



## MERIDIAN ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 3:30 PM

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### MINUTES

#### ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lizzie Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick O'Leary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bridget King, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bobby Gaytan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaun Muscolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seoyoon Song
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brecken Bird, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Jay Smith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crystal Paulson	

City Staff Cassandra Schiffler (Arts and Culture Coordinator), Sarah Alford (Arts Assistant), Emily Kane (Deputy City Attorney), and Garrett White (Recreation Manager) were present.

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA [ACTION ITEM]

L. Taylor moved to adopt agenda. B. Gaytan seconded.

All ayes.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

1. Approval of Draft Minutes From the March 13, 2025 Meridian Arts Commission Meeting

S. Muscolo moved to approve minutes. S. Song seconded.

All ayes.

#### NEW BUSINESS

2. **Presentation:** Community Center Update ~ *Garrett White, Recreation Superintendent*

G. White gave a PPT presentation on the plans for the Community Center (see attached presentation).

S. Muscolo inquired if there was any chair storage for the stage area and what the capacity would be. G. White replied that this was a great question and said that the chairs will be stored under stage. He is hopeful for 200 people and if there is more then rental companies would be called in to help manage the seating. S. Muscolo wondered if

the fire department had any estimate on capacity and G. White replied not yet. P. O'Leary questioned how people would be seated for games in the gym. G. White stated there will not be built-in bleachers but most likely tip and roll bleachers. They are hoping for 2 or 3 bleachers and some long benches for players. P. O'Leary questioned if the storage room is accessible from the gym. G. White confirmed yes, and they are planning to take some staff from City Hall to staff the center. Perhaps promoting someone to site coordinator and promoting a seasonal position to full-time. G. White stated there will also be a chair elevator for accessibility onto the stage. They will be utilizing impact fees and there is still some wiggle room.

P. O'Leary wondered if there would be dressing rooms for the stage area. G. White replied that they have discussed this with Treasure Valley Children's Theater and they will most likely use the classroom across the hall, but they might have to be creative. C. Paulson inquired about updates on the cleaning room/supplies being accessible from other parts of the building after hours. G. White replied that logistics are still being worked out, but there will smaller cleaning supplies in each room. P. O'Leary wondered about logistics of scheduling play rehearsals. G. White stated that this was a good question. There will have to be a balance between all different departments utilizing the gym/stage. Depending on the season, the stage will be more accessible. People will have to fill out rental agreements and get codes to access parts of the building when it is unstaffed after hours or on weekends. C. Paulson wondered if it will be the same scheduling format as it is now and G. White said it will be the same. G. White stated that the fitness rooms will be soundproof so those classes don't disturb others.

They are still working on more renderings and designs. They are also currently looking at public art opportunities that will be in the community center. They are adding grass space that is non-reservable except for special events. Meridian Youth Baseball is helping pay for more parking spots. They are still working on patio logistics, but the exercise rooms will have garage doors that open onto the patio for outdoor access. They will also have food truck pull outs by the grassy area for about three food trucks. G. White feels like the project is a little over budget, but they are reviewing phasing options. Parking will also get worse before it gets better. They are going to block out reservations for the shelters, so parking isn't overflowing.

S. Inman is helping to plan Public Art opportunities and making space for art at the community center. They are working on a bid for the construction project in October 2025. Spring 2026 is when they want to break ground, and it would not open until Fall 2027 or Spring 2028 because of the budget year. S. Muscolo inquired if he could discuss the budget and G. White replied that he could once the numbers are more firm. B. King wondered about already marked off space on the blueprints for growth. G. White replied that they are anticipating expansion and it could be held for more gyms or classrooms. G. White pointed out that there are two bathrooms accessible from the outside, one from grassy area and one from the playground. P. O'Leary inquired if there was ever discussion about an amphitheater. G. White stated that it would be too close to homes. C. Paulson questioned about a plan to direct people to specific entrances for after hours. G. White stated that it was a great question and that there will be a blue entrance and a gold one. Next month they will be able to review the art themes and designs further.

