# Department of Arts & History Commission Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 5:30 – 7:00 pm Trey McIntyre Project office 775 Fulton Street (look for the yellow door)



# **AGENDA**

Our tour of the TMP facility will begin at 5:30....please be prompt if you want to take the tour!

# 5:45 Call to Order – Margaret Hepworth, chair

Approve Minutes of April 1, 2009

- Report from Executive Committee M. Hepworth
- Staff report Terri Schorzman

# 6:00 Hot Topics

- Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities (from January workshop) A. Wescott document attached
- Review and approve City Arts & History Fund for FY10 Committee document attached

# 6:40 Reports

- Visual Arts Advisory Committee: Chair, John Sahlberg
  - a) Approve changes to: Boise Visual Chronicle, Richard Young
- History Committee: Liaison, Suzanne Gore
- Events and Performing Arts Committee: Chair, Stephenson Youngerman
- Youth Committee, Janelle Wilson and Jordan Oberlindacher

# **New Business,** Comments, Announcements, Upcoming Events Fettucine Forum – May 7 – Cities without History, John Bertram – Rose Room, 5:30 pm

# 7:00 Adjourn

# **Upcoming Meetings:**

- Executive Committee meeting: Tuesday, May 26, noon, A&H
- O Commission meeting: Wednesday, June 3, Foothills Room, 5:30
- Events & Performing Arts Committee: Wednesday, May 20, 3:00, A&H
- O Visual Arts Advisory Committee: Wednesday, May 21, noon, A&H
- O History Committee: Wednesday, May 27, 5:30, Idaho Historical Museum

Terri's cell, 724-6506 Janelle's cell, 724-6527



#### April 1, 2009 Commission Meeting- Draft Minutes

#### **Present:**

Carl Daugenti- Exec. Comm.

Marianne Flagg
David Hale- Exec. Comm.

Margaret Hepworth- Chair
Jane Lloyd
Nancy Lemas
Jorden Oberlindacher- Youth Comm.
Pat Riceci –Legal Liaison
John Sahlberg- VAAC
Stephenson Youngerman- EPAC
Richard Young

#### **Excused:**

Suzanne Gore- History Comm. Sandy Harthorn

#### Staff:

Terri Schorzman, Director Karen Bubb, Public Art Manager Amy Fackler, Cultural Programs Manager Janelle Wilson, Administration

# The meeting called to order by Margaret Hepworth at 5:35 pm

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

Corrections from March meeting minutes – meeting date and titles of commissioner positions.

### **MOTION:**

Youngerman moved to approve the February meeting minutes, Young seconded. **Motion carried.** 

- A liaison from our board is requested for the Public Works commission. The Watershed project is about to enter phase II and we need to continue to work closely with Public Works to implement the artworks at that location.
- Change in agenda- Hot Topic: Arts & History Fund proposed changes
- A condensed version of the commission roles discussed at the January workshop was distributed to the board for review.
   See attachment: Commission Roles and Responsibilities Summary Draft

### **DIRECTOR REPORT- TERRI SCHORZMAN**

- CCDC Cultural Planning initiatives- Schorzman met with Scot Oliver and renegotiated some of the tasks outlined in the Cultural Plan. We will still provide assistance to CCDC in the cultural planning arena including assisting with updates of the Metro Arts Plan.
- Stimulus funding- We are waiting to find out who has qualified and the order in which funds will be distributed from the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Only organizations that have previously received National Endowment for the Arts grants can receive direct federal funding.
- The department is moving forward with internal information technology upgrades (i.e. contact data base, website redesign, electronic file structuring). We are considering collaborating with the Library! to catalog our public art assets which would allow the collection to be searchable from the web.
- Culture Café, April 30, 9-11:30am. In collaboration with the Idaho Commission on the Arts we are inviting representatives from arts organizations to discuss their needs. The meeting format will be based on world café forums with several core questions for discussion that result in a report back to the group. We will hold several targeted sessions for various groups and will finish with a larger summit at the end of the year. The Idaho Commission on the Arts is also considering creating a webinar following this format.
- Mayor's Arts Awards- We are still waiting to hear about using the Armory for the event. The Powerhouse Event Center is our second choice. Staff is reviewing the nomination categories.

# HOT TOPIC: ARTS & HISTORY FUND- CARL DAUGENTI

#### Review of current process:

- In 2009 we provided approximately \$48,000 in grants
- In 2009 six anchor organizations received 75% of funds and produced 87% of the measured arts economy in the city
- -In 2009 twelve cultural initiatives received 25% of funds and produced 13% of the measured arts economy in the city
- We are expecting at least two more anchor organization to apply in the next grant cycle that meet the current \$400,000 threshold

# Discussion of proposed changes:

- Suggestion to match funds to product percentage
- Can review be based on criteria other than budget?
- Suggestion to weight funding based on project proposals reviewed by panels
- How do you judge management of individuals?
- How do you determine evaluation criteria?

