

**MINUTES OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING
CARNEGIE TOWN HALL
April 15, 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Hauck, Ann Marie Davis, Ceca Cooper, Lyle Pudwill, Kris Carmody Reaves.
MEMBERS ABSENT: Lary Etten (excused), Anita Kealey (excused).
OTHERS PRESENT: Ali Brackett (Global Spectrum, Sioux Falls Convention Center), Jim Clark (SculptureWalk), David Merhib (Visual Arts Center, Washington Pavilion), Carmen Toft (Museum of Visual Materials), and Russ Sorenson, Planning Office Staff Liaison.

Chairperson Chair person, Jerry Hauck, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and welcomed the Commissioners and guests.

ITEM 1. REVIEW & ACTION on the March 18, 2008, Meeting Minutes.
Commissioner Ann Marie Davis made a motion to approve the March 18, 2008 meeting minutes, as presented. Commissioner Lyle Pudwill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 2. REVIEW & ACTION on Proposed Sculpture Placements at Sioux Falls Convention Center.

Presenters: Jim Clark, SculptureWalk
Ali Brackett, Global Spectrum, Sioux Falls Convention Center

Jim Clark and Ali Brackett presented the Commissioners with information about two proposed outdoor sculpture placements on public property. Mr. Clark mentioned the location for the two proposed sculptures is at the main front (east) entrance to the Sioux Falls Convention Center. He indicated the proposed sculpture would be located along each side of the main entrance doors. It was noted the proposed sculptures would be placed upon three foot high quartzite pedestals. The sculptures would be leased by a private business for one or two years and are not intended to be gifts to the city. The proposed sculptures have already been juried through the SculptureWalk process and approved by the Visual Arts Commission and City Council as part of previous SculptureWalks.

Two sculptures would be selected, however three sculptures were presented to the Commission for consideration. They include:

- 1) "Sonrise" – by Colorado artist, Bill Noland, a bronze sculpture depicting three pheasants and measuring 54" in height, 29" in width, and 27" in length. (2005 SculptureWalk);
- 2) "Spirits in the Smoke" – by Colorado artist, Christopher Powell, a bronze sculpture depicting native American symbolism and measuring 70" in height, 12" in width, and 24" in length. (2007 SculptureWalk); and
- 3) "Jack's Storytime" - by Georgia artist, Gregory Johnson, a bronze sculpture depicting a young child reading and surrounded by fairytale characters. (2007 People's Choice Award Winner).

Ali Brackett commented this is a wonderful opportunity to reflect Sioux Falls and South Dakota heritage themes, in the forms of art, to Convention Center visitors.

A Commissioner commented the sculpture entitled, “Jack’s Storytime” does not appear to be as compatible as the other two proposed sculptures for the Convention Center. It was mentioned that future placement of “Jack’s Storytime” at a library or school maybe more appropriate.

Another Commissioner responded that by having the city’s People’s Choice Award winning sculpture (“Jacks Storytime”) located at the convention center is a strong indicator and statement for developing the visual arts in our community.

Commissioner Ceca Cooper made a motion to approve two sculpture placements at the Sioux Falls Convention Center, as presented. Commissioner Ann Marie Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3. Future Community Visual Art Tours

Russ Sorenson commented that in the cooperative spirit of supporting and strengthening our city’s visual art opportunities to a greater extent, that he invited Carmen Toft, Sales & Events Director for the Museum of Visual Materials, and David Merhib, Executive Director of the Visual Arts Center at the Washington Pavilion, to attend today’s Commission meeting. He expressed this is an opportunity for the Visual Arts Commission to meet Carmon and David and have sharing discussions about our respective missions, current and future projects.

a) Museum of Visual Materials @ 500 N. Main Avenue

Guest - Carmen Toft – Sales & Events Director

The Commissioners enthusiastically welcomed Carmen Toft to the meeting. Carmen explained the Museum of Visual Materials was opened in 2007. The museum building was formerly known as the Standard Oil Company Building and was remodeled into a “green” building and sensitive to the environment. Admission to the museum is open and free to the public. In addition to displaying a wonderful collection of visual materials, the museum has art wall gallery areas, an interactive craft space for adults and children, along with complete kitchen facilities. The museum also serves as an available community space for meetings and receptions. The museum has a board of directors. The art wall gallery display areas are currently available to artists on an eight week rotation. The museum participates in First Friday Downtown events.

Carmen invited the Commission to visit the museum and perhaps conduct their future meetings there.

b) Visual Arts Center @ 300 S. Main Avenue

Guest - David Merhib – Executive Director

The Commissioners enthusiastically welcomed David Merhib to the meeting. David explained the purpose of the Visual Arts Center is to bring the visual arts to children and adults through exhibitions, education, collections and special events. The Raven Industries Children’s Studio lets children explore hands-on. Most exhibits are free. Seasonal art classes and workshops are available for all ages. The center also provides an available community space for meetings and receptions. The center has a board of directors. The center participates in First Friday Downtown events.

David invited the Commission to visit the Visual Arts Center and perhaps conduct their future meetings there. David expressed

The Commissioners expressed their sincere appreciation toward meeting both guests and learning more about their respective facilities. The Commission accepted their invitations and

expressed their willingness to work and support each other's endeavors to promote and strengthen our city's visual art opportunities. The Commission requested Russ Sorenson to coordinate the scheduling of future spring / summer tours and possible meetings of the Visual Arts Commission at both, the Museum of Visual Materials and Visual Arts Center.

ITEM 4. PROJECT UPDATES (Staff &/or Subcommittees)

- **CommUnity Youth Mosaic (Phase III) – City Council Meeting April 21st**

Russ Sorenson mentioned this project resolution was presented to the City Council at their April 7th informational briefing meeting. Art educators, Lisa Brunick and Beth Bapp, and high school student, Emmett Reistroffer, were present at the Council's informational meeting. Russ thanked the commissioners who were present at that meeting. Russ indicated this project resolution will be presented to the City Council at their regular meeting of April 21st and that Commissioners Cooper, Davis and Kealey have confirmed their attendance for that meeting.

- **Visual Art Wall – N Phillips Ave – City Council Meeting April 21st**

Russ Sorenson mentioned this project resolution was presented to the City Council at their April 7th informational briefing meeting. He thanked the commissioners who were present at that meeting. Russ indicated this project resolution will be presented to the City Council at their regular meeting of April 21st and that Commissioners Cooper, Davis and Kealey have confirmed their attendance for that meeting. Artist, Matthew Kargol, has also confirmed his meeting attendance.

Website Updates - Completed

Russ Sorenson mentioned that all monthly updates have been completed on the Commission's website.

ITEM 5. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no further input received from the public.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

HANDOUTS – March 18, 2008 Meeting

- April 15, 2008 Meeting Agenda
- March 18, 2008 Meeting Minutes
- Handouts for Items 1 and 2.