B. Bird introduced the new Arts Assistant, S. Alford.

### **3. Discuss: MAC's Standing Subcommittees - Effectiveness, Purpose and Goals**

B. Bird stated subcommittees were originally formed to make the full commission meetings shorter. However, now meetings do not go on as long since they are running a tighter schedule. B. Bird stated that they are the only commission with subcommittees, and they could discuss temporary committees that are just project based which could give more opportunity to comment on projects. In the past the Initial Point Gallery committee only met once a year. She stated they don't need to meet every month. B. Bird passed the discussion to C. Schiffler and she said she had discussed this topic with the committee chairs. C. Schiffler said full commission meetings used to go three hours long and that isn't a problem anymore because everyone and everything is more efficient. C. Schiffler suggested she would like to see more of the subcommittee discussions moved to the full art commission. She stated it seems everyone in commission is interested in these subcommittees. It would make sense to have committees created with project-based goals and a deadline so people know what they are getting themselves into. Once the project is complete, the subcommittee wouldn't meet anymore. There would be more to fall on commission. C. Schiffler opened the discussion to committee members to hear their thoughts on discontinuing standing committees and whether it would be more efficient.

S. Muscolo stated she is concerned about communication and how coordinating volunteers or IPG items would be discussed. B. Bird replied that the commission is very communicative and C. Schiffler is very good about organizing volunteers. B. Bird stated everyone on the commission is very willing to volunteer and that hasn't been an issue so far. L. Taylor is worried about IPG items overtaking commission meetings. She wondered what constitutes a committee meeting vs. a commission meeting. E. Kane clarified and stated this is exactly how they discussed IPG jurying in the past. Any quorum would be classified as a public meeting. L. Taylor worries that commission meetings might be all over the place. B. Bird stated that for the past two years at least, the jury for Initial Point Gallery opens to the commission anyways. B. Bird didn't see the judging process being moved to full commission meetings as a concern. B. Bird asked if it would be ok to occasionally have longer meetings because of this. L. Taylor stated that it will be great because they have C. Schiffler and S. Alford to help keep the meetings on track. C. Paulson stated this would use time more wisely and they could have meetings as needed. This would prevent draining commission members and staff resources.

S. Muscolo suggested they could still have committees, but they don't need to meet all the time. She asked if this is legally ok. B. Bird replied that is what the proposal is. We don't need to have standing committees, but instead a task force formed to tackle a project while it is needed. S. Muscolo questioned that if they did form a task force, then they could have four or more commissioners there and it wouldn't become a meeting. E. Kane said if there are five or more commissioners at a meeting then it becomes a full commission meeting. E. Kane says the meetings are noticed either way, so there is no legal defect. They would just have to see if it turns out to be a committee meeting or commission meeting. E. Kane suggested that if there are five or more commissioners present at a subcommittee meeting, then it would probably be something to just talk

about in a full commission meeting. B. Bird replied that it would probably be a case-by-case basis. B. Gaytan stated it is a good idea to be more efficient and use time more wisely. He asked who would be leading those smaller meetings and how it would be formatted. B. Bird replied that it would probably still depend on a case-by-case basis, and they would most likely follow the same rules, but the majority of the discussion could be reintegrated into Meridian Arts Commission meetings. E. Kane stated that typically in other commissions, if a matter arises that needs more discussion, the Chair will appoint people to join a newly formed subcommittee so they can discuss and bring it back to the full commission. It is more of a project-based model than a topic-based model.

E. Kane explained that the Parks Commission made this switch several years ago and it is still working. She stated that in her opinion this is a model that works very well, but we can always go back to the old one. P. O'Leary suggested they can form a subcommittee for Art Party and then open it up to the commission. C. Schiffler replied yes that is how it would work, but that is not needed for that event. The special events coordinator for the city is leading that event. B. King liked E. Kane's point that they can always just try it out. P. O'Leary stated he agreed, but as long as questions are not limited.