- Can we get some written guidelines to help refine the process?
- How does this affect general operating support?
- How can we raise accountability?
- Can we match our purpose of funding to our evaluation criteria?
- Suggestion to phase in changes over the next 2-3 years

# Next steps:

The sub-committee and executive committee will re-convene and draft a proposal for the commission to review at the next meeting.

See Attachments: City Arts & History Fund Talking Points; Grant Formula Worksheet Example (PDF)

#### VISUAL ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE- JOHN SAHLBERG

- We received 29 applications for Parks & Recreation contract artists. The review panel will be held April 2.
- Four new public art projects included in Bubb's report.
- The sculpture "Natural Bridge" is in the process of being moved at the Library! There is a legal obligation to notify the artist before relocating the artwork so the project has been paused until this step is completed.

We would like to develop a policy to remind other departments of the legal criteria involving public art.

### **MOTION:**

Salhberg moved that Bubb and Riceci draft a policy to be reviewed by the board. Young seconded. **Motion carried.** 

### **HISTORY COMMITTEE- TERRI SCHORZMAN**

- Depot Days will be April 19
- Fettuccine Forum April 2 at the Rose Room featuring the Fool Squad

#### **EVENTS AND PERFORMING ARTS COMMITTEE- STEPHENSON YOUNGERMAN**

- The committee met in March and discussed current programs. There are currently six committee members but this may be expanded to eight. There is a possibility of changing the committee name to Cultural Programs.
- The Saturday Market opens April 18 which means we will be opening the Experience Boise booth and starting the Performing Arts at the Market programming.

# YOUTH COMMITTEE- JANELLE WILSON/JORDEN OBERLINDACHER

• The committee is still planning for our teen focused party in May. We are still searching for a location to hold the event.

#### **COMMUNITY BUSINESS**

- May 9, Curtis Stigers benefit for Boise Contemporary Theater
- April 2, Artist in Residence at BoDo final showing for the first session
- April 20, Poetry Slam finals, Neurolux 8pm
- April 10, Old Boise Music benefit at VAC
- April 3, Modern Hotel kitchen grand opening, 4:30 pm
- April 19, Sunday Market at Linen Building opens, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month
- May 7- Modern Art at Linen Building

Next meeting May 6 at Trey McIntyre Project office

# Commission Roles and Responsibilities Summary Draft

Below is a list of 5 roles and responsibilities, edited from the initial 13 or 14. I added a few words to include some of the other areas. In other cases, the roles seemed to be action items or subcategories of these. (I also "plain languaged" these where I could to take out some of the bureaucratese.)

- 1. Encourage opportunities for Boise residents to participate in artistic, historical, and cultural activities.
- 2. Recommend policies and give other advice to the city regarding the costs, benefits, and other issues of acquiring and maintaining cultural assets. (This combines three of the roles. I added "recommend policies" and "maintaining" to include the roles about "developing and recommending policies that pertain to arts and history" and "Have superintendence and charge of all city-owned public art assets.)
- 3. Encourage the preservation and growth of the city's artistic, cultural, and historical resources and help foster a positive climate for them.
- 4. Help Boise's artists and artistic, historical, and cultural organizations by offering information, encouragement, and advice. (Added "artists" to combine "provides general assistance to Boise's artistic, historical, and cultural organizations ..." with "Promote development of Boise artists, institutions, and community organizations...") SHOULD WE ADD FUNDS HERE?
- **5. Coordinate the artistic, historical, and cultural activities of other governmental agencies.** (I left out encourage because it's understood, I think, and we have a lot of "encouragement" in these. But we could add it back if you want.)

Here are the above roles with the action items from the initial workshop. Note that I've added some of the other 14 roles in here. When I combined roles, I also combined their tasks. (We should cut these down, but we can do that later.)

- 1. Encourage opportunities for Boise residents to participate in artistic, historical, and cultural activities.
  - Appoint members of the community to subcommittees to provide support to the commission. (Added from larger roles list.)
  - Increase greater public awareness and appreciation of the importance of arts and history. (Added from list of roles. I changed "stimulate" to "increase" and left out "governmental awareness" since that could be politically charged? Like we have our hand out? Anyway, "public" implies government as well as community at large. We also already have government in one of the 5 main roles.)
  - Identification of the existing and future opportunities.
  - Assess the arts and cultural heritage needs of the people of Boise; make the information available to the City Council and others. (Added from the roles list.)

