

**MEETING MINUTES  
SIOUX FALLS VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**January 19, 2016**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Carnegie Town Hall – 235 W 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls SD 57104**

(Staff Liaison: Russ Sorenson: 367-8888)

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Clara Jacob; Larry Ling; Ivy Oland; Sandra Pay;  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Steve Brummond - Excused; Larry Crane;  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Gray (Economic Development); Mike Patten (Parks & Recreation); Zach DeBoer (Exposure Gallery); Russ Sorenson - VAC Staff Liaison (City Planning Office)

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER & QUORUM DETERMINATION**

Commission Chairperson, Larry Ling, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

**ITEM 2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairperson, Larry Ling, welcomed the Commissioners and guests.

**ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

Chairperson, Larry Ling, asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Commissioners expressed no changes to the regular meeting agenda. Commissioner Clara Jacob made a motion to approve the regular agenda as presented. Commissioner Sandra Pay seconded the motion. There were no further comments received. The motion to approve the regular agenda was unanimously approved.

**ITEM 4. REVIEW & ACTION on the December 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson, Larry Ling, requested a motion to approve the December 15, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Sandra Pay made a motion to approve the meeting minutes presented. Commissioner Ivy Oland seconded the motion. There were no further comments received. The motion to approve the December 15, 2015 meeting minutes passed unanimously.

**ITEM 5. UPDATE on Proposals for Downtown Riverfront Property – Community Development (Michael Gray)**

Michael Gray, Economic Development Coordinator for the city, explained that in early October 2015, the City of Sioux Falls issued a request of proposals (RFP) for a potential opportunity to redevelop a City-owned parcel of land on the West Bank of the Big Sioux River in Downtown Sioux Falls. The parcel (formerly the Downtown River Parking Ramp) is located at 120 East Ninth Street along the river near the curve where Ninth Street and River Road meet. Mr. Gray commented that since demolishing and removing the River Ramp from this site three years ago, the City has received multiple inquiries regarding the availability of this site for private investment. The City believes this triangle-shaped site on the river may be attractive for a mix of private and public uses, including the possibility of integrating the site with a future phase of the River Greenway.

On December 3, 2015, the City received three unique proposals that convey a range of ideas and multiple uses for this rare riverfront property. The three proposers are JDI LLC, The Banks, and Lloyd Companies. Mr. Gray stated that a review committee is currently examining the proposals and that a recommendation to award a proposal on the property is expected to be announced in early 2016.

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Commissioner Ivy Oland, expressed the VAC is very concerned about whether or not the three development proposals will in any way affect the existing CommUnity Youth Mosaic, a well-known artistic element within the Downtown area. (The mosaic wall was constructed in three phases from 2006-2008). She inquired if there were any safeguard assurances expressed in the RFP, or to be considered by the review committee, in their recommendation(s) to protect the existing mosaic wall.

Mr. Gray responded the RFP addressed the onsite development potential for the triangle parcel site, and did not include the existing mosaic wall.

A Commissioner mentioned the existing CommUnity Youth Mosaic Wall is not only adjacent to the proposed development triangle parcel, but also adjacent to the Big Sioux River Greenway, and that there should be further consideration for the mosaic wall as it relates to any future design and development plans for Phase III of the River Greenway. Another Commissioner suggested that city staff involved with the design plans for Phase III of the River Greenway be invited to attend the next VAC meeting to provide a project update. The Commissioner explained this would provide another opportunity for the VAC to express their position about the mosaic wall's artistic importance and provide further awareness and need for safeguarding the mosaic wall. Other Commissioners agreed. Russ Sorenson, Staff Liaison, acknowledged the VAC's request.

Commissioner Oland inquired if the Commission could be proactive in this matter in such a way as to submit a letter to the project review committee for this particular development proposal, and also to Parks and Recreation staff regarding Phase III of the River Greenway, to let them all know the importance of the existing mosaic wall to the VAC, Downtown, and Sioux Falls community. Staff Liaison, Russ Sorenson, responded the Commission's Bylaws address guiding principles for providing a letter of advocacy (Article XI).

