

LITTLETON FINE ARTS BOARD

Minutes of Proceedings

October 15, 2020

Present: Carol Ackerman
Molly Blakley
Lance Johnson
Jessica Kirk - Chair

Absent: Carolyn Bradish - Vice Chair
David Goldstein
Joni Lieb
Karina Elrod, City Council Liaison

Also Present: Jennifer Hankinson, Curator of Collections
Fabby Hillyard, DJC & Associates
Kristi Moran, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order

Determining that a quorum was present, Chair Jessica Kirk called the meeting to order via Zoom at 6:31 p.m. and the following business was transacted.

II. Minutes of September 2020

Ms. Blakley made a MOTION to accept the minutes from the September 2020 meeting as presented. Ms. Ackerman seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ackerman, Blakley, Johnson, Kirk

Nays: None

Absent: Bradish, Goldstein, Lieb

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

III. City Council Liaison Report

There was no Council report

IV. Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Hankinson reported on the success of the Museum's pumpkin patch, requests to place artwork, owned by the Fine Arts Board (FAB), in the offices of the City Manager and the City Attorney and the removal of artwork titled "Open Skies" located outside of Council Chambers due to construction work.

She reminded the Board that the next FAB exhibit will be Own an Original with a theme of Liberating Humor which will run from November 20, 2020 until January 2, 2021. The curated exhibit presented by five Colorado women artists who work in landscape and abstract art will run from January 22, 2020 through February 27, 2020

Ms. Hankinson informed the Board that there will be no opening receptions for the remainder of 2020.

Ms. Blakley brought up the possibility of having the juror present an informative virtual program that explains the way artwork is juried in lieu of a reception.

V. Committee Reports

SSP&RD Art Committee

None.

Littleton Arts and Culture Commission

Ms. Hankinson told the Board that the Commission will be working on developing a strategic plan, defining arts and culture in the area, identifying who the stakeholders are and what stakeholders to add. At their next meeting on November 12, 2020, they will discuss creating an outreach community survey.

VI. Old Business

- A. How is public art created? Discussion (tabled from September meeting). Ms. Hankinson had provided the Board with suggested readings. She began the discussion by saying that the choice to spend taxpayer money for public art should involve planning, thought and deliberation before artwork is chosen.

The Board members agreed that the readings reinforced their perception of being on the right track for understanding the importance of how to select art for the community. Ms. Kirk added that the Board had been planning to take a more measured and strategic approach to the selection of community art. She also went on to say that collaboration is key to choosing public artworks and this board wants to do something that is reflective of the community and adds value to the community.

Ms. Hankinson recommended that FAB members visit art galleries individually rather than as a group. The result of sharing links with each other could lead to a discussion about various artists and their pieces.

Ms. Blakley said that part of FAB's charter is the promotion of art in Littleton. She asked about using money from a limited budget to engage the public in a temporary art project to honor people who have been affected by COVID. The Board then discussed the important role art has in expressing grief and shared ideas for possible art projects that could involve local businesses and community participation.

VII. New Business

- A. FAB Exhibit calendar realignment. Ms. Hankinson asked the Board members to consider realigning the calendar by removing Best of Show for Own an Original and Eye of the Camera. The realignment would not take effect until 2022 and would provide new opportunities for the Fine Arts Board to engage with the community and expand the audience.

By removing the Best of Show exhibits, the duration of each of the exhibits for Fine Arts can be extended. Fine Arts programming can be expanded by having more lectures and artist demonstrations without additional budget requests. This would also give museum staff more time to create programming.

Ms. Hankinson told the Board that the monetary return for artists to participate in a Best of Show is minimal and unpredictable

Members discussed the value and prestige of artists having their own show and what would replace that value. The Board decided to give the proposal some thought and will bring up the consideration of realigning the calendar at November's board meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

At 8:16 p.m. Ms. Blakley made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ackerman seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ackerman, Blakley, Johnson, Kirk

Nays: None

Absent: Bradish, Goldstein, Lieb

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

Jenny Hankinson, Curator of Collections

Kristi Moran, Recording Secretary