



MERIDIAN ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, February 09, 2023 at 3:30 PM

MINUTES

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lizzie Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patrick O'Leary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Peters, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bobby Gaytan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natalie Schofield, Vice Chair*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hannah Scoville

* joined at minute 19:38 but was unable to remain at the meeting due to the City's technical difficulties with Zoom

C. Schiffler noted at minute 15:31 that the agenda did not have the regular Zoom link to join the meeting online but there is the webinar ID with the Zoom link so she emailed this information to Commissioner N. Schofield.

C. Schiffler noted at minute 25 that the Zoom recording sound was not going out so she requested to pause the meeting so she could obtain help from the Clerk's Office, at which time Commissioners could sign thank you cards for the former Commission Chair and Signs Etc. C. Schiffler stated the meeting could proceed at minute 32.

City staff present were Arts and Culture Coordinator Cassandra Schiffler and City Attorney Emily Kane.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

J. Peters requested to move Agenda Item #5 to before Agenda Item #3.

L. Taylor made motion to adopt agenda as amended; seconded by H. Scoville

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

1. Approval of Draft Minutes From the January 12, 2023 Meridian Arts Commission Meeting

L. Taylor made motion to approve minutes; seconded by H. Scoville

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS [ACTION ITEM]

2. Approval of Financial Statement

J. Peters pointed out that in the attachment to the agenda you can click through to the City's website to view more information about the Commission's budget, including the budget from last fiscal year. J. Peters noted that this year's budget is lower than last year's budget and asked C. Schiffler to provide more information about the budget. J. Peters stated that the Commission is one-third of the way through the fiscal year but have only spent about one-fifth of the budget and that is because Commission still needs to pay for more public art and Art Week.

C. Schiffler showed the Commission where in the agenda packet to click to see the Commission's budget on the City's website. C. Schiffler noted that there are two carryforward line items that have not yet carried forward and that the City Budget Manager is aware:

- the Carryforward line item should be around \$126,800 instead of \$26,800 and should actually be in the Public Arts line item
- the Public/Private Mural Program is another carry-forward line-item not yet carried forward

C. Schiffler reviewed each budget line item and stated she anticipates the public art budget being updated in the next month so that it is accurate:

- For Concerts on Broadway, the City budgets \$10k for Concerts on Broadway with MDC providing an additional \$10k to put this series on, but traditionally the Commission spends \$14k - \$16k for the series so she has recommended this change with still asking for the sponsorship monies because having a more accurate budget will help avoid having to do a budget amendment
- For the Performing Art line item, this is the call that is out right now
- For the Five Mile Creek Pathway Trailhub Public Art Project, this is the \$50k project and is actually part of the Public Arts line item
- For the Traffic Box Art line item, the money was spent but this is also part of the Public Arts line item
- For the Other Expenses line item, this was used last year for traffic box cleaning and maintenance
- For the Art Development line item, some funds were used for consulting with the Minneapolis St. Paul Sidewalk Poetry Project and this year she anticipates renewing the \$300 Americans for the Arts membership
- For the Initial Point Gallery line item, funds are generally used for reception food, light repairs, tools (e.g., a level)
- For the School District Art Show Awards line item, nothing has been spent yet

L. Taylor made motion to approve monthly financial statements; seconded by H. Scoville

All ayes

NEW BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]

3. **Review and Make Recommendation:** Discovery Park Public Art Plan ~ *Cassandra Schiffler, Arts and Culture Coordinator*

C. Schiffler stated the Public Art Committee's Discovery Park Public Art Plan looks like a good plan and has Park and Recreation approval and support. C. Schiffler summarized the report for the Commissioners:

- looking at three different locations, with input from Parks Superintendent
 - Bike Park bench seating for parents to watch children, plus the Bike Park is close to the road so benches could stop kids from entering road; (additionally, a fence may be needed since it is close to the road)
 - Based on everyone loving a recent proposal from Steve Parker for a different project, there is a site near the playground and a long walkway so his art could be a visual terminus and includes an interactive component and uses bikes; originally looked at placing this piece in the Bike Park but thought maybe it was too close to other bike art in the Bike Park and this helps to intersperse art throughout the site well
 - Three new softball fields with a concession stand and raised grassy area so this could be a third site
- Budget is \$150k to be used for multiple projects instead of one large project

C. Schiffler stated she has talked to all three of the proposed artists to make sure they are available, on board and that proposed budgets work within what they might propose and they are all good.

C. Schiffler stated in terms of a timeline the artists could submit proposals soon; then review proposals; fabrication could take place this winter; installation would take place next February since the park will open next March.

