AGENDA
Arts & History Commission

Wednesday, October 6, 2021
3.30 – 5.00 pm

MEETING CANCELLED

The October meeting of the A&H Commission is cancelled due to lack of sufficient items for the commission to review and/or approve based on its defined Duties and Responsibilities in city code 2-8-5.
October 5, 2021

To: Mayor McLean, Courtney Washburn, Council member Holli Woodings, Arts & History Commissioners

From: Terri Schorzman

RE: Activities: August – September 2021

General highlights

- City/internal: Attended several public art selection panels, the JCH artist in residence selection panel, and the virtual studio tour with Vinnie Bagwell; department FY22 planning preparation, several public art staff transition review meetings, interviews with Erma Hayman House task force members, other citywide meetings regarding internal and partner projects. Brandi and I spoke to an upper division history class at BSU. Staff participated in two of a three-part session regarding change management.

  - Personnel: much of the past two months involved interviewing and hiring our new administrative assistant, Courtney Bailey, and our new public art program manager (whose name we can share once she completes the City’s background process in early to mid-October). We hope to have the public art coordinator position posted from HR very soon.

  - Commission: Jennifer and I are working with the mayor’s office to start recruitment for a new youth commissioner and regular commission appointments (to start calendar year 2022).

- Reminder: October 5 meeting is cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

- We will keep you updated on COVID requirements and how that may affect our December meeting.
TO: Mayor McLean, Courtney Washburn, Council Member Holli Woodings, Arts & History Commissioners
FROM: Amy Fackler, Grants Manager
DATE: 10/4/2021
RE: Program Update

SUMMARY

Tracking FY2020 FY2021-Round 1 and FY2021-R2 recipients; continue managing FY2020 modifications due to Covid-19; managing FY2022 application cycle; Mayor’s Appreciation Day for Arts, History, & Culture; other projects as assigned

FY2022 GRANTS
- Grant award notifications;
- Meetings with recipients
- Coordinating timelines (press release, social media, etc.) with communications team

FY2021 GRANTS
- Continued tracking and processing Round 2 invoices (for projects between April 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)
- Tracked projects and promotions; manage modifications due to Covid-19
- Promoted grant recipient events / projects (coordinating with outreach and education communications team for social media)

OTHER
- Worked with contractor and Outreach & Education coordinator for Mayor’s Appreciation Day for Arts & Culture – event held on City Hall Plaza before the Mayor’s State of the City address
  - Planning – logistics and meetings with performers; working with other city departments
  - Contracts
  - Invoices
- Editing upon request from other staff
- Finalize FY2021 Budget for end of fiscal year
October 2021

TO: Mayor McLean, Courtney Washburn, Council Member Holli Woodings, and Arts & History Commissioners

FROM: Karen Bubb, Cultural Planner

RE: Cultural Planning Activities

**General Highlights:**

**Goal 1: Develop Cultural Policy**
- **PhD Studies:** I am reading multiple books and writing about the intersection of cultural, economic, and urban policy as part of my studies. I am exploring how to transfer this information into useful applications for the City of Boise.

**Goal 2: Enhance and Preserve Neighborhood Places**
- **Affordable Housing Initiative:** I am representing A&H on the Mayor’s Bloomberg/Harvard Design Thinking imitative focusing on affordable housing.

**Goal 3: Maintain and Develop Cultural Assets**
- **Public Works Public Art Master Plan:** With the completion of the plan, meetings have commenced to inform staff about the plan and begin initiation of project opportunity identification.
- **Boise Airport Public Art Plan:** Amy Westover and I are in the final stages of a Boise Airport public art plan for the existing airport campus and new construction. September completion projected.
- **James Castle House Accreditation:** We received approval for our core documents for museum accreditation for the James Castle House. We are starting next steps on this process.

