

City of Missoula Public Art Committee – Regular Meeting
February 19, 2013, 3:00 pm, Jack Reidy Conference Room – Council Chambers

Members Present: Joan Jonkel, Kathi Olson, Jeff Rolston-Clemmer, Dana Boussard, David Nelson, Doug Olson, Linda Richards, and Caitlin Copple

Absent Members: Peter Lambros

Non Members Present: Heidi Bakula, Marilyn Ellis

Public / PAC Committee Member Comment: None.

Minutes: Motion: Doug Olson, David Nelson, Second
The minutes of January 15, 2013 were approved as submitted

Reports:

1. Public Comment and Comment from Individual Committee Members - None
2. Park Place Art Project Status –

The status was the same in shooting for an April opening. The artist worked on the concrete portion of the project, but the landscape architect is still working on landscaping issues which required more money. Western Montana Lighting is looking for better lighting instead of the tiny LED lighting that was suggested. In the next 60 days a new type of lighting will be available which is better, stronger, and cheaper. The new lights are on order. The six lights that are planned and budgeted barely illuminate the piece. Kathi offered to speak to Western Montana Lighting to see if she would be willing to help out with more lighting; Dana explained that option had been discussed at the meeting with Western Montana Lighting. The committee is also looking for possible dates to visit the sculpture.

3. Traffic Signal Box Art Project Sub-committee Report - MDT involved in insurance claim

Damaged Traffic Signal Box Discussion (TSB)

- Joan arranged to get the damaged traffic signal box back that was painted by Beth Berling, called Four Season's Trout. A few options for the damaged box will be to cut the panels apart and frame it and use it as a fundraiser. However, the artist recently spoke to Doug Olson who suggested she speak directly to the Mayor and the Mayor said she could have it back. The contract the artist signed provides that if there is a problem the TSB belongs to the city and not the artist.
- Kathi noted that she has been working on the insurance claim with the Montana Department of Transportation since the accident took place. Beth wants to keep the TSB intact. Kathi also spoke to her about redoing the piece. Raising money was the issue, using the insurance money could be a problem since it takes so long to get it. The Park's

Department is open to displaying the box as long as it is safe. There are some metal fabricators willing to help install it.

- Several committee members commented that the box remains a city asset and the regulations on city assets apply; the box is city property according to the contract the artist signed. TSB's also have a different type of contract than other art pieces the committee works with. Because of this the box cannot be given to Beth.
- The committee could look at restoring the damaged TSB and place it in an appropriate spot.
- Doug made a motion to give the TSB box back to Beth to find a place for it. Caitlin seconded the motion. Kathi restated that it was not the committee's place to give the piece away since it is a city asset. Dana said nothing would be done without the artist's approval and it would not be cut up if the artist did not support the idea. Kathi added that the committee had not yet worked with the artist, and Dana said she had made several attempts to communicate with her.
- Caitlin suggested having Beth come to a meeting so she could directly communicate with all of them. Kathi added that she had invited Beth to multiple subcommittee meetings and the meeting being held today. Caitlin added that the committee should make sure the Mayor is aware of this.
- David moved to table the motion, and only Doug opposed it, Caitlin abstained. So the motion carried to table the item.

2013 Spring TSB Project Discussion

- Kathi discussed the current year's TSB project. The art call will go out in April and the TSB's will be painted the last week of July. At this point \$6,000 had been raised for the 2013 round.
4. Funding Sub-committee Report and Budget Request

Doug is Chair of the subcommittee and Kathi, Joan and Caitlin are on the subcommittee. When Doug and Caitlin met with the Mayor he offered PAC \$100,000 over a period of three years. Doug countered with \$35,000 per year for a period of three years which includes \$15,000 for bricks and mortar. The Mayor agreed but stipulated that PAC had to spend the \$35,000 each year; it could not be rolled over to the next year. The Committee must now decide what it wants to spend the money on.

Doug and Caitlin indicated that PAC should come up with a wish list. Several ideas were mentioned. Doug added that they had through the end of March to firm up the budget.

5. Pineview Park Project –

Linda said she would have the draft plan for the next meeting. Jeff asked about Stanley Park. The project at the park would not be done, was the money available? Linda explained she would check into it. Caitlin added that there would be \$3,000 available from that project but it had to be used in the same neighborhood.

6. Missoulian Art Guide for Spring 2013 – Public Art Guide

Kathi stated that there were a limited amount of pages to fill and PAC had to be as inclusive as possible. Several members discussed various pieces that could be included. Joan asked if David, Linda, and Peter would be on a subcommittee to decide on what should go into the guide. Also Dave Strohmaier could be asked to write the editorial and the committee thought that was a great idea.

7. Ongoing Projects – Caitlin motioned to adjourn. 4:44 pm.

Traffic Signal Box Art Project Sub-committee Report – Further clarification was provided by committee members after the February 19, 2013 meeting.

- Kathi provided an overview of the history of the signal box located at Orange/Front/Main executed by Beth Berling, titled *Four Seasons Trout*. She explained that it had been damaged when hit by a vehicle – the driver had an emergency medical situation. Kathi noted that she has been working on the insurance claim with the Montana Department of Transportation since the accident took place. The time delay was due to a variety of factors revolving around the policies and procedures at the state level in dealing with the claim.
- Kathi explained that at the time of the damage she and Liz Dye had discussed with the artist a few options for the damaged box, including to cut the panels apart and frame it, cut undamaged portions of the TSB apart for framing, or possibly the use of the portions as a fundraiser. At that time the artist was agreeable to these possibilities. However, the artist recently spoke to Doug Olson who suggested she speak directly to the Mayor. The Mayor, who was unaware of the ongoing discussions, the signed TSB contract, and state law delineating asset distribution, said she could have it back. The contract the artist signed provides that if there is a problem the TSB belongs to the city and not the artist.
- Beth wants to keep the TSB intact. The Park's Department is open to displaying the box as long as it is safe. There are some metal fabricators willing to help install it.