project. Kathi answers we would help with money, but it would be a shared responsibility with the foundation and Arts Missoula most likely.

Dennis asks, when could PAC do a walk through the parks? Kathi suggests next Tuesday at 4 pm and meeting in the Currents parking lot. Most committee members can make this day. Nathan will send out an email to the committee about this.

## **6.2 Traffic Signal Box Project - Kathi**

Kathi talks about the new Traffic Signal Box installments that happened this summer.

Kathi reminds the committee about the 3 traffic signal box artists: Batoul Khouliani, Kaisha Gerhardt, and Monica Giles-Brings Yellow.

Kathi explains we did an artist appreciation at the Dana Gallery during first Friday in August for them. All 3 artists were able to make it to this event.

## **6.3 PAC Live Summer 2023 - Debra**

Debra lets the committee know that we didn't find any artists for the September PAC Live. We could do a PAC live in October possibly if we are in contact with an artist. We will be reaching out to potential people and not be putting out an art call.

Kathi says if the committee has suggestions for artists for a PAC Live in October please let her know.

Kathi will be sending some traffic signal box pictures and videos to Nathan so he can post this on social media and the website.

## **6.4 Public Art Maintenance in the Parks - Kathi**

Kathi reminds the committee that we are sending \$250.00 to Parks and Rec. so they can purchase "elephant snot". We are just waiting for the code for this to transfer into their funds.

## **6.5 Public Art Coordinator Email - Gwen**

Gwen is absent but Kathi knows she has been working on this. Eric Hallstrom - Chief Operations Officer for the city will be working on this as well.

## **6.6 Indigenous Mural Project - Gwen**

Kathi passes around the pictures of the walls that have been painted with a base coat. Kathi will pass along these pictures to Nathan to post on our website. Kathi suggests we have Gwen update us via email about this project.

## **6.7 Traffic Circle Project (Hollis & Livingston) - James / Kathi**

Kathi suggests we table this project until we get more info from James.

## **6.8 Burning Man Sculpture Project - Mia / Kathi**

Mia talks about going to Burning Man and how climate change directly impacted this project. She lets the committee know that they weren't able to bring the piece to Burning Man at all due to the hurricanes. They have plans on bringing the piece to Missoula for next year. It is scheduled to go to Dubai in December and is currently a part of the - cop 28 UN Climate change summit. It will also be a part of a U.S. tour and hopefully make it to Missoula by next year. Mia also adds she will have to do fundraising to bring it to Missoula.

Mia notifies the committee of the scheduled locations throughout the year for the Burning Man piece.

The committee discusses when this piece could make it to Missoula. They discuss late July or early August of next year as a possibility for it to make its way to Missoula. Mia says the content is dynamic for this piece as well so it could be changed once it is in Missoula.

Kathi adds that this piece could be incorporated with the Sculpture walk in Missoula.

Mia adds that there was a great art talk about sustainability during Burning Man. She talks about a mural that uses solar panels. She adds this could be a great idea and topic of discussion to have right here in Missoula.

Kathi suggests we do the fairgrounds next Tuesday at 4 p.m. and move the art walk through the parks for the feasibility study the following Tuesday at 4 pm. Nathan will send out calendar invites for these 2 meetings.

#### **6.9 R.A.C.E. / Cognizant Collaborative Project - Kathi**

Kathi notifies the committee that theoretically this is back on. She reminds the committee that they were planning on doing a mural on the Cognizant wall. They would like to donate money for this project.

Kathi asks Danielle if she could be a part of this working group. Danielle answers yes, she could help with this, but she will be out of town next week.

Kathi has worked with R.A.C.E. to apply for a downtown association grant for \$5000 that could hopefully bring this project back to life.

The committee asks what does Cognizant do? Kathi answers they focus on technology integration.

#### **6.10 Board Structure and Framework (Informational)**

Kathi says she has talked to Heidi in the Mayor's Office to open applications for 2 new public art committee members. The city has not sent this out yet.

She asks if anyone knows of any good candidates to have them apply when it is live. Kathi talks about the application/selection process for this.

1 would be from the council and 1 from the mayor's office.

#### **6.11 Annual Meeting Review**

Kathi suggests we save our annual meeting for November possibly.

Mia asks would this annual meeting be on the same day as our regular meeting or if it would be separate. Kathi says they have done it in the past both ways. Kathi says the mediator they had last year is willing to come again this year. Mia says she will be gone from November 22nd to December 12th.

Erika asks do we think we will have 2 new members by November or December? Kathi isn't sure about this but hopefully that they would.

The committee decides to do the annual meeting November 14th from 4 - 7pm and move the regular PAC meeting for November to this date to combine the two. Nathan will change the date of the November meeting.

## **7. Tabled Projects**

### **7.1 Branding**

### **7.2 Rattlesnake Neighborhood**

### **7.3 Audio Interpretation Project**

### **7.4 Project Procedures**

### **7.5 Public Art Planning in Public Spaces**

### **7.6 Skate Park / Higgins St. Bridge**

### **7.7 Stormwater Mural Project**

### **7.8 Environmental Art**

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS**

Erika talks about how there isn't much public art in East Missoula. The Dept. of Transportation will match a grant that the county is applying for to redo the Highway 200 corridor through E. Missoula.

Another place is the water tower on the side of the mountain in E. Missoula. Erika lets the committee know it is a bit of an eyesore and is looking into revitalizing this. This is something that Erika has been having conversations within the community for years but hasn't had any movement so far in the project. Erika will take the lead on this project and will focus on fundraising if it is approved by the committee. Kathi says we can put this project on the agenda as an action item for next month. Erika will present on this for next month. The committee agrees that this is a great project to look into further.

Danielle has a question if there was any movement for the public art mural installation on the Engle and Volk's side of the wall. Kathi says it has been halted but she will look into this. We will also put this on the agenda for next month.

Danielle asks does the county have any funding opportunities outside of city grants. Kathi answers they have applied for some of the new county grants in the past so yes there are opportunities for this.

Kathi reminds the committee about Erik Hallstrom who is the operations officer for the city who visited a PAC meeting a couple of months ago. Virginia Tribe has been hired by the city to talk to committee members about our processes. Kathi isn't sure what exactly she will be talking to the

committee about but this will happen in the span of 6 - 9 months. Kathi isn't sure if she will be talking to the committee members individually or as a group for this.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Mia makes a motion to end the meeting. Dennis seconds the motion. Meeting adjourns: 5:16 pm