

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 16, 2006

TO: Mayor Munson  
City Council

FROM: Sioux Falls Visual Arts Commission,  
Jerry Hauck, 2006 Chairperson  
Stacey McMahan, 2006 Vice Chairperson

RE: 2006 Sioux Falls Visual Arts Commission Annual Report.

The Visual Arts Commission respectfully submits our 2006 Annual Report for your review. This report highlights the commission's milestones including activities, endeavors, and project planning during 2006.

Established by city ordinance (72-00) in August 2000, the Sioux Falls Visual Arts Commission is a group of seven city residents who serve in an advisory capacity, providing guidance and recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on matters related to visual art within the city.

The Visual Arts Commission members are appointed by the Mayor. The appointments are subject to the review and approval of the City Council. The appointments are for a three year term, and Commission members are limited to two consecutive terms. The Commission meets monthly. The meetings are held in the Carnegie Town Hall, 235 West Tenth Street, at 9:00 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.

**Visual Arts Commission Membership**

The following citizens served with dedication on the Visual Arts Commission in 2006:

Jerry Hauck - Chairperson	Stacey McMahan - Vice Chairperson
Jamie Dehaven Rosenbaum	Rod Pierce
Lyle Pudwill	Kris Carmody Reaves
Darwin Wolf	

Currently there are two vacancies on the Commission.

Russ Sorenson, Urban Planner, served as the staff liaison to the Visual Arts Commission in 2006.

Below is a summary description of the commission's 2006 milestones, including endeavors, activities and project planning.

### **Visual Arts Commission Website Page**

After launching their initial website page in early 2005, the Visual Arts Commission continued developing and improving their website page in 2006. The website serves as an online resource to keep public visual art enthusiasts and interested citizens informed about Commission membership and duties, meeting agendas and minutes, general procedure guidelines for calls for art, jury pool / panel correspondence, public art presentation form, and specific public visual art projects.

The Visual Arts Commission website page is:

[http://www.siouxfalls.org/planning/visual\\_arts.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/planning/visual_arts.aspx) The website page is now linked to the City of Sioux Falls [www.siouxfalls.org](http://www.siouxfalls.org) , Sioux Empire Arts Council <http://www.siouxempireartscouncil.com> , and South Dakota Arts Alive Network <http://sdarts.org> websites.

### **Visual Arts Commission Duties and Responsibilities**

The Visual Arts Commission acts as an advisory body to the mayor and city council on matters pertaining to visual art. The Commission's duties may include:

- Developing a general policy for inclusion and approval of visual art in public places and projects.
- Establishing criteria for visual art including compatibility with general, social, and physical environment with which the art is to relate, originality, diversity of style, structural design, quality, quantity, scope, scale, material, form, content, and durability.
- Recommending visual art projects and identifying potential sites.
- Recommending the placement of statues, monuments and memorials in city parks, in or on city property, and public right-of-way.
- Encouraging the incorporation of visual art into the design of commercial, residential, and public projects.

- Encouraging artists' involvement at the inception of city design and building projects.
- Maintaining a directory of the city's inventory of visual art, including receipt annually of the city's plan for conservation and maintenance of art works.
- Reviewing and making recommendations upon all works of art to be acquired by the city, either by purchase, gift, or otherwise.
- Educating the community about the value and importance of visual art.
- Advising or receiving recommendations from other city boards and commissions on matters involving the visual arts, including aesthetics and beautification.
- Serving as the city's liaison with artists and advising on any proposed alteration, removal, or destruction of visual art projects, statues, monuments, or memorials in city parks or on city property.
- Preparing an annual report to the mayor and council on the visual arts. The report may include a plan for future art projects.

### **Mission Statement**

The Visual Arts Commission has been proactive in 2006. The Commission focused on establishing and adopting a mission statement. The mission statement reads:

“The mission of the Sioux Falls Visual Arts Commission is to support and encourage development of visual art for community buildings and spaces through its role as an advisory body to the Mayor, City Council and other City government officials”.

The mission statement is posted on the Commission’s website page.  
[http://www.siouxfalls.org/planning/visual\\_arts.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/planning/visual_arts.aspx)

### **Review Process for Public Art Proposals (with or without City Funding Established).**

In 2006 the Visual Arts Commission established a review process for public visual art proposals, with or without city funding. The Commission will follow the review process outlined below:

- A public art proposal from a city “call for public art” or from any private individual(s), business, education, service, civic, or non- profit

- organization(s) be submitted to the Visual Arts Commission for their consideration.
- A presentation by the individual(s), business, education, and service, civic, or non- profit organization about the public art proposal is made to the Visual Arts Commission at a regular meeting.
  - A jury panel review is required, either by the Visual Arts Commission, or their established jury panel, or from another jury panel that is acceptable to the Visual Arts Commission.
  - Visual Art Commission reviews the public art proposal; any jury panel comments received, and make its recommendation(s) to the Mayor and City Council.
  - Mayor and City Council considers the public art proposal at a regular meeting.
  - Adoption of a Resolution by City Council accepts the public art proposal.