S. Muscolo inquired if there needed to be a motion. B. Bird called for a motion to discontinue current subcommittees and moving those back into the full MAC meeting.

L. Taylor made the motion that, in the interest of Commissioners' and Cassandra's time, that standing subcommittee meetings be discontinued unless there is a project-specific need to meet; and that discussions about gallery, public art, and events be at full MAC meetings when subcommittee chairs typically give their remarks. C. Paulson seconded.

All ayes. Motion passed. B. Bird thanked them.

## **REPORTS [ACTION ITEM]**

### **3. Initial Point Gallery: ~ Lizzie Taylor, IPG Subcommittee Chair**

- Current Exhibit: "Of Leaf and Petal" Claire Remsberg, Jessie Swimeley, Cindi Walton, Jill Storey, Mary Arnold, and Suzi Butler (Opening: Tuesday, April 1, Host: Shaun Muscolo)

L. Taylor stated that the exhibit is beautiful, and everyone should check it out. She questioned S. Muscolo for the numbers of attendees on opening night. S. Muscolo replied there were around fifty people.

- Upcoming Exhibit: "Framed" West Ada School District Annual Student Art Show (Opening: Tuesday, May 6, Host: Seyooon Song)

L. Taylor told S. Song not to worry as there will be people there to help. She hopes that C. Schiffler and S. Alford will reach thousands with advertising.

- Call to Artists: Initial Point Gallery Call to Artists for 2026 is Open, Application Deadline: May 30, 2025

L. Taylor announced that June 20 at 3pm is when they would meet for jurying.

S. Muscolo inquired to E. Kane if five commissioners showed up to the gallery opening if that would be considered a commission meeting. E. Kane stated that as long as they are not discussing commission business then it is not a commission meeting.

**5. Public Art Committee:** Review Meeting ~ *Bobby Gaytan, Public Art Committee Chair*

B. Gaytan reviewed the Chateau Park Dedication Event speaker agenda. The committee also discussed a mural event but concluded that it is too much for the city to participate in. They want to focus energies on the mural event at Art Party. They had also reviewed the Public Art Master Plan and they would discuss it more at next subcommittee meeting. C. Schiffler stated that they moved the Public Art Plan to full commission, so there will be no subcommittee meeting, and the kickoff for the Public Art Master Plan will happen at the next full MAC meeting.

**6. Staff Updates on Projects:** Events: Concerts on Broadway, Art Party on September 13, 2025, Chateau Park Public Art Dedication Event on Monday, April 21 at 4PM; Public Art: Remsberg Painting at City Hall, Rau Mural at Homecourt, Public Art Master Plan ~ *Cassandra Schiffler, Arts and Culture Coordinator*

C. Schiffler stated that S. Alford is working on the contracts for Concerts on Broadway and then once they are executed, they can start marketing. C. Schiffler said for Art Party they will reproduce the layout they did last year as it felt very successful. However, she inquired if anyone on the commission knew any new vendors or organizations that would be great, and she would reach out to past vendors. C. Schiffler stated that they are really excited for the Chateau Public Art Dedication. She is working with the Treasure Valley Community Garden Cooperative on a hands-on project, and there will be speakers, fun projects, and she hopes to see everyone there.

C. Schiffler announced that the Remsberg paintings hung in City Hall look fantastic and S. Muscolo wondered if there will be signage for it and C. Schiffler replied yes. C. Schiffler stated that the Rau Mural at Homecourt will be installed in the beginning of May as they just received the contract back and it will have to go through council. C. Schiffler announced that they will kickoff the Public Art Master Plan at the next meeting and get feedback from the commission.

**NEXT MEETING - May 8, 2025**

**ADJOURNMENT [ACTION ITEM]**

L. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. P. O'Leary seconded.

All ayes.