- o Meet with civic orgs and neighborhood groups; face-to-face interviews; unscientific
- Surveys at arts, cultural, sports events; scientific survey if we have the money for a proper survey i.e. phone survey
- o Research previous work, if any, in this area; locate volunteers or interns to help
- Commission with some of the surveys; put survey questions (not more than 2 or 3) on experienceboise.org
- o Identify organizations and neighborhood groups to survey or talk to; determine scope of outreach and timeline; achieve part of timeline for this year
- We have results of survey or the number of contacts that we've planed for this year;
   we have something to report to Mayor and Council on what people of Boise say they want
- Target all various demographics (age, income, etc.)
- Conduit between needs and provider for funding and support
- Coordination (staff) and follow up
- Report on participation (more)
- Be in audiences
- Press relationship
- Funding process through grants to orgs
- Promote creation of a spectacular website
- Liaison to education and business communities
- Take message to other organizations we belong to
- Funding adequately increase staff
- IT support and creative web design

# 2. Recommend policies and give other advice to the city regarding the costs, benefits, and other issues of acquiring and maintaining cultural assets.

#### Commissioners

- Choose one policy to focus on for maximum results
- Understand what the public art assets are
- Research for staff
- Linking/liaison with other cultural orgs
- Align commission's objectives with the department's strategic objectives. (Added from the larger list.)
  - What should commission members be doing to achieve these objectives
  - o What do you need from city and staff to achieve these objectives?
  - o How do you complement/support what staff is doing to achieve business plan?
  - What actions will the commission members take this year? How reflected in agenda?
  - o What will tell you the commission has been successful?
- Help choose logo for experienceboise.org; solicit "prize" payment
- Allow staff to color outside the lines
- Offer specific ideas and help
- Help when asked
- Reflect actions in agenda

- Show economic impact of A&H in city budget
- Action items should be specific
- Follow up conscientiously

# Complement/support

- Work closely with staff- objectives of assets and programming
- Show up at events
- Help and advise
- Develop a branding policy to promote A&H Dept.

# Staff/City

- Inventory of assets
- Maintenance schedule/response process
- Security
- Provide opportunities for promotion
- Control and maintain city-owned assets. (Added from the "superintendence" role. Hate that word. ©)
- Maintain database
- Follow up
- More detailed research
- Mailing lists
- GIS info
- Managing their efforts
- Share info back out
- Intro/collect info from other city depts.
- Measure number of assets that are increasing or decreasing. Asses their condition. Do we have a binary inventory?
- Calls for artists
- Solicit through e-mail, facebook, twitter
- Use and contributions
- Consolidate materials (brochures, fans, etc.)
- Distribute materials
- Experienceboise.org- staff
- Manage logo entries for web site
- Continue to solicit events, track hits to site

# 3. Encourage the preservation and growth of the city's artistic, cultural, and historical resources and help foster a positive climate for them.

- Identify who, what, when, where, why (resources)
- Need staff and city funding, maintenance, support, marketing, advertising, PR
- Experienceboise.org-commission
- Send e-mails, facebook, twitter, talk about it

- Solicit funds/donations for stickers with web address and put them on
- everything
- Consolidate/distribute- staff
- Check for materials, tracking at hotels, businesses, BSU
- Consolidate/distribute- commission
- Solicit locations
- Distribute materials
- Success indicated by increased traffic to website
- Materials used and tracked
- Survey at the market (fall?)

# 4. Help Boise's artists and artistic, historical, and cultural organizations by offering information, encouragement, and advice.

- Learn who's doing what. Know their board and staff. Educate yourself about group
- Need information, web links, share opportunities
- Fundraising, collaborate, share connections
- "Adopt" a new group. Become their advocate on the commission and in the community
- Participation, education, communication
- Attend events of other orgs; Communicate need for support
- Contact info and event listings; Budget reports; Business plan
- Develop; Coordinate; Promote
- If local businesses/organizations give up their support in the form of money, advertising, volunteer time, space for events, or any in-kind donations

# 5. Coordinate the artistic, historical, and cultural activities of other city agencies.

#### Commissioners

- Act as a bridge for staff
- Attend an event and report back
- Bring attention of activities to staff
- Commissioner exchange

#### Staff

Follow up with other agencies

I:\Department Director\Documents\DOCS\ADMIN\Commission\2009\JanuaryWorkshopDocs\Summary of findings.DOC

# City Arts & History Fund Talking Points

Annual opportunity for the City of Boise to invest, via a competitive funding process, in those local arts and history organizations that provide benefit to Boise residents and visitors