J. Peters reminded everyone that the three artists are from the Parks Identity Public Art Roster so they have been pre-selected through an RFQ and will not have to go through the whole RFQ process again and can just submit proposals for this project.

L. Taylor made motion to approve the Discovery Park Public Art Plan ; seconded by P. O'Leary

All ayes

4. **Review and Make Recommendation: Initial Point Gallery Exhibit for December 2023 - January 2024:** Capitol Contemporary Gallery Artist's Display at Initial Point Gallery ~ *Lizzie Taylor, Initial Point Gallery Subcommittee Chair*

L. Taylor recalled deciding to team with Contemporary Gallery but she did not contact them so requested that C. Schiffler contact them as a liaison between the Initial Point Gallery Subcommittee and the gallery.

C. Schiffler confirmed she did reach out to the Capitol Contemporary Gallery and they are checking with their artists to make sure everyone is on board but she thinks they are, and pending approval from the Commission, a draft agreement is ready to be sent to them.

Commission Feedback:

J. Peters inquired who coordinates the artists. *The owner of the gallery, Randy Van Dyck, would be responsible for coordinating the artists. C. Schiffler disclosed that she knows all these artists well as she is an artist in this gallery so will probably work quite a bit with them too.*

L. Taylor clarified this show would be somewhat like TVAA where there are many artists and then it is curated by one person who becomes the point of contact.

J. Peters reminded the Commission that typically for December and January the same artists are shown for this two-month period compared to the one month shows the rest of the year due to the holidays.

B. Gaytan made motion to approve the recommendation to show Capitol Contemporary Gallery artists for the December 2023 - January 2024 Initial Point Gallery Exhibit; seconded by P. O'Leary

All ayes

REPORTS

5. Update: Public Art Committee: Review Discussion on Discovery Public Art Plan, Review Projects Under Consideration, Review Prioritization List of Projects ~ Bobby Gaytan, PAC Chair

B. Gaytan stated during the January meeting the Committee discussed the following:

- Ongoing art projects are all going well and according to plan: Meridian Pool Mural, Five Mile Creek Pathway, and the special traffic box
- Next steps for the Discovery Park public art project which will be presented as a recommendation today
- Potential projects:
 - Mural at Sage Point Financial in Downtown Meridian, which had been discussed previously but now they have new management so want to revisit doing a mural project on their building
 - Transit shelter art: discussed a small budget and the kinds of artists to solicit with recommendations for soliciting graphic designers, illustrators, and digital artists
- Ongoing traffic box series for 2023: Committee recommends the planned seven youth boxes and postponing professional artists' traffic boxes for the 2023 roster to focus on other projects
- Public art location ideas: Fuller Park environment art; Lakeview Golf Course; sidewalk poetry; rotating sculpture program; and temporary art projects for Art Week

- Prioritized the list of ongoing and potential projects

B. Gaytan stated Chair elections were also held at the January meeting, and he was nominated and elected for another year of chairing the Public Art Committee.

6. **Update: Initial Point Gallery:** Current Exhibit: "Mountains to Meadows: Celebrating" Cindi Walton, Mary Arnold, Angela Neiwert, Claire Remsberg, Jill Storey, Jessie Swimeley: Opening Reception February 7 (Patrick O'Leary); Upcoming: Mark Shawver solo exhibit "Yesterday & Today": Opening Reception March 7 (Host?); Review IPG Subcommittee Meeting Discussions ~ *Lizzie Taylor, IPG Subcommittee Chair*

L. Taylor reviewed the current exhibit and asked Commissioner P. O'Leary to report on the opening reception.

P. O'Leary stated it was a very lively opening with 42 attendees and that it is a great show and a great group of artists.

L. Taylor reviewed the upcoming show with solo exhibitor Mark Shawver who designed his own poster, but she noted there was a typo and the exclusion of M. Shawver's name on the poster so C. Schiffler has worked or will work with M. Shawver to redo the poster.

C. Schiffler confirmed she has spoken with M. Shawver and he has redone the poster.

L. Taylor wanted to confirm that N. Schofield is hosting the March reception but N. Schofield not able to confirm her availability due to technical duties.

J. Peters stated that if N. Schofield is not able to host in March, N. Schofield can reach out to J. Peters.

L. Taylor stated that the Subcommittee does not meet frequently and the majority of their work is deciding the gallery schedule, which has been completed for 2023, so the only remaining item she had is to secure a reception host for June.