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**Meridian Arts Commission 2025 All Commission Goals and Priorities**

Program monthly Initial Point Gallery exhibits, host opening receptions, market the gallery to the city and the community, market yearly Call-to-Artists, and serve as a selection panel for new exhibits.

Participate in the partnership with the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff to add theming and identity reinforcing art in Meridian parks and pathways. Focus this year on Fuller Park.

Engage the community through Art Week in 2025 and participate in programming and marketing events.

Participate in planning for new MAPS projects and future updates to the MAPS Public Art Workplan. Focus on the creation of a new Public Art Master Plan.

Increase inclusive programming through representation of diverse populations and marketing to underserved and underrepresented populations

Support Concerts on Broadway Series in 2025.

Maintain existing Traffic Box Series; select WASD artworks, recommend locations, and use Call-to-Artists to commission installation of new traffic box wraps.

Support youth performing arts programs through partnership and fiscal support of youth performing arts projects.

Plan to present the 2026 biennial Tammy de Weerd's Awards in the Arts

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# MERIDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

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4-10-25



## Community Outreach

We held a Public Open House on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> to gather feedback from neighboring homes.

### Key Take Aways

- Need a Traffic Light at Venable and Ustick
- Parking on Venable
- Parking in neighborhood on Ashby Dr.
- Loved location of Dog Park
- Appreciated additional Parking

### City Leadership Discussions

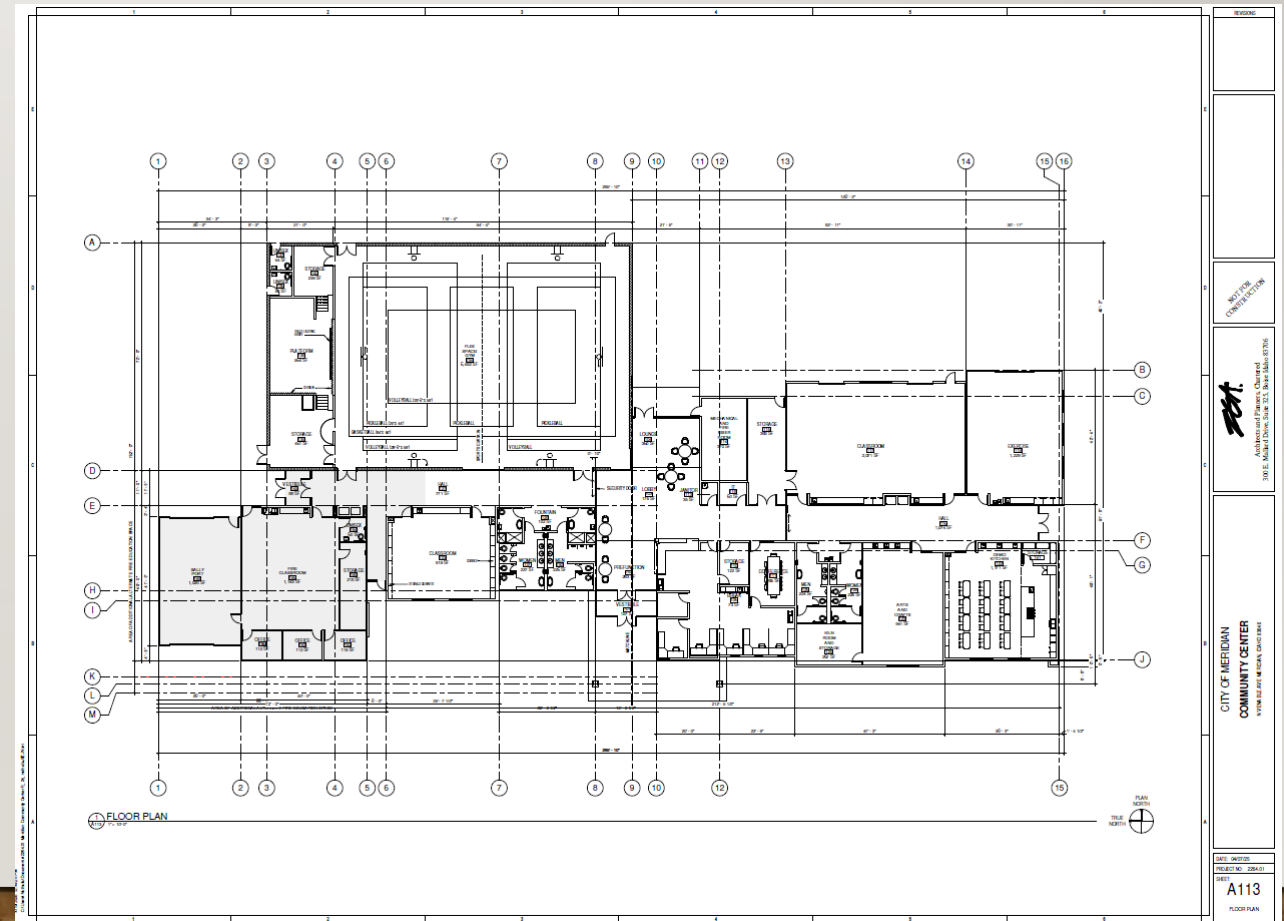
- Community Outreach Review
- Staffing Plans
- Operational Budgets
- Concepts / Design
- Park Amenities