The Visual Arts Commission created a form for public art presentations and donations that may be considered by them in the future. The presenter or donor of public art would be requested to complete the form and submit it to the Commission for review and recommendation to the City Council. The new form is posted on the Commission's website page.

[http://www.siouxfalls.org/planning/visual\\_arts.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/planning/visual_arts.aspx)

## **2006 Visual Arts Commission Activities and Projects**

### **Activities**

#### **Jury Panel Activities**

Another demonstration of the Visual Arts Commission's proactivism toward enhancing our community with more visual art is that on two occasions separate jury panels were established to review one unsolicited gift of art to the City and one formal call for public art.

The unsolicited gift of art project, known as R. F. Pettigrew, is a life size bronze sculpture by local sculptor, Darwin Wolf. The formal call for public art involved the Phillips to the Falls Archway Panels Project. In both instances, the jury panels reviewed the projects and forwarded their recommendations to the Commission. Both projects were recommended favorably by the Commission to the City Council. The Council approved both projects in 2006.

#### **Capital Improvements Plan Project Review Activities**

In 2006 the Visual Arts Commission continued to invite various city directors and staff to attend their meetings to discuss the city's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects, and identify opportunities for the commission to become more actively involved. The Visual Arts Commission established a subcommittee to review

2007-2011 CIP projects that could possibly incorporate artistic design elements into their project scope. The subcommittee constructed a city map illustration identifying approximately 17 CIP projects that related to various city departments including: Arena, Fire, Library, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, and Public Parking.

The Commissioners continued developing and refining their artistic design element ideas for some of the CIP projects. Particularly for Harmodon Park and the Downtown Library Renovation projects. The Commissioners have expressed interest in constructing project bulletins that would serve as visual aids for discussing and communicating their design element ideas in the future with various city department directors.

Some future projects and improvements identified that may involve commission members and artistic input, where applicable, include:

Harmodon Park; Falls Park; River Greenway;  
Several Public Works street and bridge improvement projects;  
Future branch libraries, fire station buildings, parking facilities  
City gateways.

## **Projects**

### **SculptureWalk – Sioux Falls**

The Sculpturewalk – Sioux Falls program enhances the beauty and culture of the Sioux Falls Downtown Area for all citizens and visitors to enjoy. In 2006 the Sculpturewalk program of the Sioux Empire Arts Council had 50 new sculptures located within the central downtown business district for outdoor display. There are 65 sculptures currently placed in and around downtown. In 2005 and 2004, there were 43 sculptures and 34 sculptures, respectively, placed downtown.

The Sculpturewalk program represents a broad collaboration of individuals and entities, both public and private, including Main Street Sioux Falls, the Sioux Empire Arts Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Sioux Falls and other interested organizations coming together in a community-wide team effort to beautify the community and grow the economy through increased tourism.

In addition, the Visual Arts Commission considered and recommended four siting proposals from SculptureWalk 2005 to the City Council. They include:

- People's Choice Sculpture – "Shepherd" North Phillips Avenue in Falls Park West.

- Best of Show 2005 - "Raven Augury" – purchased by Raven Industries and donated to the City south of Sixth Street on bike trail across river from Raven Industries.
- "Two Eagles" – purchased by Jeff Savage and donated to the City on east side of Horse Barn Arts Center near river in Falls Park.
- "Steele Family" – Artist donation to SculptureWalk in Skywalk between Shriver Square—Dacotah Bank near west windows.

On March 20, 2006, the City Council adopted resolution #29-06 approving the 2006 SculptureWalk Project.

For more project information visit the Commission's website page.

[http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual\\_arts.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual_arts.aspx)

#### CommUnity Youth Mosaic Project – Phase I

The proposed location of the CommUnity Youth Mosaic is the retaining wall located along East River Road, between 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Fawick Park. Phase I includes a community partnership art project involving Hawthorne Elementary School Students, SF School District officials & teachers, Sioux Empire Arts Council, local businesses, and the city. Under the guidance of Lisa Brunick, Art Educator at Hawthorne Elementary School, approximately 400 Hawthorne Elementary School Students created a work of art celebrating diversity and unity in our community. Ms. Brunick obtained the cooperation and financial support of local businesses to transform the art into a porcelain mosaic and install it as the first phase of a longer mosaic. The Sioux Empire Arts Council agreed to assist in the project and coordinate a continuation of the mosaic along the wall in the future. City Engineering staff indicated that the mosaic project would not interfere with the flood wall system and that there are no scheduled street works or retaining wall repairs in the near future. In May 2005 the Commission recommended approval of Phase I for the CommUnity Youth Mosaic to the City Council.