H. Scoville confirmed she can host the June reception.

7. **Updates: Staff Report:** Public Art Project Updates, Concerts on Broadways and Concert Poster Update, Call for 2023 Performing Arts Projects, First Tuesdays in Downtown Meridian ~ *Cassandra Schiffler, Meridian Arts and Culture Coordinator*

Presentation given by C. Schiffler (see attachment). C. Schiffler stated there may be an extension of one week for the due date for the Youth Performing Arts Proposals because she will be on vacation during the week of February 24 and would like to be around in case of any questions.

Commission Feedback:

L. Taylor stated it's great and she loves the poster and noted that the clock on the poster even says 6:30.

J. Peters said she agrees and thinks it looks great and loves the use of the guitar case around City Hall; very clever; he did a great job. *With no other comments*

C. Schiffler will tell the poster artist for Concerts on Broadway that we are good to go.

8. Inclusivity Highlight: Mardi Gras Indians: February Inclusivity Highlight ~ Jessica Peters, Meridian Arts Commission Chair

Presentation given by J Peters on Mardi Gras Indians.

J. Peters stated for various reasons she is unable to play the video she was hoping to show the Commission, so strongly encouraged everyone to click on the links provided in the memo to view two videos (one provided from CBS News and one is an independently produced video) and visit informative websites. J. Peters presented the following:

- Topic selected because it is Black History Month and Mardi Gras is later in the month
- Mardi Gras Indians are also known as Black Masking Indians and the tradition started to honor Native Americans in Louisiana who were hiding runaway slaves and protecting them during the time of slavery
- Today people dress up in beautiful costumes with beads and feathers; some represent Native American images and some represent more West African images
- Tradition involves dancing, playing music, and having warrior battles
- Tradition started to take hold during segregation because black people in New Orleans were not allowed to participate in the traditional Mardi Gras celebrations, like parades, so they created their own celebrations

NEXT MEETING - MARCH 9, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

C. Schiffler stated there are applicants for the open seats on the Commission but she does not believe interviews have started yet, and the deadline for applications was extended to Monday in case anyone knows someone they can encourage to apply.

J. Peters inquired if new Commissioners would be joining for the March Commission Meeting.

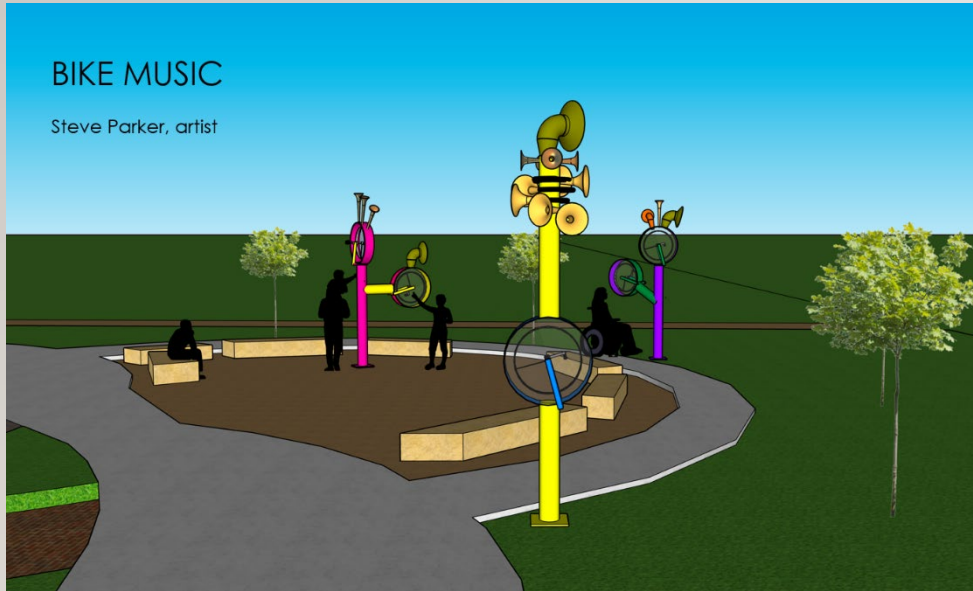
C. Schiffler stated she believes and hopes they would be joining for the March Commission meeting.

B. Gaytan reminded the Commission that the Public Art Committee meeting for February is cancelled but the Public Art Committee will meet in March.

