

MINUTES OF THE PULLMAN
ARTS COMMISSION
MARCH 9, 2010

ROLL CALL: A regular meeting of the Pullman Arts Commission was held on March 9, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room, City Hall, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Pullman Arts Commission:

Kathleen Bodley	Commission Member
Linda Hartford	Commission Member
Lolly Owens	Commission Member
Anna-Maria Shannon	Commission Member
Rebecca Thorgaard	Commission Member
Mike Yates	Commission Member
Patrick Siler	Commission Member

Call to Order Chairperson Anna-Maria Shannon opened the regular meeting at 4:03 p.m.

Attendance 1. Chairperson Anna-Maria Shannon introduced Laura McAloon, City Attorney.

Minutes of February 9, 2010 2. Rebecca Thorgaard moved, Linda Hartford seconded to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 9, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Anna-Maria Shannon stated she had talked to Cary Vielle about her idea for an Art Walk. Cary Vielle is very busy and is thinking of doing the Art Walk sometime in September. Anna-Maria Shannon stated it could be a downtown cultural festival and the Commission could get involved. She asked the Commission to think about how they can help Cary Vielle. Cary Vielle is willing to do most of the groundwork. Anna-Maria Shannon stated she has talked to the Chamber about a grant using the tourism tax dollars. Kathleen Bodley asked if the plan is to put works of art in

businesses. Anna-Maria Shannon responded that art would be put on the sidewalks. Kathleen Bodley stated that putting art in businesses can be a hard thing. Linda Hartford stated that art and customers can cause conflict. Anna-Maria Shannon stated this can be hard for the artist. There are a lot of things to think about. She will pass suggestions on to Cary Vielle. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that Cary Vielle will be at next month's meeting.

Mike Yates stated that some businesses have expressed interest in having art in their businesses. Pullman does not have enough galleries. If the art is inside the business then the business can market the art and it becomes a community event. He stated that downtown is a place of commerce and he wants to try to perpetuate commerce. One-day festivals are great, but the art walk could have art for more than one day.

Anna-Maria Shannon suggested doing both. She stated they can have music on the street. Mike Yates stated that Kathleen Bodley's art is large and can be hard to display. Mike Yates stated that he likes the festival idea. He stated we have a person who wants to do an art walk and we do not want to pull the rug out from under her.

Rebecca Thorgaard arrived at 4:15 p.m.

Patrick Siler asked what would be the date of the art walk. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that a date has not been set. Patrick Siler suggested the week of the Lentil Festival. Anna-Maria Shannon stated there is too much going on with the Lentil Festival. Patrick Siler talked about art and music. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that the Lentil Festival is about lentils, not art. Patrick Siler stated he did sidewalk chalk at two Lentil Festivals. The Committee discussed having an art event at the Lentil Festival, holding the Lentil Festival in August and the Art Festival in September, and art on the street.

Anna-Maria Shannon stated that Cary Vielle will be here for the next meeting and the Commission can discuss things with her at that time.

Mike Yates stated that downtown businesses like things going on downtown. It is not a bad idea of expanding on the Lentil Festival. The Lentil Festival is now held on Olsen Street. We might do something in conjunction with the Lentil Festival on Main Street. The downtown merchants would be happy about this. Linda Hartford stated that there are a lot of things going on during Lentil Festival. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that all activities are through the Lentil Festival. The Committee discussed holding the event in conjunction with the Lentil Festival. Mike Yates stated that art can be put on the sidewalk in front of business during the Lentil Festival.

Patrick Siler stated that the Lentil Festival is a time when a lot of people are around. He discussed the original idea of putting art on sidewalks.

Anna-Maria Shannon stated that Cary Vielle is talking about doing her event in September. If the Board would like to see the event with the Lentil Festival they can discuss this.

The Committee discussed fundraising. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that they do not have any projects except the entryway and possible projects in September. They want projects.

Rebecca Thorgaard asked if there was a basic plan for lawn along the railroad tracks on North Grand Avenue. She discussed a park-like setting with a bridge. She stated it would be a good space for sculpture and art. It would also be a good opportunity for sculpture at Richie and Grand.

Anna-Maria Shannon stated that the Committee has no legal way to accept art at this time. Art has to be accepted by the City. The

Committee is looking for banner-type projects.

Kathleen Bodley asked Anna-Maria Shannon to attend the Pullman Civic Trust meeting and bring back information from that meeting to this group. She stated that she will be talking to Kathy Burns, Pullman Arts, who likes the mural project and wants to know how it was done. She asked if she can give Patrick Siler's phone number to Kathy Burns. Patrick Siler stated that she can absolutely give Kathy Burns his number.