- 1) Currently
  - Celebrate Commission's success for the 12 year program
  - \$250,000 of awards since funding program started in 1998
  - Anchor Orgs--successful program design
    - Guidelines:
      - A Boise based private nonprofit 501(c)3 that does not receive ongoing operations funding or significant in-kind support from the City
      - o Orgs with an arts or history related mission; produces work of artistic or historical merit locally
      - A three year record of on-going employment of professional administrative and/or artistic personnel; stability of management
      - Funding categories based on budget threshold at \$400,000
      - o Establishing review criteria: org stability, community involvement, creativity/quality
    - Program
      - The funding program complies with 1 to 1 funding ratio mandated by City Strategic Plan (funding not to exceed 50% of total project budget).
      - o Grant amounts based on a formula which takes into account budget size and evaluation score based on the review criteria. This ranking is applied to funds available.
    - Results: the excellent arts and history orgs that contribute to the local economy
- 2) Opportunities for improvement identified:
  - Issue: The changing fiscal environment--more orgs qualifying for funds, creating a larger draw on funds available. How do we adjust to this change? Continue to build City's arts infrastructure? Change to wider distribution of funds, especially to middle budget orgs (\$200K-\$400K)?
  - Issue: Currently, Commission loses ability to adjust funding amounts based on the review criteria (org development, community involvement and creativity/quality). This is a matter of practice (not policy). Is there a practical way to adjust funding amounts based on merit of the review criteria?
  - Issue: Lack of information on past grant recipients, proposals and amounts granted.
     Recommendation:
    - o collect information of past program activity, make available on-line;
    - o create 10 year retrospective/forum of orgs impacted; identify opportunities
    - o develop information program to disseminate changes in funding program

# APRIL 2009

TO: Arts & History Commissioners

Mayor Bieter, Council member Elaine Clegg, Jade Riley

FROM: Terri Schorzman, Department Director

RE: Monthly Report -April 2009



**Arts & History** 

# General Budget/Funding:

Department Budget: Still in two-year budget build process. For FY09, still doing ok.

<u>Arts and History Fund</u>: Met with task forces and executive committee to review status of program and prepared draft of proposed changes to the program for commission review/approval on May 6.

<u>Stimulus Funding</u>: Will know more later this summer on how much our department may receive from the Idaho Commission on the Arts from federal stimulus funding.

#### Internal/Admin/Communications:

<u>IT:</u> Continued to explore databases and systems that work for us at no/low cost. The Library's catalog system won't work for our collections, and we've begun looking more closely at an On-Base function that may be adequate for our needs at this point. We found a better contact database – Legrand -- that we will purchase before the end of April (to receive a 20% discount). And, we received suggested designs for our website from Foestel Design...and we continue to move forward on this.

<u>Experienceboise.org</u>: Synoptek, the vendor who created <u>www.experienceboise.org</u>, will are making minor changes. Our volunteers continue to update it regularly.

<u>Economic impact and messaging</u>: Our first Culture Café took place on April 30 at the Foothills Room in City Hall. The session was based on the "world café" model of public engagement. Twenty attended from a variety of cultural organizations in the visual, performing and literary arts to history and science museums. The ICA co-sponsored the event. This is the first of 4 sessions.

#### Sample of Projects:

We are proceeding with all projects outlined in the March report.

Mayor's Awards in Arts & History: Date is confirmed for Friday, September 25. Our location is still to be determined. Requests for nominations were announced in our enewsletter, *Headlines*, on May 1 and will be sent to the media and broader distribution in early May.

<u>Depot Day report:</u> Sunday, April 19, noon – 6:00 pm, was a smashing success with almost 2000 in attendance. We dedicated the Big Mike kiosk at 1:00 and had a 20-minute program that highlighted:

- 1) The history of the Depot and train travel in the area,
- 2) Moving Big Mike to the Depot,
- 3) Educating the public about Big Mike with the new kiosk,

- 4) The future of train travel in the region with the V.P. of MotivePower
- 5) Maryanne Jordan's comments and dedication of the kiosk by turning on the audio/video component.

We had a number of things available for folks to do/see, including: slide presentations on the history of the city/ Depot/train travel; a large model train set on the track-side pavilion (which thrilled kids and adults alike); some 1920's-era automobiles and trucks; women wandering in 1920's fashion (which gave the event "color"); a Parks-sponsored raffle for art posters (money will go to the Big Mike education fund); the prototype of the "Badger" ~ an adapted ATV that runs on rail; tours up the tower; and a "memory gathering" table ~ where people could write their memories about the Depot, Big Mike, train travel, etc. We also had an information booth inside at the Barkelow Brothers with both free materials and items for purchase, and had several food vendors on the east side of the building.

We had great support from our 12-member volunteer history committee, led by Mark Baltes, Barbara Perry Bauer and Jody Ochoa, who did the majority of planning and implementation, as well as those – including Parks staff ~ who helped with marketing, parking logistics, book and raffle sales, and volunteer coordination (we had 65 community and student volunteers).

#### **Collaboration and Outreach**

We sent our fourth and fifth e-newsletters, Headlines.

#### Committees

**Events and Performing Arts Committee:** The committee met on April 15 and reviewed Performing Arts at the Market, Arts for Kids, and more.

**History Committee:** The committee met on April 22 and reviewed Depot Day and brainstormed ideas for next year's Fettucine Forum.

**Visual Arts Committee:** The committee met on April 16 and received a report from the Boise Visual Chronicle committee.

**Youth Committee**: The committee met a couple of times and continues to plan their art/history event on May 23 tentatively at Fort Boise Rec Center.