**Goal 4: Partner with Organizations**
- **Cultural Research:** I am one of 28 international representatives from 18 countries at the Organization for Economic Co-Ordination and Development (OECD) conference sharing research and models about the creative economy.

**Other Staff Activities:**
- I am heading up the Enterprise Portfolio and Capabilities Mapping projects for our department. Supporting team review of Competencies working with David Randle.
TO: Mayor McLean, Courtney Washburn and Arts & History Commissioners  
FROM: Rachel Reichert, Cultural Sites Manager  
CC: Terri Schorzman  
DATE: 10/1/2021  
RE: Cultural Sites Program Update

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SUMMARY
This quarter’s work was concentrated at the James Castle House (JCH) and Erma Hayman House (EHH). The James Castle House has reopened for scheduled in-person tours held weekly on Fridays and now offers weekly virtual tours. Staff are focusing on completing program and facility planning documents and are engaged in various research projects for both the JCH and EHH. Cultural Sites Manager will present on Artist Residencies At Historic Sites for the AASLH conference in September.

JAMES CASTLE HOUSE
The JCH is preparing to submit museum accreditation application to the American Museum Association. Staff are planning a virtual meeting series to assist with long-term planning efforts for the historic shed and trailer on site.

Upcoming Artist-in-Residencies:
- Artist-in-Residence (Short Stay: Dec. 16 - 23, 2021): Mavis Irwin, ASL Researcher / Film Maker
- 2022 Resident artists announced 9/30/21.

Upcoming Projects
- Cultural Sites will complete Deaf Space Study with international design firm, MASS in November
- Cultural Sites completed a Charette planning process with national cultural and preservation leaders to establish long-term treatment plans for Castle’s Shed and Trailer.

Upcoming JCH Events
- The JCH has expanded tour hours starting October 1, 2021
- The JCH will begin offering monthly virtual tours

ERMA HAYMAN HOUSE
The EHH construction has begun with an expected completion in November 2021. Staff are waiting for EHH Task Force and City Leadership discussions to finalize program plans. Staff are exploring additional funding options. Please view this URL for more info and project milestones: https://www.boiseartsandhistory.org/programs/cultural-sites/hayman-house/project-milestones/
TO: Mayor McLean and Arts & History Commissioners  
FROM: Josh Olson, Cultural Asset Program Manager  
DATE: 10/1/2021  
RE: Public Art Maintenance and Conservation

Preventative and Corrective Maintenance: Inspections, cleaning, graffiti removal and repairs are ongoing for the City of Boise’s 940 locations of public art and cultural collections. Downtown has seen a surge of graffiti and vandalism as well as calls for permanent removal for development and damage from construction.

Litharacnium: BODO sculpture on 8th street was severely damaged by a cement truck. The sculpture required immediate removal and will require extensive repairs. Project pending.

- Bronze Sculptures: Up to eight bronze sculptures will have extensive surface cleaning and patina restoration completed

- Untitled sculpture in BODO: McCall Studios is a local fabrication/public art studio that has been hired to restore and reinstall the sculpture. Sculpture was successfully restored and reinstalled.

- Untitled Stained Glass: The City of Boise received this artwork as a gift from CCDC in early 2003. It was originally installed at 225 N 9th street and remains there today. The building has a new owner, and they would like to have the public art/stained glass by Michael Pilla removed permanently. The artwork is temporarily in storage but plans to permanently deaccession the artwork will likely commence in FY22 if a suitable location can not be found.

Gem Block Circles: Ward Hooper worked directly with CCDC to develop a decorative component to a seating area on Main St between 11th and 12th. The seating area was gifted to the City this year and then we received a prompt request that the Avery Hotel development would like it removed for parking purposes. As all options have been explored, the cost to remove and relocate are to expensive. The decorative features will be deaccessioned in FY22 at the cost of the developer.

- Three Deer sculpture in Anne Morrison Park: The Three Deer are one of the most popular sculptures in Anne Morrison Park. The deer will be relocated during a large-scale park renovation. Once completed, new enamel will be applied by Rick Friesen will complete restoration.

