

## MISSOULA PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 15, 2017 – 4:00 PM

Jack Reidy Conference Room

140 W. Pine, Missoula, MT 59802

**Committee Members Present:** Courtney LeBlanc, Julie Armstrong, Peter Lambros, Taag Peterson, Kathi Olson

**Committee Members Absent:** Cathay Smith, Helen Hallenbeck, Kia Liszak, Doug Olson

**Others Present:** Becca McCarron (ARTS Missoula), Maryann Bonjorni (UofM Art Department)

### 1. Call to Order 4:21pm

### 2. No Public Comment

### 3. Guest(s): Maryann Bonjorni [UofM Art Department]

- The Missoula Public Art Committee would like to build a relationship with the University of Montana School of Art. Peter explains to Maryann that as a committee we are trying to create and be more proactive about opportunities instead of just grasping at the one that come to us. The PAC would like to connect with art pods to build a regular line of communication. He explains that we can be helping each other (with ideas, resources, finding the right artists, finding the right job/project, manpower, joint databases, joint networks, etc.).
- An idea the committee has previously discussed is holding workshops for artists/students/the public to discuss art fundamentals, how to submit an art proposal, copyright laws, etc. This could be something that could involve both the PAC & UofM.
- **\*Peter reads Maryann the mission & vision statement of the committee\*. Peter asks Maryann: “How can the PAC connect with the university to further these objectives?”**
- **Maryann discusses her thoughts and ideas with the committee.** She says that most public art currently on campus belongs to the Montana Museum of Art & Culture. The School of Art itself does not have any public art pieces, but they definitely have willing artists.
- Maryann suggests some sort of community activity as an option. She talks about the Stewart collection at UCSD La Jolla, the largest public art collection on the West Coast. Maryann has a contact, Mary BeBee (SP?), who might be someone great to bring to Missoula to speak about the purpose of Public Art and her background with it.
- Julie asks in general - how do people want to see or experience public art? Should there be a walking path, or art randomly dispersed - what is a good direction to go? Maryann says to look at what has been done in other places. Missoula still has a lot of room for improvement - for example, we do not have artists in residence here other than at the Clay Studio of Missoula.
- Maryann says there is a project in Butte where they sent artists off to get inspired and then they come back and make art. Another idea would be creating a residency program that can grow. Also, building a greater connection with Missoula’s sister cities (work with Destination Missoula) to accomplish a joint project or invite visiting artists. Maryann says that the university is also thinking about having a long term visiting artist. The PAC could potentially participate in this idea.

- **WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS:** PAC & UofM could partner on holding workshops where professors or interested people teach attendants about submitting an art proposal, art fundamentals, copyright laws, etc. These seminars could be held quarterly.
- **STUDENTS DISPLAY ART:** The PAC & Maryann discuss finding temporary display spaces where certain types of student art can be put up (one space - 2D, another 3D, etc). This would be a wonderful opportunity for emerging artists and students to get their work out there, while also bumping up the professionalism involved so they get to experience a true taste of the public art world and process. Maryann says that the U has a network of Graduate students as well as upper level undergrads that can be leaders in this endeavor. We would acquire the students, have a designated space, and have them go through the entire process of applying through the committee. [The PAC would have real contracts for students/artists to fill out. It would include all responsibilities required]. One artist, for example, could be in a space and the space could simply rotate artists quarterly or every 4 months. Peter suggests we start with only indoor spaces, and eventually move to outdoor if we feel necessary. This project could really open student's eyes to public art.
- Maryann suggests locating temporary art locations/pop-ups. These exhibits could also correspond with workshops. For example, students could be required to attend a workshop to learn about an art proposal. Then, they would propose their art to the committee to be in a show (for example).
- If the PAC wanted a more permanent public art piece there of course would be heavy insurance and contracts involved in that process.
- Peter asks Maryann if the PAC and the University have an opportunity to fundraise together? Maryann says the university does not have a ton of funding, but yes, they have the ability.
- Kathi brings up Traffic Signal Boxes as another opportunity and that more students should apply. Maryann explains that yes, more students should apply. She has also heard that the TSB application has turned some artists off from applying.
- Maryann suggests that the PAC/Becca be in touch with Ed Morrissey, the Head of the Art School. This way Ed can be notified of PAC art calls and be posting things on Facebook as well as informing the staff.
- Maryann suggests that for this project it would helpful to follow deadlines within the semester (to be semester friendly). Therefore, the PAC should get rolling on finding spaces. A potential outdoor space for future reference is by the California Street Bridge. Also, with university connections, a sculpture walk might be a much more doable project down the line.
- Taag says that this UofM connection could be a whole other division of what the Public Art Committee does, which is supporting the interest of the public. It may require a subcommittee. Taag asks about the consideration of insurance. Julie suggests that we find locations first. Maryann says that if we designate a space and the kind of art that will be there, we won't have to tear up a location's walls in the process (one nail, stays in wall - just replace art).
- Maryann says the first week of December is when students are doing their final projects. This could be a way to have students turn in a final project & submit it to a PAC art call - and then they may be selected to get their work displayed by the PAC.
- **In summary, Maryann will be back on the September Agenda to continue this discussion and move it forward. Julie will look for spaces [city buildings] in which art can hang for 3-6months.**

