

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ART
Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2016 at 5:30 pm
Courtyard Conference Room

Committee Members:

Dennis Dreher (Co-Chair)
Dennis Hatch (Co-Chair)
Jill Smith
Cara Vincent
Al Devine – excused
Cynthia Charat - absent
Cal Kenney
Bee Bantug
Julie Imhof

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Susan Seereiter (City Business Advocate)

Guests:

Mary Groves
Peggy Anderson

1. Introductions

- Peggy Anderson is the current fair manager and Mary Groves is the former fair manager, they would like to have a conversation with COPA about possible murals at the fairgrounds.
- They have both been actively working to improve the fairgrounds and they are now looking to move into phase two and want to beatify the area. The grand stands are an eyesore and they would like to look at adding murals. They were hoping that COPA would be willing to reach out to the artists and start moving forward with making a plan.
- The building is mostly concrete and expanded metal. Concrete block on the bottom and sides with expanded metal pieces underneath.
- They would like to begin with the grand stands as they have received the most complaints but would like to move forward with other areas in the future.
- The Fairgrounds are County property that lie within the City limits
- Mary indicated that grant funds may be available; she'd like CoPA input to begin building budget options
- The committee asked how large the space to work with was. Peggy and Mary will measure the space and take photos and email them to the committee.
- COPA is willing to reach out to the artists to get the project started.
- The committee suggested that it could be a possible apprentice mural is conjunction with the classes at RCC. This would allow for Mary to look at grants within arts and education.
- It was mentioned that the covered horse arena needs much more extensive work before they can explore the idea of adding beauty to it.

2. Review/Approval of Minutes (May 10, 2016 Meeting)

Committee Member Smith moved and Committee Member Kenney seconded the motion to approve the minutes from May 10, 2016 as submitted. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Committee Members Dreher, Hatch, Smith, Vincent, Kenney, and Bantug. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: Imhof. Absent: Devine and Charat. The motion passed.

3. Comments: Chairs, Council Liaison and Staff Liaison

- Dennis H let the committee know that Al Devine would miss this meeting and may be out for an undetermined amount of time.
- Bee wanted to meet with Al on the portable murals. She was told that Jill is the other committee member working on that project but she will be busy for the next few weeks. Bee wanted to discuss the plywood.
- The committee was shown sketches that were presented for the Napa building by Bob Eding.
- The committee discussed the addition of blade signs to the downtown area. The applicant would need to buy their own sign but for the first 20 applicants the City is going to pay the permit and inspection fees.
- Jill offered to bring a sign application for Gallery One. Susan had one in her car that she will get to Jill.

4. Review of Committee update at City Council Workshop (May 23, 2016)

- The co-chairs presented to City Council and let them know the projects that COPA is currently working on. Council seemed enthusiastic about CoPA direction and expressed support, especially for the portable mural project

5. Subcommittee updates

a. Inventory/Catalog

- Cara is hoping to get together as a subcommittee this week and get information on different pieces of art. From there they will start entering the information in the spreadsheet.

b. 5th and H Development

- The committee discussed trying to talk to Al about the documents he created. Jill serves as subcommittee chair in his absence. Dennis D has most of his documents and images, the subcommittee will ask him for his priorities and work from where he left off.

c. City Employee Art Show

- Susan sent an e-mail to City employees, only three people have expressed interest in participating so far.
- It was discussed that the invitation could be extended to City Committee members. Susan will send that note.

d. Mural of the Month

- Cal sent an email out to Michael Bird, who is head of the Josephine County Cultural Coalition, asking for support in the Mural of the Month program. He is now waiting to hear back and see if that comes to fruition.
- It was suggested to also check with the Chamber of Commerce as a secondary resource.

e. Empty Storefronts

- Julie shared her business plan with the committee.
- Julie spoke to Jon Bowen and he wants to collaborate with COPA on this project.
- There was a concern about liability and access to the vacant buildings that will need to be worked out.
- The committee had a discussion on the banners that Jon/Tourism would like to put in the windows of the vacant buildings. These will have a historic emblem with colorful backgrounds. Hyla Lipson has offered some pieces from the Museum collection for a display. Julie will set up a meeting with Jon to continue the effort.

f. Guidelines

- Dennis D distributed notes on the guidelines and question proposed for murals within the historic district.
- He is seeking input from the committee and will follow up on this item in more detail at a future meeting.

6. Other CoPA Business

- Jill has been in touch with Janet Higgins, the artist working on the life sized deer sculpture. Janet would like COPA to come view it.
- The committee determined that July 20, 2016 would work best for the most COPA members.
- Jill is waiting for a confirmation from Janet about inviting the Ford Foundation group.
- Meeting will be in the Y building at RCC and Jill will confirm the time with Janet.

Next Meeting: July 12, 2016 5:30pm, Courtyard Conference Room

These minutes were prepared by Carlie Paulsen, Administration Department, City of Grants Pass.