L. Taylor made motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by H. Scoville

All ayes

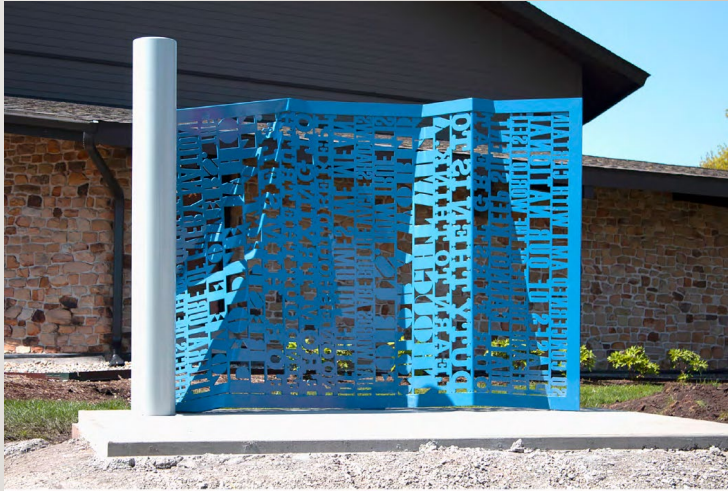
STEVE PARKER



COLIN SELIG



URBANROCK DESIGN



Dreiser - Shadows of Meaning



ARTS & CULTURE COORDINATOR UPDATES

CASSANDRA SCHIFFLER, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

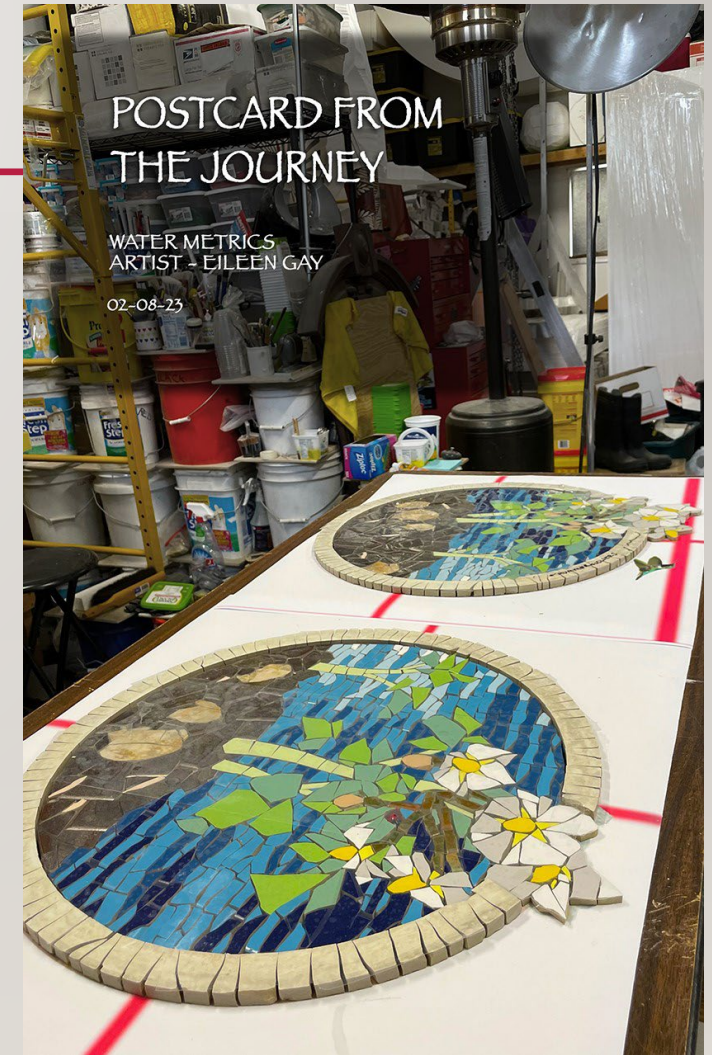
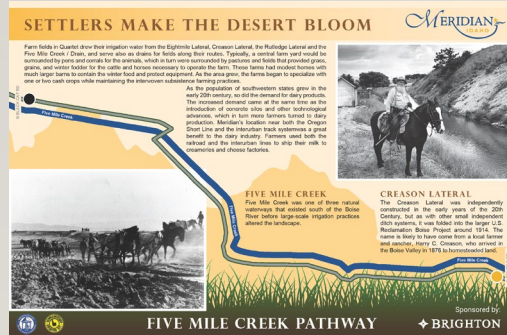


PUBLIC ART UPDATES



WATER METRICS

- Five Mile Creek Pathway Trailhub project:
- The artist is currently working on the mosaic medallion inset pieces and sculpture form fabrication
- Cassandra working on finding budget to install educational signage related to the public art to match other planned pathway signage (see examples, lower left)
- Installation planned for artwork in Summer 2023



