



Downtown Arts Subcommittee

July 13, 2016

Meeting Notes

The **Downtown Arts Subcommittee** of the Urban Renewal Agency held a meeting at 1:30 p.m. this date in the PD Classroom located in City Hall at 321 2nd Avenue East, Twin Falls.

Present:

Leon Smith	Committee Chair
Carolyn White	Committee Member
Perri Gardner	URA Member
Curtis Eaton	Committee Member
Fran Frost	Committee Member
Lorrie Bauer	City Staff
Mandi Thompson	City Staff
Shay Koller	CSI Student

Topic: \$100,000 provided by the Agency, as seed funds, for downtown public art.

- 1) Grants: A Letter of Interest (LOI) was submitted to ArtPlace (funding agency) in March on behalf of the City to fund different types of art during the construction phase of Main Ave. to help merchants and their customers. They received a reply that they were not selected to advance. Mandi Thompson shared her thoughts of what information could be included on future applications and actions could strengthen the chances of receiving a grant. Discussion continued regarding the grant search and Mandi, Carolyn White, and Perri Gardner will continue to pursue applicable grant opportunities for place making and community building. They will report results at the next meeting.
- 2) Curtis Eaton presented an art project he's been working on. John E. Hayes was the surveyor of the original town site of Twin Falls in 1904 and to commemorate the Main Avenue and Shoshone Street intersection, where Mr. Hayes was standing at the time of surveying, the idea is to house a life size statue/sculpture of Mr. Hayes downtown, in the intersection location. Curtis has communicated with a painter/sculptor, Dave Lemur, about the idea. At this time, a bronze model is being created from a clay maquet that was made and it should be finished by the first of September. Line of sight concerns have been cleared by an engineer, the City is agreeable at this time, and Columbia Bank has agreed to house the large statue. The next step is the creation of funding for the larger statue. It will take approximately one year to create and is estimated to cost \$100,000. Communication with Mr. Lemur will need to take place this fall to let him know if we want to go forward or not. There is serious interest from a couple local charitable organizations who have agreed to put some money into this project. This subcommittee is excited and supportive of this project as part of the public art for downtown and feels it merits some funding from Urban Renewal.
- 3) Declare Initial Project: Request submissions from local and surrounding artists for their ideas for a wall mural in the Commons area and for electrical utility box wraps. A specific dollar amount would be designated for each purpose. Once responses were narrowed down, SurveyMonkey could be used to get community input. This would create a community wide opportunity for public art display. Commons wall could house many murals of different sizes, chalk board area, movie projection space.

- 4) Seed Money: At this time the committee declares interest in the seed money to go towards the wall mural, utility box wraps, Hayes statue, a project to stimulate student art initiatives in concert with the downtown redesign, and research incubation/artist space downtown.
- 5) Presentation to the Board: Leon will share the committee's progress with the UR Board at the scheduled August 8th board meeting.

Leon introduced a meeting attendee, Shay Koller. She's a business student at CSI and a fellow artist. She was invited to send the committee her thoughts/ideas in regards to the discussions of today's meeting.