#### **Upcoming Department-sponsored Events**

<u>Fettuccine Forum, May 7</u>: "Cities without History: Planning and Urban Identity" with John Bertram.

# Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities – Draft 0509

The mission of the Boise City Arts & History Department is directly aligned with the following focus area of the City's Strategic Plan:

Foster an environment where learning, the arts, culture, and recreation thrive.

# What is the Commission's role in supporting this strategic focus area and the goals of the Department?

The Commission met in January 2009 with facilitator/consultant Anne Wescott and identified the key roles and responsibilities of the Commission in supporting the mission and strategic plan of the Boise City Arts & History Department. These roles and responsibilities are focused around four critical objectives: activities, organizations, financial resources, and physical assets as follows:

- 1. Encourage participation in artistic, cultural and historic αctivities;
- 2. Promote the growth and development of the City's artists, and artistic, cultural and historic organizations;
- 3. Foster the preservation and growth of the *financial resources* that support artistic, cultural and historic activities; and
- 4. Make recommendations about the acquisition and maintenance of cultural αssets.

The Commission will be focusing its agendas, policy recommendations, and committee work on actions that support these four objectives. It will focus its work on actions that contribute to realizing performance targets the Department has set in these areas:

- Set target performance measurements for increased participation,
- Health of existing and increase in number of new organizations,
- Increase in community spending on/support for these organizations, activities, programs, etc.

# How does each commissioner best serve to further the goals of the department?

The Commission identified action steps that would need to be taken to realize these **four objectives**. The actions that are most likely to produce the greatest achievement of the objectives, complement the work of the Department staff, and be reasonable time commitments include:

- 1. Encourage **participation** in artistic, cultural and historic <u>activities</u> through advocacy (sponsor, attend), marketing (message) and needs assessment (survey)-
  - Each commissioner would attend and/or volunteer at 3 department-sponsored events and
  - Each commissioner would attend \_\_# community events, presentations, and/or performances, etc;
  - Each commissioner would market activities/events by sending to their contacts an e-mail announcement or the e-newsletter, and/or inviting additional participants;
  - As needed, commissioners would assist with information-gathering/surveys.

- 2. Promote the **growth and development** of the City's artists, and artistic, cultural and historic <u>organizations</u> by sharing information, providing advocacy and encouragement, promoting funding support, and educating the community-
  - Each commissioner would "adopt" up to two organizations and become their advocate, attending performances/bringing guests, attending an occasional board meeting to share information about/from the department, bringing information back to the Commission, introducing the Commission's purpose to their board, etc. (know about it, participate in it)
- 3. Foster the **preservation and growth** of the <u>financial resources</u> that support artistic, cultural and historic activities through advocacy and analysis-
  - Commission would provide input during the "budget build" process.
  - Each commissioner would participate in some way in the fundraising efforts of their "adopted" organization.
  - Commissioners may serve on a sub-committee to analyze, prioritize and provide recommendations about the distribution of Department funding to activities, organizations and artists, such as the City Arts & History Fund.
- 4. **Make recommendations** about the acquisition and maintenance of cultural <u>assets</u> through research and analysis-
  - Commissioners would have an opportunity to serve on a sub-committee to analyze, prioritize and provide recommendations about acquisition and maintenance of current and future cultural assets, including public art, historic buildings, etc.

I:\Department Director\Documents\DOCS\ADMIN\Commission\2009\Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities\CommissionRoleo409DRAFT1.doc

# City Arts & History Fund

Proposed changes: FY10, FY 11, FY12

<u>Proposal:</u> The City Arts & History Fund task force and A&H Commission executive committee propose that the City Arts & History Fund – over the next three years -- becomes a **needs-driven** funding program for both the Anchor Fund and the Cultural Initiatives, effectively removing these two categories, and that in the adjudication process, the program's review criteria (rather than budget size) is used to establish grant amounts.

The new concept encourages that we match the City's strategic plan and our Department plan/goals, along with our available funds, with the needs of the grantee. This will encourage creativity, and build administrative and production capacity in community arts and history organizations. Funding will support programs, operations, planning, attract other supporters, and encourage public access to quality cultural opportunities. The revisions to the City Arts & History Fund program will support established organizations, while recognizing and fostering emerging arts and history organizations and individual projects. The change will be phased-in over three fiscal years.