Old Business 3.

Banner Update

Anna-Maria Shannon stated that half the banners have been taken down and are at Alegra. They are being sealed. She had examples of the banner which the Commission members looked at. She asked if the Commission members saw a difference between the outside and inside of the banner. The Commission discussed the banners. Mike Yates stated there is not a substantial difference. He stated they had Trevor Bice print up a bluer color to see what it would look like. He stated that if the Commission changes the color, they will have to pay for it. Anna-Maria Shannon stated she does not see that much of a color change but she does want the banners sealed. She stated it costs approximately \$400 to seal these and he is not charging. The Commission looked over the banners and stated they look good, the colors are vibrant. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that we had a five-year warranty and they have been up for a year. They will probably go back up after the Lentil Festival. She stated that Trevor Bice has cleaned them. Kathleen Bodley stated that the Commission needs to be careful of what we have printed.

Mike Yates stated that the banners are placed outside. He is amazed that they look as good as they do.

Lolly Owens stated that in the future, the Commission might want to choose colors that are

bold to show well at a distance. Anna-Maria Shannon stated that direct sunlight affects the banners. She agreed the banners are good and to have Trevor Bice go ahead with them.

Mike Yates stated that the banners are being seen from a distance. We need large letters. He stated that Trevor Bice is trying real hard to make them right.

Anna-Maria Shannon asked if the City has thank you cards. She was advised that the City does not have thank you cards. Linda Hartford suggested using the banner cards.

Entry to Pullman

Mike Yates stated that the trees have been trimmed at the Pullman entry. He stated it might have been the property owner that trimmed the trees. City Attorney McAloon stated that the agreement has not been executed so it must have been the property owner who trimmed the trees.

Kathleen Bodley asked for the status of the agreement. City Attorney McAloon advised that the agreement is hung up on indemnification language and that the City cannot sign the agreement as written. She stated she has asked their attorney to call her. Mike Yates asked for an explanation of why the City cannot sign. City Attorney McAloon explained that the City cannot indemnify a third party for their negligence. It is a technical issue which she believes can be worked through with the owner's attorney.

Mike Yates asked about legal differences in the language of the agreement. City Attorney McAloon stated that if the City signs the current agreement the City is taking responsibility for potential criminal acts.

Linda Hartford asked who has seen the agreement. City Attorney McAloon responded that the Mayor has seen it. Mike Yates stated that his understanding is once the agreement is signed, the highway department is okay with it

and they can move ahead. Mike Yates stated we need to make sure is a doable deal. He discussed funding. Linda Hartford asked what is going to be done with the idea. Anna-Maria Shannon stated this Commission will present a proposal to the City and will look for funds. City Attorney McAloon stated that the agreement will first have to go to City Council. Linda Hartford asked how we will operate. Anna-Maria Shannon responded that the Commission will go to Council when they are ready with a proposal. City Attorney McAloon stated it is the same process as the banners. Linda Hartford stated this could be three months or more.

City Attorney
Discussion

City Attorney McAloon discussed the Arts Commission with the Board. She stated that City staff owes the Arts Commission an apology. They were assigned a staff person, but she became aware of problems with the mural. The Pullman Arts Commission name and logo were on the project. They applied for the grant under their name. The Commission does not have a policy about how Pullman is going to sponsor art. She discussed legal issues and stated that the Commission's first charge is to come back to City Council with policies on how to pick projects and art. This Commission has to have City Council approve basic criteria on how to choose public art and if the Commission gets donations they have to be approved by City Council.

Mike Yates and City Attorney McAloon discussed sponsoring the Art Walk. City Attorney McAloon discussed potential problems with sponsoring an Art Walk. She stated that if the Commission sponsors the Art Walk they have to have criteria on what types of art will be allowed. The Commission needs to lay the foundation of what they are going to be doing.

City Attorney McAloon passed out an ordinance setting up an Arts Commission. She discussed Section 3, duties and the charge from the City Council, with the Commission. She stated the first step is policies. She passed out

policies from another jurisdiction for the Commission to review. She stated that City Council approval is the Board's first step.

Anna-Maria Shannon asked if the document that the Commission sent to City Attorney McAloon is the first step. City Attorney McAloon stated that the document is very comprehensive. She stated that she has some basic samples and passed out two examples. The Board discussed the sample policies. City Attorney McAloon stated that the City has a large art collection.

The Commission and City Attorney McAloon discussed policies and selection criteria, how to screen applications, and the need for a subcommittee.