**Maryann will write something up regarding the project/relationship and send it to Becca, who will then send it to the Committee. Once the idea is approved by the Committee, Maryann will put it through to the School of Art Faculty and see who is interested.**

#### **4. Approval of Minutes**

- a. June 20, 2017 - *Taag motions to approve June minutes. Courtney seconds. All are in favor. Minutes are approved.*
- b. July 18, 2017 - Quorum not reached for those present at July meeting. Minutes tabled to September.

#### **5. MCAT Documentary Update - Courtney**

- Courtney reminds the PAC that the MCAT Traffic Signal Box Documentary is being shown Friday September 8th, before "A River Runs Through It" at the North Missoula Outdoor Cinema. It will be shown 15 min before the film. The movie will begin at 8pm, so our documentary probably will begin around 7:45pm. The video was edited by Scott from MCAT and he did a wonderful job.
- Courtney also reminds the committee of the upcoming Wine Merchant opportunity. Courtney will be setting up and showing the documentary on a loop at the October First Friday (Oct. 6) at the Wine Merchant. This is another opportunity for the PAC to get its name out there and show this film.

#### **6. Traffic Signal Box Update – Kathi**

- Kathi updates the committee on the TSB project: TSB artists have officially been selected and the artists have had their informational meeting.
- Kathi says that \$4500 is coming from neighborhood grants. That money should be transferred to finance and finance has been notified that they will have \$700 checks and contract for the artists. The TSB artists will be picking up their official checks and contracts Tuesday. The artists will be painting/vinyling their boxes on River City Roots Festival Weekend [Friday 8/25 - Wednesday 8/30]. The TSB dedication is at the Dana Gallery on September 1st, 6pm, First Friday. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

#### **7. Parking Meter Project Update - Becca**

- Becca informs the committee that the Parking Meters are officially installed on Higgins & Pine.
- Becca asks if the PAC is interested in doing any sort of press or public announcement regarding the Parking Meters? PAC says probably not because this phase of the project was led by ARTS Missoula.
- Parking Meter Project will be moved to September's agenda to gauge the PAC's thoughts on moving forward with a second phase.

#### **8. Lighting for Perseverance & Passage Update - Taag**

- Taag updates the PAC on his progress with lighting the Ybarra sculpture. Taag says he has been working with Ellen Buchanan from the MRA, who may be able to financially support the lighting of the sculpture. Taag has also determined that the project plan efficiently passes the Dark Skies Ordinance. The next step is that Parks & Rec has to review it [Taag is meeting with Parks & Rec on Monday]. Then, Taag will continue with determining details such as electrical pricing, excavation, etc. Taag is planning on pitching the project to the MRA at their meeting in September. He has heard that all we may need to do is write them a letter.
- The lighting will enhance the piece greatly. Taag thinks realistically the project will not be 100% accomplished come Fall.