- Traffic Box Contract: Primo Cleaners, has been hired for general routine cleaning of all 250+ traffic boxes for fy21. Due to extensive graffiti and slap tags highlighting the former Presidents departure from office a change order was established for the team to clean the artworks in January.
July 23, 2021

TO: Mayor McLean, Courtney Washburn and Arts & History Commissioners
FROM: Brandi Burns
RE: A&H History Report

SUMMARY

History Division is focusing most staff efforts on website content creation and creating a space online to share the collections in the Boise City Archives. Watch for our interesting content on social media!

CURRENT & PAST PROJECTS

- Website:
  - Several pages for Boise mayor biographies are created and ready for publishing; IT implemented a nesting grid system so we can better organize content; a short history of Boise is in the works; Fettuccine Forum video page is in the works
  - Quartex: Worked with Archives Program to select Quartex for online collections interface. Implementation will follow in FY22.

- Walking tours:
    - Self-guided contemplative visit to Boise’s cemeteries and the graves of Idaho suffragists. This event is meant to honor the lives of the women who worked to secure the vote for Idaho women and who are now in their final resting place.

- Development of online exhibits, podcast, and articles
  - These materials will be added to the “Boise history” section of the website
  - Content includes an article about Boise’s city halls, the establishment of Boise as a municipality, fires in downtown Boise, and a series of biographies of Boise mayors. Fettuccine Forum videos will also be uploaded

- Foothills Levy, 20th Anniversary
  - Exhibit on 3rd floor of city hall is available for viewing but will come down soon. The online component will remain available: [https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/fe2deb40a95046c08d6d26f4ff7078e2](https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/fe2deb40a95046c08d6d26f4ff7078e2)

ONGOING AND FUTURE PROJECTS

- Oral histories with former residents of River Street—continues
- Assist P&R with online cemetery tours
- Partnership with PDS to research restrictive CC&Rs in neighborhoods, ongoing
- Collection of COVID-19 stories—volunteers needed; if interested in conducting virtual interviews please contact Brandi
TO: Mayor McLean, Courtney Washburn and Arts & History Commissioners  
FROM: Danielle Grundel  
RE: A&H Archives Report

SUMMARY

Archives program is focused on auditing collections and accession paperwork against the collections management software to gain a better understanding of what collections are in the archive, assess backlog, prioritize processing projects and preservation concerns. Worked with History Program Manager and IT to sign contract with Quartex, the new online interface A&H will use as an access and outreach tool. Worked with communications team to develop plan in celebration of Archives Month.

CURRENT & PAST PROJECTS

- **Kendall:**
  - Created additional workstations in preparation for interns and staff to work on processing projects
- **Collections:**
  - Accessioned Parks & Rec, YMCA time-capsule
  - Accessioned Boise Civic Flowers show
  - Accessioned Boise Barracks
  - Accessioned Wild Game cookbook, 1973
  - Accessioned PDS, Neighborhood Investment Program
  - Continued processing work on Burn’s Studio Collection
  - Processing Congregation Avahath Beth Israel collection
  - Removed materials in cold storage and repatriated with collection
- **Digitization:**
  - Continuing digitization of Boise City Council tapes
- **Software:**
  - ArchivesSpace – an industry standard opensource software program to manage archival collection records and to make information about the collections available to the public.
  - Quartex – signed contract for online interface to highlight curated collections.

ONGOING AND FUTURE PROJECTS

- Work with contractor to process digital images of the Burn’s Photo Collection - ongoing
- Create boxes to finish processing COVID-19 collection
- Create processing plan for Mike Wetherell’s papers - ongoing
- Assess backlog of material to prioritize processing projects - ongoing
- Digitization manual to ensure consistency on digitization projects – ongoing
- Developing donor strategy plan to identify gaps and potential opportunities for future collections