POSTCARD FROM THE JOURNEY

WATER METRICS
ARTIST - EILEEN GAY

02-08-23

PUBLIC ART UPDATES



- Meridian Pool mural
 - installation planned in April 2023
 - Unveiling in May during Unplug and Be Outside Week
- Working on developing project with Valley Regional Transit for the Transit shelters at 3rd and Pine and Ten Mile Crossing
 - Received information from Boise's Public Art Manager
 - 1st step: an easement or site license with VRT
 - 2nd step: develop call to artists
 - 3rd: market call and receive applications
 - 4th: jury process, notify artists
 - 5th: agreements
 - 6th: contract vinyl vendor and install artwork



CONCERTS ON BROADWAY

- **UPDATE: ALL BANDS AND AUDIO ARE CONTRACTED FOR 2023**

- August 26th, 2023: Guilty Pleasure
(<https://www.facebook.com/GuiltyPBoise>)
- September 9th, 2023: Kings of Swing
(<http://kingsofswing.org/>)
- September 23rd, 2023: Summer Grove Party Band (formerly High Street)
(<https://www.thehighstreetband.com/>)



CONCERTS ON BROADWAY ILLUSTRATION BY KELLY KNOPP



CONCERTS ON BROADWAY
2023

Meridian City Hall

Arts Commission

FREE OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES
SATURDAY EVENINGS 6:30PM • MERIDIAN CITY HALL PLAZA

DATE 1	DATE 2	DATE 3
BAND NAME	BAND NAME	BAND NAME
LOGO	LOGO	LOGO

meridiancity.org/concertsonbroadway

REQUEST FOR YOUTH PERFORMING ARTS PROPOSALS



- Marketing and accepting applications for a Call for Youth Performing Arts Projects
- The total funding available is \$7,000. Selected applicants may receive a full or partial award of up to \$3,500.
- The deadline to apply is February 24, with projects occurring in FY23
- Full details on eligibility, project requirements, application materials, and evaluation criteria can be found online at: <https://meridiancity.org/calltoartists/>

FIRST TUESDAYS IN DOWNTOWN MERIDIAN

- The Meridian Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Committee are planning to put on First Tuesday events in downtown Meridian
- May through September (excluding 4th of July)
 - Initial ideas are themed activities: May: 9 or 18 holes of golf at various businesses; June: music; August: Plein Air Art Walk; September: Harvest – mid week market
- Coincides with Initial Point Gallery openings



LEADERSHIP MERIDIAN PROGRAM CLASS OF 2023

- Professional Development class through Chamber
- Cassandra is a participant
- Each class chooses a nonprofit 501c3 for a service project
- This group chose the Treasure Valley Children's Theater and is looking for partners and help
- Anyone interested in helping fundraise, please contact Cassandra



**QUESTIONS OR
COMMENTS?**





MEMO TO MERIDIAN ARTS COMMISSION

Date: 2-9-23

RE: February Inclusivity Highlight Topic: Mardi Gras Indians, ~ Presented by Meridian Arts Commission Chair Jessica Peters

In order to continue the Meridian Arts Commission's goals of Arts Access (Goal: Support experiences in the arts for everyone, regardless of age, race, ability or other protected class) the Commission may occasionally include inclusivity highlights at various meetings in order to learn about and promote inclusive arts practices.

February MAC Inclusivity Highlight: Mardi Gras Indians

The Black Masking Indians of New Orleans, also known as Mardi Gras Indians, are groups or krewes of African Americans who gather, dance, and parade throughout New Orleans. This tradition honors the history of Native Americans protecting runaway slaves in Louisiana in the 1800s, and features masks, beads, and feathers in elaborate costumes that mix Indigenous and West African cultures. The costumes are worn in dances and gatherings during the Mardi Gras season, which grew in popularity during segregation when African Americans weren't allowed to participate in Mardi Gras festivities in New Orleans, so they created a celebration in their own neighborhoods known as Carnival. Learn more about the Black Masking Indians in the links below.

Black Masking Indians: A Historical New Orleans Carnival Tradition:

<https://youtu.be/VsOxxz4h1rU>

Mardi Gras Indians – Colorful suits, lively footwork and rhythmic music fill the streets of New Orleans when the Mardi Gras Indians parade: <https://www.neworleans.com/things-to-do/music/history-and-traditions/mardi-gras-indians/>

CBS Saturday Morning: The History of Super Sunday and the Mardi Gras Indians:

<https://youtu.be/awMFbUYF24Y>

Mardi Gras Indians: Culture and Community Empowerment:

https://www.louisianafolklife.org/It/articles_essays/creole_art_mardi_indians.html

New Orleans's best hidden treasure is its Mardi Gras Indians:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/travel/2020/02/28/new-orleanss-best-hidden-treasure-is-its-mardi-gras-indians/>

After Covid, the Mardi Gras Indians are back in intricate, beaded suits:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/interactive/2022/new-orleans-indians/>