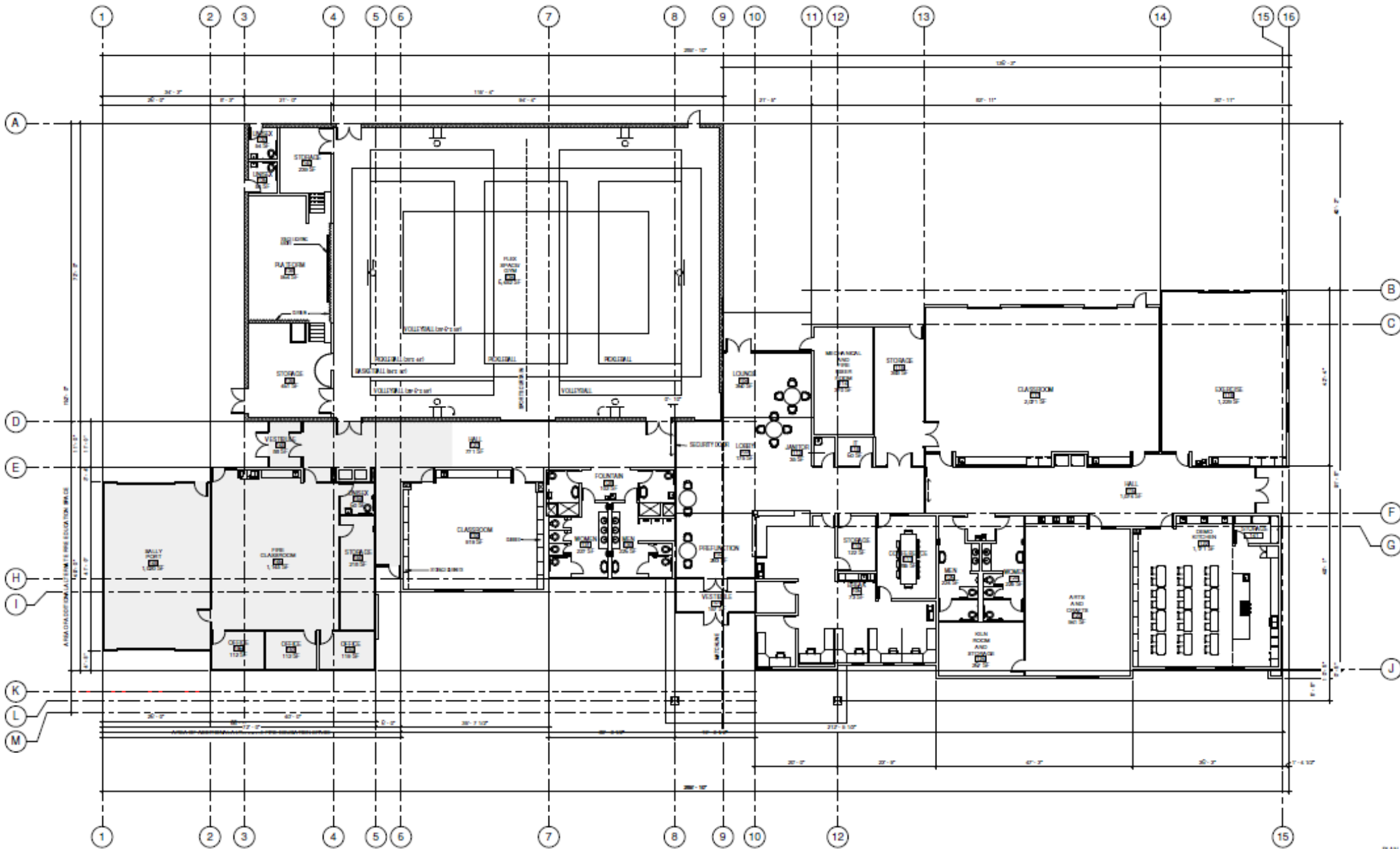




- Flex Space/Gym
- Standard Classroom to host future Summer Camps
- Stage (24' x 25')
- Fitness Room (2100 sq. ft.)
- Exercise Room (1200 sq. ft.)
- Cooking Classroom
- Arts Room with Kiln Room
- Office / Front Counter Area
- Access Control
- Outdoor Patio Area
- Possible Fire Prevention Office Location