Commissioners Clara Jacob and Ivy Oland volunteered to form a VAC subcommittee to draft an advocacy letter on behalf of the Commission for Chairperson, Larry Ling's, review and signature. Other Commissioners in attendance expressed their support in this instance to establish a subcommittee and to send a letter of advocacy. There were no further comments received.

#### **ITEM 6. REVIEW & ACTION on Sculpture Placements**

a) Evaluation Criteria for Revised Public Art Presentation / Donation Form

As a follow up to the VAC's December 2015 meeting request, Russ Sorenson presented a DRAFT of the Revised Public Art Presentation / Donation Form document to the Commission for their consideration. The revised document includes seven additional evaluation criteria for the VAC's consideration of future permanent sculpture placements on City property. The criteria includes:

- 1) Appropriateness - *Is the content or obvious symbolism of the proposed piece of artwork appropriate for those who will view the art, and within the context of the site where it will be viewed?*
- 2) Relevance - *does the piece of art seem particularly relevant to the place where it will be displayed, or the audience who will view it?*
- 3) Site plan - *does the scale of the work of art fit appropriately within, and complement and/or enhance the physical location where it will be placed?*
- 4) Installation and Maintenance cost - *are there any/significant costs associated with the installation and maintenance of the artwork at the proposed site?*
- 5) Safety/security - *will the artwork be well protected from potential theft and vandalism, and can it be properly secured to ensure the safety of those around the artwork?*
- 6) Visibility/impact - *does the proposed location offer high visibility and/or impact to the public?*
- 7) Need - *does the organization or location where the artwork will be placed have the means and/or ability to procure artwork through other approaches? Are we serving locations and audiences deemed in greatest need?*
- 8) Donation - *Is this art piece being donated to the City of Sioux Falls?*
- 9) Artwork concept/history/context:
- 10) Installation: e.g., responsible party, method and equipment requirements:
- 11) Are city support services needed: e.g. utilities maintenance requirements, lighting, etc.?

The Commissioners expressed their acceptance and appreciation for the work done on the revised form document. There were no further comments received. Commissioner Clara Jacob made a motion to approve the revised form as presented. Commissioner Sandra Pay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Sculpture /Artwork Placement Subcommittee Update(s)

People's Choice Awards placements to be determined:

*2012 - Daughters of Peace; 2013 – Farmer; 2015 – Sunday with Jessie; Other - Invariete Concordia*

Staff Liaison, Russ Sorenson, mentioned the Commission's Subcommittee continues to review potential locations for sculpture placements for *2012 - Daughters of Peace; 2013 – Farmer; 2015 Sunday with Jessie; Other - Invariete Concordia*. The remaining sculptures for placement, except for *Sunday with Jessie*, are in secured city storage locations.

Relative to placement for the *Farmer* sculpture, it was noted that Commissioner Steve Brummond, provided a photograph of the *Farmer* at the Farmers Market location. Staff liaison, Russ Sorenson has also provided the Commission with another photograph depicting a potential Horse Barn location. Russ expressed that Parks & Rec staff, along with the Stock Yards Plaza group, are interested in locating the *Farmer* sculpture at the Horse Barn.

At the December 2015 VAC meeting, Commissioners voiced their preference for the *Farmer* sculpture placement to be at the Farmers Market, rather than at the Horse Barn area, due to planned renovation construction at the Horse Barn and the existing presence of a sculpture (owned by SF Arts Council) already at the Horse Barn circle plaza area. In response to the Commission's December 2015 VAC meeting request for additional information about the planned renovation of the Horse Barn at Falls Park, and development of a Stockyards Plaza along Weber Avenue, Mike Patten, Park Development Specialist, was in attendance to provide information about the Horsebarn renovation project.

Mr. Patten explained that a non-profit organization, known as Stock Yards Plaza Inc., led by citizens, Mr. Jim Woster and Susan Randall, were actively pursuing the development of an indoor venue in the Horsebarn at Falls Park to promote a Stockyards AG Experience to tell the story of agriculture on the prairie and educate younger generations about agriculture through interactive, multimedia learning stations, replicas from the historical stockyards, and events, festivals, seminars, and celebrations exploring agriculture past and present. Mr. Patten emphasized there is funding budgeted for the building renovations, however, there is no city budgeted funds for any sculpture installation at the Horsebarn or at the Farmers Market.