#### Phases:

# Phase 1 -- FY10 (October 1, 2009)

- Changes to Grant Guidelines will be minimal for FY10 but will address funding program changes for FY11 and beyond
- Organizational budget threshold for anchor organizations will be reduced from \$400,000 to \$300,000
- Anchors will submit final report
- Reinforce review criteria
- No change to Cultural Initiatives
- Start communication strategy with anchor organizations about funding program changes for FY11 and FY12

#### Phase 2 – FY11 (October 1, 2010)

- Organizational budget threshold for anchor organizations will be reduced from \$300,000 to \$200,000.
- As an interim measure, anchor organizations may choose to apply for needs-driven funds or choose a request-amount based on previous grant amounts, trended over the past three years.
   For example:
  - Organization A has received \$7,500, \$7,000 and \$6,500 over the past three years. Their "trend" is (approx) \$6,000 and decide to request that amount for general operations without identifying specific need.
  - Organization B has received between \$4,000 and \$4,500 over the past three years, but chooses to make a needs-based request for \$5,000 to support a part-time box-office assistant.
  - Organization C has received \$10,000 for the past three years, but rather than ask for \$10,000, requests \$8,000 to underwrite a performance because a long-time sponsor withdrew support.
- Each request will be evaluated based on the standing review criteria.

No change to Cultural Initiatives.

# Phase 3 - FY12 (October 1, 2011)

- All applicants will submit need-based request for funds. These needs can be administrative, operational or project specific.
- The organizational budget threshold is removed. All organizations and individual applicants have access to the same pool of program funds. Future funding categories can be developed as program funds increase.
- Review criteria will assess all funding requests.

#### In sum:

The changes to the City Arts & History Fund to a "needs-driven" funding program will:

- 1) Support the City's focus to "foster an environment where learning, the arts, culture, and recreation thrive," and,
- 2) Meet the Department goals to:
  - a) Promote the growth and development of the city's artists and historians, and artistic, cultural, and historical organizations; and,
  - b) Foster the preservation and growth of the financial resources that support artistic, cultural, and historic activities.

Vision: To forge bold partnerships that energize the a

integral parts of our every

# **Visual Arts Report**

Prepared by Karen Bubb Public Arts Manager

**April 2009** 

Amy Westover's windows installed at Boise Watershed!



# PROJECTS IN PROCESS: APPROVAL REQUESTED

# **Boise Visual Chronicle (BVC) Program Revisions:**

See attached report from BVC Committee Chair Robyn Salathe. The Committee, a subcommittee of VAAC, has been meeting for a year to rethink how we manage and present the BVC. Robyn will present the recommended changes to the A & H Commission at the next meeting.

# **Parks Call to Artists:**

Forty-six artists applied to the Call for Artists to be on contract with the City of Boise. On the selection panel was **Robyn Salathe**, VAAC member, **John Sahlberg**, A & H Commissioner,

**Angela Stear**, VAAC member/Park Staff, and **Maggie Frole Spurling**, Parks Commission. The panel chose the following six artists. VAAC recommends approval of all six artists.

Marcus Pierce: painter

**Reham Aarti Jacobson:** mosaic artist

Amber Conger: sculptor

Michael Baltzell: designer, sculptor

Jessie Proksa: designer, multi-media artist

**Noel Weber:** designer, sculptor

# Parks Projects to be Initiated Once artists are approved: New Parks Public Art Projects 2009

Project	Budget
Signage on completed projects (*see next page for details):	\$5,064
Julia Davis Art (Pavilion Art - on previous contract with Day Christenson):	\$47,800
Optimist Sports Complex: Four additional sport icons marking fields –	
Sole source contract with Ward Hooper	\$16,500
Marianne Williams Park: <b>NEW</b>	\$52,500
Morley Nelson Community Center Mural: <b>NEW</b>	\$13,000
Peppermint Park: <b>NEW</b>	\$20,000
Hobble Creek Park: <b>NEW</b>	\$20,000
Tree Identification Project: <b>NEW</b>	
at Ann Morrison Park & Julia Davis Park	\$24,500
Idaho Ice World: <b>NEW</b>	\$19,500
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGETS	\$218,864

# Detail: Park art signs needed to be produced/installed: \$5,064

- Zoo African Plains Exhibit (budget for signs in artist contract already, Baltzell working on it)
- Jullion Park artwork (sign completed, no additional cost will be installed when replacement lenses are installed in Spring)
- Fallen Firefighters Memorial (\$500 estimate for simple bronze sign)
- Foothills Learning Center Dandelion (\$950 estimate for 2 signs, porcelain enamel on steel, one outside and one inside, to be done by April)
- Sycamore Park murals (\$1,100 estimate for porcelain enamel on steel on metal stand)
- Warm Springs Park mosaic restroom (\$1,200 estimate for 2 signs aluminum cut on one wall, aluminum with words inset and brochure holder on another wall)
- Philippe Park (\$850 porcelain enamel on steel on steel stand in planter bed)
- McDevvit Park skate park mural (\$250 for simple sign, attached to wall)
- Contingency: \$164

# PROJECTS IN PROCESS: UPCOMING EVENTS

# **8<sup>th</sup> Street Artist-in-Residence:**

8<sup>th</sup> Street Marketplace owners are providing open office space for Artists-in-Residence. Three were selected for May-July—Johanna Kirk (dancer), Kirsten Furlong (visual artist), and Laci McCrea (painter). In June we will conduct a selection process for the next batch of artists, pending continuation of the program by the developer. Visit the open studios events at 8<sup>th</sup> Street Marketplace (2<sup>nd</sup> floor above "Shoez")on First Thursday.