- Review Room Sizes
- Review Room Layout
- Staff questions on does and don'ts





1 FLOOR PLAN  
1/16" = 1'-0"

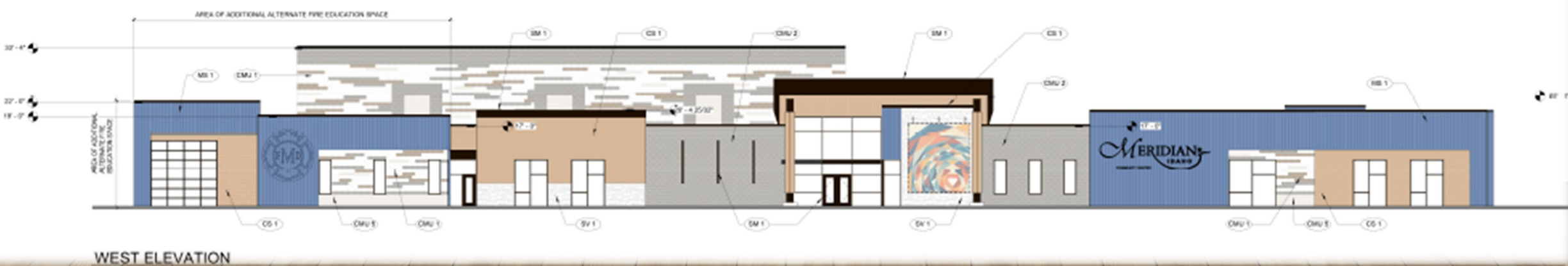
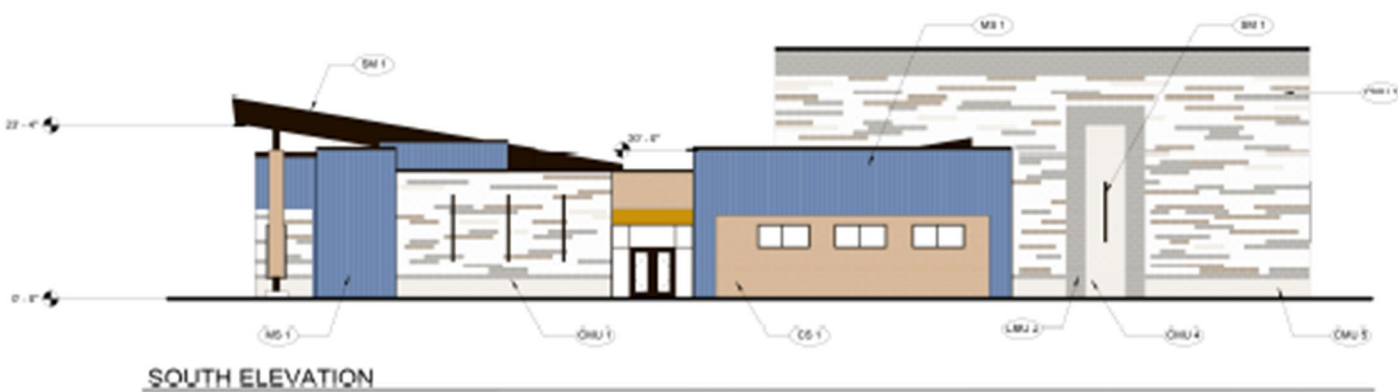
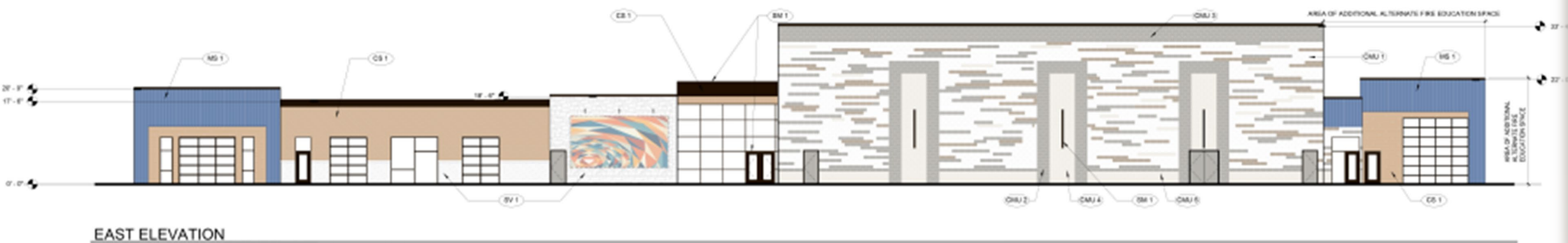
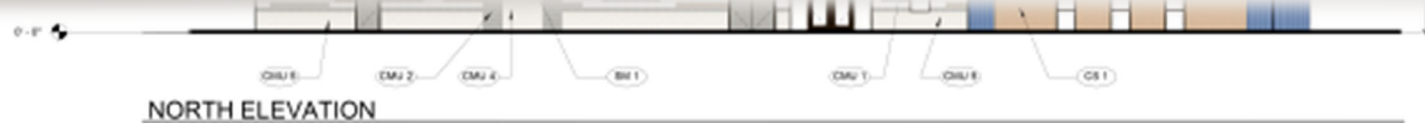