#### **9. New Park, Parking Space Annual Art Project - Julie**

- Topic is tabled to January 2018.

#### **10. Kickstarter Fundraising Effort [December Letters] - Kathi**

- Topic Tabled to September.

#### **11. Artist's Freedom vs. Themed Work - Doug**

- Doug is not present, topic tabled to September.

#### **12. Yearly Goals Discussion [Catalog & Condition Reporting] - Peter**

- In depth yearly goals discussion will be tabled to September.
- Committee is glad to have had the opportunity and time during this meeting to speak with Maryann about UofM School of Art connection.
- PAC asks Becca how her progress has been on tasks. Becca speaks to committee about newsletters, her progress on the website, and increasing engagement on Facebook & Website.
- PAC thinks the newsletters look good. Peter suggests that Becca can be providing links to the newsletters for their thoughts and if she doesn't hear back by a certain date, she will send them out. PAC gives Becca the go-ahead to release enews but if anything needs PAC approval, to run it by them first, before sending. Julie says if newsletters align with any of the PAC's strategic goals, it should be ok.
- Peter suggests that he and Becca get together to have a discussion about upcoming agendas. Peter requests that Becca add a formal agenda topic next month to discuss chairmanship. Julie offers to help Becca with the website.

#### **13. Becca Updates**

- On Wednesday, August 23rd at 5pm at the Missoula Community Theatre the PAC is invited to the Missoula Arts Connection.

#### **14. Announcements, News, or Upcoming Events**

- No Announcements, News, or Upcoming Events

#### **15. No Comments**

#### **16. Adjournment 6:07pm**

The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. People needing assistance should provide advanced notice to allow adequate time to make needed arrangements. Please call Heidi Bakula at (406) 552-6003 or write her at Mayor's office, 435 Ryman, Missoula, MT 59802 to make the request known.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS 2017-2019

**Mission:** The Public Art Committee affirms the city's role as an advocate to public art, fosters and enriches the aesthetic of the City of Missoula, values and promotes the contributions of artists to the community and furthers the objectives of Missoula City Ordinance 3221.

**Vision:** The Public Art Committee envisions a community where art and artists are valued, and where public art is integrated into the fabric of our place, and enhances the quality of life of its citizens.

### YEAR 1-2017

#### Outreach and Awareness

- A. Create monthly marketing PSAs
- B. Improve website
- C. Begin public art education for artists
- D. Make quarterly reports to council
- E. Establish a more formal connection to U of M art department
- F. Engage in community feedback

#### Governance

- A. Actively invite native representation onto committee
- B. Bring accounting and professional reporting to council
- C. Create annual planning and follow plan
- D. Create a catalogue and condition report
- E. Intentional use of staff and chair time

#### Quality

- A. Increase art call submissions

#### Fundraising and Project Development

- A. Pursue the idea of joining county
- B. Increase staff time
- C. Deepen our relationships to other Public Art Committees for inspiration and funding ideas

- D. Actively seek out grant funding
- E. Enrich private/public partnerships

#### Projects

- A. One big project per year- form committee
- B. Public Art Guide
- C. Parking meters
- D. Lighting for Crossings
- E. Lighting for Perseverance and Passage
- F. Traffic Signal Boxes

### YEAR 2- 2018

#### Outreach and Awareness

- A. Create a public art scavenger hunt
- B. Continued public art education for artists
- C. Create a friends of public art volunteer group
- D. Enrich relationships with local artists by holding artists events

#### Quality

- A. Hit maintenance harder

#### Fundraising and Project Development

- A. Continue to increase staff time
- B. Enrich private and public partnerships

#### Projects

- A. One big project per year

- B. Sculpture Park
- C. Live art/painting and music
- D. Community interactive art

**YEAR 3- 2019**

**Fundraising and Project Development**

- A. Continue to increase staff time
- B. Ask city for project specific money

**Projects**

- A. One big project per year
- B. Bench project