Kathleen Bodley asked questions of one of the sample policies stating that Section 3 states that City Council should designate Parks and Recreation as the lead agency. City Attorney McAloon stated no, the Commission should not put that into the policies.

City Attorney McAloon stated that every committee is assigned a staff person who is there to work with the open public meetings act, etc. The new library director will be handling the Arts Commission.

Mike Yates asked about sending the policy to Council. City Attorney McAloon stated that City staff will help the Commission with the Council packet.

Linda Hartford asked about the two examples. City Attorney McAloon stated that right now the Commission needs to look at how does Pullman sponsor art displays and participate in events.

Rebecca Thorgaard asked if the Commission needs to start over. Anna-Maria Shannon and City Attorney McAloon discussed the basics and being too detailed in the policies.

Mike Yates stated that he likes going back to the simple idea on how to operate. He is a busy person and does not have time to sit in meetings and not make any progress. He feels the Commission needs to ask for money now. The Commission discussed a presentation that was made to this Board on needing a budget or a method to get funds.

City Attorney McAloon stated that the Commission's first charge was to do recommendations on how to display public art. They need to adopt policies and then come back with plans for funding.

Kathleen Bodley asked about adopting one of the sample policies with some small changes. She stated that once it is approved, they are past the first hurdle.

City Attorney McAloon stated that she heard talk of art walks and festivals. She discussed the role of the Arts Commission. Kathleen Bodley stated she would be happy to work on the resolution. Linda Hartford volunteered to work on it with Kathleen Bodley. Mike Yates stated he wants a brainstorming meeting.

City Attorney McAloon handed out open public meetings act info. She explained that any committee formed by the City falls under the open public meetings act.

Mike Yates asked questions about the Davis Way deal that he is working on with Mayor Johnson. He asked about gifting property for art. City Attorney McAloon stated that the entryway to Pullman is not under this board. If something is donated to the City, then the City accepts it. It would go to City Council and staff recommends whether to accept or reject the gift.

Linda Hartford stated that she is hearing that this Commission needs to consider this ordinance at every meeting.

Mike Yates asked about getting to the point to do the festival and there is no money. What if someone wants to donate to the Arts Commission, how do you do this? City Attorney McAloon explained about dedicated donations. Mike Yates stated this makes it simpler. City Attorney McAloon told the Commission that they can recommend what this Commission should look like.

Anna-Maria Shannon asked if there are ordinances in place for how to donate? City Attorney McAloon stated that the City has a large art collection, but no policy in place on criteria. She discussed why we need criteria.

City Attorney McAloon stated that the Commission has to have policies and follow the policies. She stated that the Commission needs City Council approval when acquiring art.

Mike Yates, Linda Hartford, and Anna-Maria Shannon discussed the sample policies, fundraising, the process, and the need for Council approval.

Kathleen Bodley discussed the Pullman Civic Trust and putting a sculpture at Missouri Flat Creek. City Attorney McAloon stated that they need to follow the Public Arts Policy Guidelines. The Civic Trust should approach the Arts Commission. Mike Yates stated that is not that far off. City Attorney McAloon stated that this Commission will not have total authority. They will be taking everything to City Council. City Attorney McAloon stated that the donor needs to address the maintenance of the art. The City must consider can we maintain the art.

City Attorney McAloon stated that public works is the department that will be taking graffiti off buildings or art. This type of vandalism must be considered.

City Attorney McAloon stated that the Commission should start with a general policy

statement, then go into details.

Mike Yates discussed the entryway. He stated that Mayor Johnson and the Chamber of Commerce got involved. City Attorney McAloon stated that the memo of understanding has to go to City Council. The City Council will want a proposal on how this should be used. They will want suggestions on what should be put there. Mayor Johnson will have input on the entryway sign.

Rebecca Thorgaard stated that she felt this Commission needed to step forward as there is a need for an esthetically pleasing entryway.

City Attorney McAloon discussed the Parks Commission role. Mike Yates stated that the consensus of most people he has talked to is that the Parks Department does a good job on the small areas we have as parks. He asked when does art cross over into that realm? He stated that the Parks Department does not have the time. They need direction on what is pleasing.

The Board discussed having the Arts Commission under the Parks Department. City Attorney McAloon stated that they can ask City Council to have the Parks Commission work with the Arts Commission.

City Attorney McAloon suggested working on the policies first. We do not have a plan on how to use the property yet. The Commission cannot tell City Council how to use the property.

Mike Yates and City Attorney McAloon discussed City Council adopting the policies and a plan for the entryway.

The Commission discussed when the policies could be presented to City Council.

New Business 4. Patrick Siler advised that he will not be able to attend the April 13 meeting.

Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Clerk