A commissioner inquired that if the Stockyards organization would like the sculpture at the Horsebarn, that perhaps they may want to consider providing funding for installation.

The Commission requested that Mr. Patten, Parks & Recreation staff member, contact both, 1) Stockyards Plaza group (Mr. Jim Woster and Susan Randall); and 2) The Farmers Market group representatives; to gauge their respective interests in placing *The Farmer* sculpture at Falls Park. And if they are so interested, to request each group to complete and submit the VAC's revised Public Art Presentation Form for consideration at the next VAC meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am, Carnegie Town Hall.

Park Development Specialist, Michael Patton, acknowledged that upon receipt of the revised Presentation Form from Staff Liaison, Russ Sorenson, that he would contact both groups to complete and submit the necessary application form and invite them to attend the next VAC meeting in February 2016.

No further input from the public was received and no formal action was taken at the January 2016 VAC meeting on this item.

**ITEM 7. SIOUX FALLS ARTS COUNCIL UPDATES - (Sandra Pay, Sioux Falls Arts Council representative)**

a) Cultural Plan Implementation

Commissioner Sandra Pay reported the Sioux Falls Arts Council continues to work toward Cultural Plan implementation through progressive marketing endeavors, utilizing social media, and establishing strong community partnerships to assist with artesian and other workforce development strategies. Sandra Pay stated that beginning in January 2016, Sioux Falls Arts Council will begin updating the 2010 Economic Impact Study of  
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Nonprofit Arts and Culture Organizations.

Sandra Pay commented that approximate 60 arts and culture organizations within a four county area would soon be receiving survey documents.

No further input from the public was received.

- b) Other?  
There was no further items presented by Sandra Pay and no further input from the public was received.

#### **ITEM 8. COMMISSION PROJECT UPDATES**

- a) Public Art Integration Research Findings and Discussion – Larry Crane  
Russ Sorenson, Staff Liaison, mentioned that he contacted the City Public Works TEAM about the Russell Street median artworks (tall steel ornamental grasses). Russ referenced the information packet included a cut sheet copy from the roadway plans. Since Commissioner Larry Crane was absent, it was the consensus of VAC members present to defer discussion on this topic. No further input from the public was received.
- b) Review and Action on DRAFT 2015 VAC Annual Report  
Russ Sorenson referenced the DRAFT 2015 VAC Annual Report for the Commission's review and acceptance. Commissioners expressed no objections to the Annual Report document. No further input from the public was received. Commissioner Sandra Pay made a motion to approve the 2015 VAC Annual Report presented. Commissioner Larry Ling seconded the motion. The motion to approve the 2015 VAC Annual Report passed unanimously.
- c) Review and Action on DRAFT 2016 VAC Work Program  
Russ Sorenson referenced the DRAFT 2016 VAC Work Program for the Commission's review and acceptance. Commissioners expressed no further they would like to review the document further, and consider final action at their January meeting. No further input from the public was received. Commissioner Clara Jacob made a motion to approve the 2016 VAC Work Program presented. Commissioner Sandra Pay seconded the motion. The motion to approve the 2016 VAC Work Program passed unanimously.
- d) Website Updates - Completed  
Russ Sorenson acknowledged that VAC's website page has been updated.

#### **ITEM 9. PUBLIC INPUT**

No further input from the public was received.

#### **ITEM 10. Election of Officers**

Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

It was the consensus of VAC members present to defer the election of officers until such time there is more members in attendance.

#### **ITEM 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., Carnegie Town Hall, 235 W 10<sup>th</sup> Street.**

#### **ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the Visual Arts Commission meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

#### HANDOUTS – December 15, 2015 Meeting

- o January 19, 2016 Agenda
- o December 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes
- o Evaluation Criteria for Revised Public Art Presentation / Donation Form
- o Public Art Integration
- o The *Farmer* Sculpture
- o DRAFT 2015 VAC Annual Report
- o DRAFT 2016 VAC Work Program