# Cassia Park Archway Repainting Party Saturday May 9, 11-3 p.m.

Artist Michael Zapponi's figures atop the archway at Cassia Park is due for a repainting. The figures have been sandblasted and will be featured at a neighborhood paint party Saturday, May 9 from 11-3. Wear your painting clothes and join us! 4600 W. Camas Street between Orchard and Roosevelt Streets.

**Boise Airport: World War II Aviator** –Benjamin Victor is creating a World War II Bomber Pilot as memorial to be permanently installed Boise Airport. Dedication scheduled for May 25, 2009. See attached invitation. \$90,000

<u>Fire/Police: City Hall West</u> – Join us for an open house at City Hall West on Monday, May 11, 4-8pm at

333 N. Sailfish Place. Classic Design Studios (Noel Weber) is fabricating the cement relief walls featuring the history of police and fire, cast glass light sconces, and round concrete bollards. The bollards are installed. The concrete walls will be installed May 8th. The light sconces and enamel figures will be installed later in May. \$133,000

# PROJECTS IN FABRICATION TO BE COMPLETED IN 2009:

**Public Works: Boise WaterShed** – Amy Westover's windows were installed in April!!! They are gorgeous. The floor installation will be installed in May. We'll plan a party for late this summer or early fall to celebrate completed projects. \$100,000

**Boise Airport: Fountain/Fireplace redesign** –Amy Westover is installing the glass and wood elements for the food court art/seating element on May 11. \$45,605

**Library: West Branch** – Judy Collins from Denver is fabricating four glass artworks for the new branch at Cole and Ustick. Completion in June 2009. I visited Denver in April and did a studio visit with the artist, documenting her working on the project. \$58,000

**Public Works: Planning** – Dwaine Carver is working on an assessment and update of the 2003 public works public art plan that he authored. Completion pending in June 2009. \$4,800.

**Public Works: Geothermal Medallion –** Ward Hooper's design for medallion selected. CCDC is contributing \$5,000. Thirty buildings confirmed as of 2/20/2009. Project in fabrication. \$20,000

**Public Works: Boise WaterShed** – Patrick Zentz three wind artworks will be installed in the landscape in June 2009. \$80,000.

# ARTISTS SELECTED/PROPOSALS UNDERWAY

# Southeast Neighborhood Association (SENA) and BSU public art project:

SENA received a \$20,000 grant from the Mayor's neighborhood reinvestment grant program to do a public art project in cooperation with BSU's art department. The project is to be located at Helen Lowder Park. Two finalists provided refined proposals—Benjamin Love and Marshall Sinclair. Benjamin Love's project was selected. This will come before A & H in June for final review before contracts are signed. The final work will be owned and maintained by the City of Boise.

# CALL TO ARTISTS

# **DBA Art on Traffic Boxes:**

DBA received a \$20,000 grant from the Mayor's Reinvestment Grant Program to commission designs from 5 local artists for downtown traffic boxes. A & H will facilitate artist selection. Applications were released in April (see attached) with an April 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

# PROJECTS STILL IN FORMATION

# **Art in Transit:**

Valley Regional Transit will match the \$8,300 that Arts & History has for Art in Transit with a 4-1 match of \$33,000. Discussions are underway about what art projects to fund this year with these funds. We are also still working with Valley Regional Transit and the Bus Driver's Union, to initiate a project to select artists to design art five transit shelters. The \$5,000 funding for the art is coming from A & H. The other funds for the shelters are coming from the Bus Driver's Union.

# OTHER ARTS/CULTURE/EDUCATION ACTIVITY

- April 2-4 Bubb taught a 1 credit class for 28 BSU students about how art and history define our sense of place. The group attended the Fools Squad presentation at the Fettuccine Forum and other special class speakers included Mark Hofflund and Dana Oland. The group toured the Fulton Street Theater, Trey McIntyre Project offices, The Cabin and Boise Art Museum. Course reviews were very positive.
- April 6-9 Bubb visited Denver and did a site visit with Judy Collins, who is making glass artwork for the Ustick Library branch.
- April 14 Bubb participated in BSU's College of Arts and Sciences Advisory board. A special sub-committee is planning functions to support the MFA writing and visual art program.
- April 16 Bubb presented to the Parks Commission, updating them on projects in process.
- April 19 Bubb had a booth at the Linen Market selling her stained glass art and jewelry.
- April 22 Bubb attended the DBA annual meeting breakfast. Copies of the annual report will be handed out at the next meeting. Bubb wrote an article for the publication.
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> Bubb attended Drop Dance at Fulton Street Theater for the Arts
  April 25<sup>th</sup> Bubb attended the Interior Design Association's Chair Affair at VAC
  April 30<sup>th</sup> Bubb attended artist Alexis Rockman, a speaker brought to Boise through a partnership with A & H, BSU and Boise Art Museum