On July 5, 2006, the City Council adopted resolution #68-05 approving Phase I of the CommUnity Youth Mosaic Project.

The mosaic tiles were installed and a quartzite cap stone constructed during the spring of 2006. A project ribbon cutting and celebration was conducted on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Several hundred students, school and city officials, businesses, attended this event.

As an informational note, on December 19, 2006, the Visual Arts Commission recommended approval for Phase II design – a continuation of the mosaic wall

design by Sioux Falls Middle School students. The City Council will consider the project in January 2007, with anticipated construction beginning spring 2007.

For more project information visit the Commission's website page.  
[http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual\\_arts/youth\\_mosaic.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual_arts/youth_mosaic.aspx)

#### *R. F. Pettigrew Project*

Sculptor, Darwin Wolf, will sculpt a full life-size bronze sculpture of R. F. Pettigrew holding a letter. It would be similar to the small model version currently displayed in 2005 SculptureWalk. The proposed sculpture piece measures 8 feet tall and would be mounted on a 4' X 4' pedestal base, for a total height of 12 feet. The total cost for the sculpture is approximately \$60,000. Project monitoring will be conducted by peer reviewers and the Visual Arts Commission prior to and upon completion of the full scale sculpted clay model, and prior to foundry production. Upon completion, the sculpture will be donated to the city and installed at the T intersection - east side of Phillips Ave., in line with the street centerline of 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

On April 17, 2006, the City Council adopted resolution #44-06 approving the R. F. Pettigrew Sculpture and 5<sup>th</sup> Street & Phillips Avenue location as recommended by the Visual Arts Commission.

For more project information visit the Commission's website page.  
[http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual\\_arts/r\\_f\\_pettigrew.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual_arts/r_f_pettigrew.aspx)

#### *Phillips to the Falls Archway Art Panels Project*

A call for art was conducted in which 79 notices were sent to South Dakota sculpture artists. Four submittals were received, and one recommended by the jury panel to the Commission. Sculptor, Benjamin Victor, will produce two Phillips to the Falls Gateway Arch Panels to be known as "The Falls Past" and "The Falls Today". The completed two gateway arch panels, located at in the downtown vicinity of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Phillips Avenue, will be 1) "The Falls Past" – a bronze relief panel of a Native American woman standing close to a settler woman as each admires the beauty of the other's child, and 2) "The Falls Today" – a bronze relief panel of a family of three standing in the foreground of the Falls. Each of the proposed panels measure approximately 26.25 inches by 67.75 inches in size. The total cost for this sculpture project is \$17,000. Project monitoring will be conducted by the Visual Arts Commission prior to and upon completion of the full scale sculpted clay panels, and prior to foundry production. Upon completion, the sculpture will belong to the city.

On August 21, 2006, the City Council adopted resolution #118-06 approving the Phillips to the Falls Archway Art Panels project.

For more project information visit the Commission's website page.

[http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual\\_arts/archway\\_panels.aspx](http://www.siouxfalls.org/Planning/visual_arts/archway_panels.aspx)

### **Diversity Picturegraph Project**

Sculpture artist, Porter Williams, presented a picturegraph proposal to the Visual Arts Commission. The proposal is to construct a colorful stonewall mural measuring 50 feet in width, 10 – 12 feet in height, on land located northwest of the existing railroad trestle located at the north end of Phillips Avenue

The proposed stonewall picturegraph would serve as an accent element and would incorporate an appropriate diversity theme consisting of at least four children figures of differing races (Caucasian, Native American, Black, and Asian) all holding hands. The human figures would measure approximately 8-9 feet in height. The estimated project completion is 6-8 weeks and cost approximately \$50,000. The stonewall mural would be located such so as to maintain permanent open space and accommodate downtown redevelopment along the west side of Phillips Avenue, from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street north to 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

After further research it was determined the original project location was on private property, rather than public property owned by the city. The new proposed location lies on the west side of North Phillips Avenue, south of the existing railroad trestle. Given the proposed location has changed, this project is pending further Commission review and action.

### **Public Input**

In 2006 the Visual Arts Commission received public input at their meetings about such topics as establishing a review process for public visual art proposals, promoting visual art opportunities for community youth, reviewing sculpture placement proposals, and supporting development of a foundry in Sioux Falls that would be available to artists and the public.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, there are many positive changes occurring in Sioux Falls that are emphasizing and including public visual art and aesthetics. The Visual Arts Commission is very excited to be a part of this community evolution. The Visual Arts Commission meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m., Carnegie Town Hall. We would be pleased to have you attend at any time.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and the citizens of Sioux Falls. Thank you for your continued support.