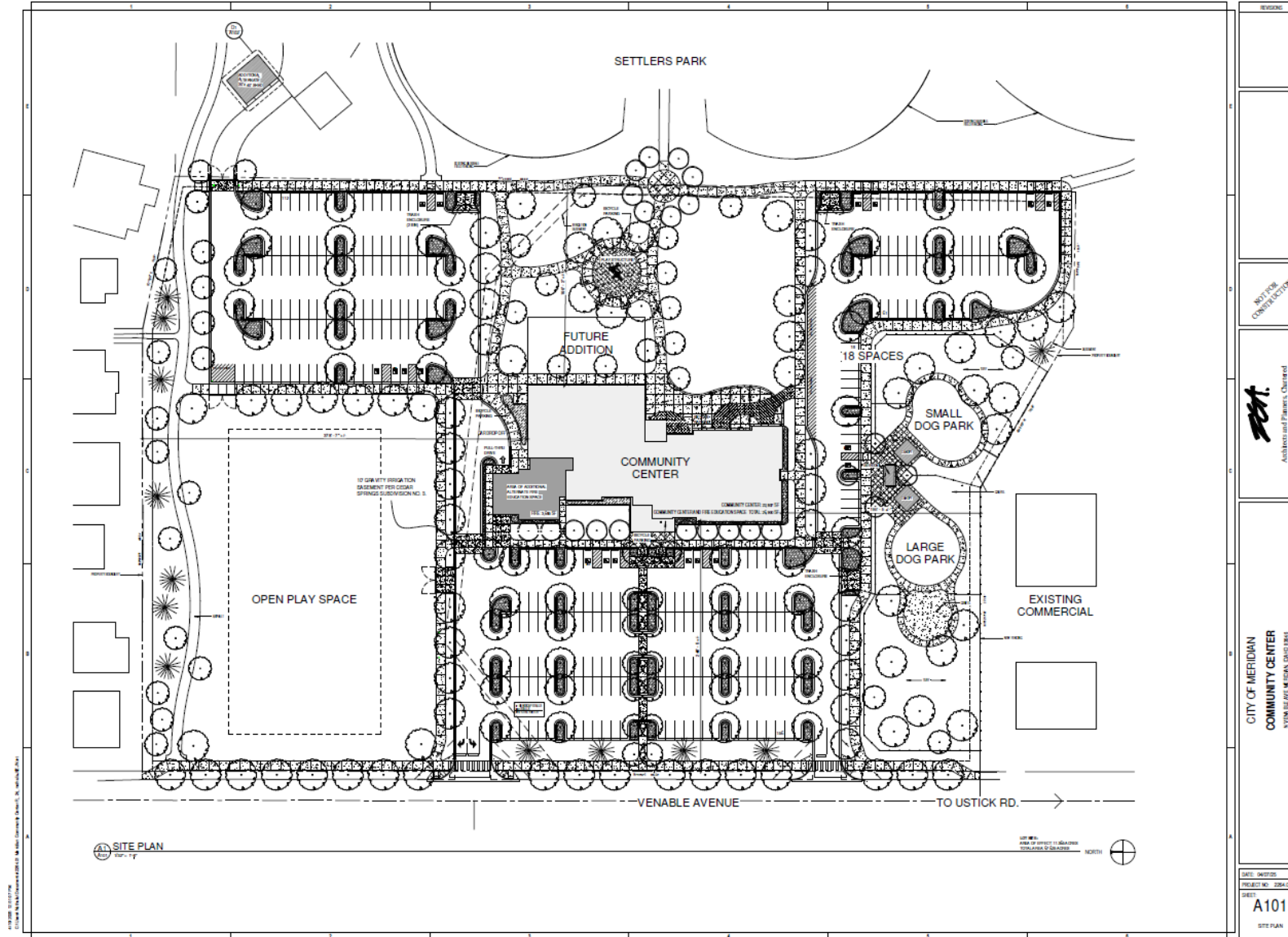
CITY OF MERIDIAN  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
NORTH SIDE OF MERIDIAN, IDAHO 83401



Architects and Planners, Chartered  
300 E. Main Street, Suite 205, Boise, Idaho 83706

NOT FOR  
CONSTRUCTION







## Next Steps

- Schematic Design Development - COMPLETED
- Move to Design Development
- Continue to work with Stephanie Inman on Public Art Opportunities (now and future)
- City Leadership Check In
- Move to Construction Documents
- Bid the Community Center and Park Expansion in October of 2025
- Break ground Spring of 2026
- Open in FY28





Questions?

A black marker is shown drawing a curved line under the word 'Questions?'. The marker is black with a silver tip and is positioned at the bottom right of the word. The word 'Questions?' is written in a cursive, handwritten style on lined paper. The marker has the word 'Carte' and 'PERMANENT' visible on its side.