# City Historian points 4/09

# Process Improvements:

- Created new request form (included).
- Transferring old requests into this format.
- Requests tracked in spreadsheet format with keywords for searching.
- Generic FAQs and referrals being tracked and totaled.
- Developing a consistent strategy and approach to the identification, cataloging and digitizing of available image and document collections. (See below)

#### Collections:

- Working with Jim J. of BPL towards applying for NEH grant for digitization.
- Received approval from ISHS and ISL to collaborate with BPL in uploading John Bertram's Hyde Park photos with relevant materials from library clipping files onto the Idaho Digital Documents site. Will serve as test case and model for future digitization and archiving efforts.
- We will work with CCDC over the summer to assess their images collection and develop a plan for its archiving, cataloging and digitizing. Our research assistant Marc Frisk will contract to work on this project.
- We need to develop a standardized contract/agreement for donations such as Bertram's that clearly states what rights are granted to A & H, what rights, if any, remain with donor, etc. Research similar contracts from other organizations. Consult with City Legal?
- Terri and I toured the city records center. We will continue working with the Clerk's office to facilitate access and assist in identifying and cataloging unprocessed materials. Clerk staff will continue orienting us to the scope of their materials and the finding aids and databases available to search them.

#### Forum:

 I have assisted with John Bertram with his presentation—digitized slides and helped him build his PowerPoint. Collaborating on workshop and I will present his Hyde Park and 8<sup>th</sup> Street Marketplace slides to class.

#### Outreach:

- Tours are scheduling—exchange students from BSU last week; more in May, including Collister students, Republican women, travel writers. Will try to squeeze in as many as I can.
- Brought a slide presentation to Heatherwood retirement community in April. I would like to try to develop more outreach presentations to groups who cannot easily come downtown for walking tours.
- Giving a presentation to CTA, an architecture firm, in May. Details and theme still being worked out—probably urban development patterns in west downtown (their offices are in the Linen District).
- Preservation Month programs good to go. Information is up on the Library website.

# <u>Cultural Programming Committee</u>-

Board Update ~ May 6, 2009 ~

# **Current Project Summary**

#### 1. Committee

- a. Name change: from EPAC to Cultural Programming Committee (CPC)
- b. Meet every third Wednesday, 3pm.
- c. Currently working on strategies and committee goals. So far, we've determined that many members are interested in strategizing and advising; individuals on committee can also work on specific projects per his or her particular interests and availability.

### 2. Performing Arts at the Market – April 18 – October 24

- a. **BOOTH** This year, we are trying a new concept: A "City of Boise" booth. We will continue to showcase arts & culture materials at one table, but City of Boise employees or volunteers will staff occasionally for special events (such as Public Works for new recycling program). This booth will also be the check-in & check-out table for performing artists. The booth takes a considerable amount of staff time to operate. We will evaluate its effectiveness at the conclusion of this season.
- b. **PERFORMERS** So far, six groups/individuals have performed. We have new large easel signage with the name of sponsors and performers. As I assume is typical, it is a challenge to accommodate preferences for the Grove Plaza over the other two locations.



Randy Steward - April 18, 2009



Jacob Ineck - April 18, 2009



Boise Highlanders – April 18, 2009

### 3. Arts for Kids – June 6 – August 8, 2009

- a. Applications were due April 20; panel review held on April 23.
- **b.** Currently setting schedule and notifying applicants of status.
- c. Preparing ads for Boise Weekly and Treasure Valley Magazine.

#### 4. Fall for Boise

Plans for this year (September – October 2009).

- a. **Kick-off Event** Meeting with Beth Geagan (Think Boise First), Dave Krick, Karen Ellis (Capital City Public Market), and Scot Oliver (CCDC) to try and get a free, family event for Saturday, September 5. It will be much smaller scale than the City Harvest held in past years.
- b. **Fall for Boise calendar/brochure** working with DBA, independent graphic artist, and publisher to create marketing items.
- c. **Salsa Fiesta** Featuring local dancers from professional performing arts organizations representatives of each organization perform one salsa inspired dance at Knitting Factory event. Set for September 26.
- d. Worldfest scheduled for October 10. So far, planning for performances during market hours (9:30am-1:30pm); will try to incorporate some census promotions "Everybody counts" Terri just had a meeting with the mayor's office. Also in discussions with Amy Nack and ICA regarding preparing a Quick Grant to host refugee prints again this year.
- e. **Firedancers**/drummers/performers closing event (October 24?). Janelle is investigating a group she is involved with who has a performance set up and ready in May; could possibly repeat here. She'll know more soon.
- f. **Collaborations** –. Currently working on moving this event to the winter months.