



ARTS, CULTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2024 at 8:30 AM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chairwoman Elle Susnis, presiding in the City Hall Council Chambers at 1123 Lake Street, Sandpoint, Idaho.

Roll Call

In addition to Chairwoman Susnis, Commissioners Barry Burgess, Hannah Combs, Karin Wedemeyer, Kate McAlister, Katelyn Shook, Keely Gray, Mike Lithgow, and Rick Decker were present at roll call.

PRESENT

Chair Ellen Susnis
Commissioner Barry Burgess
Commissioner Hannah Combs
Commissioner Karin Wedemeyer
Commissioner Kate McAlister
Commissioner Katelyn Shook
Commissioner Keely Gray
Commissioner Mike Lithgow
Commissioner Rick Decker

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. Approval of April 9th, 2024, Meeting Minutes - **action item**

Motion to approve the April 9th, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Motion Passed.

Motion made by Commissioner McAlister, Seconded by Commissioner Shook.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner Combs, Commissioner Wedemeyer, Commissioner McAlister, Commissioner Shook, Commissioner Gray, Commissioner Lithgow, Commissioner Decker

Financial Report

2. Sandpoint Urban Renewal Agency (SURA) Financial Report

Ms. Upton shared the monthly financial report for the Sandpoint Urban Renewal Agency (SURA). The totals reflected were through April, 2024.

Art Funds: Downtown budget is \$ 180,418.08 and the Northern budget is \$100,118.08. Silver Box Project: Advanced to date \$18,315.22 Remaining Balance: \$1,684.68. Information only; no Commission action.

Old Business

None

New Business

3. Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation (ACHP) Commission

Ms. Upton gave an update on the nomination for the Historic Bellwood Building at 301 Cedar Street in Sandpoint (currently the Pend Oreille Winery, owned by Julie and Steve Myers). The nomination is for the Orchid award from Preservation Idaho.

Ms. Upton and ACHP Chair Elle Susnis held a discussion on current projects and participation from ACHP Commission members. The current communication/participation structure is one monthly Commission Meeting, a work team meeting once a week of four (4) commission members or less and 1-2 email updates a month from the facilitator. The commission members felt the structure was successful for the balance of their commission duties and the roles and responsibilities they have in their everyday life.

Ms. Upton touched on Community Driven Art Projects, the upcoming being the "Paint the Plow," project. These are projects for which the city finds funding, gives permissions, in this case to paint snowplows, and then coordinates community members or organizations to become the artist. "Paint the Plows," will be made possible in partnership with Creations and The Paint Bucket.

Ms. Upton has taken on the role of supporting the onboarding of new commissions and committees. She informed commissioners that once the Urban Forestry Commission was active, they would be working with Eric Bush, the newly appointed City Forester, and members of the Urban Forestry Commission to further understand the heritage tree program.

Heather introduced Kelly Christianson, Administrative Assistant for Community Planning and Development. Christianson will be taking over clerking duties for the Arts Culture and Historic Preservation Commission soon.

4. Historic Preservation Team Update

Chair Susnis, shared updates on behalf of the work team for the updated walking tour brochure. Current priorities are adding the City Beach region which highlights the areas indigenous and community culture. They are also adding courtesy information for the photos in the brochure.

Ms. Upton shared highlights from The Main Street Conference, which she recently attended in Birmingham Alabama. The conference focused on economic development using art and historic preservation as tools to help activate a downtown area.

The Historic Sandpoint Walking Tour will resume on the fourth Friday of the month at 10am June - August. Tours are offered for free to the community and led by actors. The Bonner County Historical Society and Museum in partnership with Parks and Rec, will also be offering a weekly historic tour June-August focusing on early residents and the businesses they owned.

5. Culture Team Update

Ms. Upton and Commission Combs shared updates on the Cultural Collective Campaign's current program: Call for Information: Sandpoint Residential History. The Museum will provide the platform to capture the information. Commissioner Susnis and Burgess have created artwork to help support the marketing for the program. Commissioner Decker volunteered to help with any technological needs.

6. Arts Team Update

Updates on Downtown Parking Lot Opportunity

The City of Sandpoint public parking lot located in downtown Sandpoint will soon receive a facelift. Members of the ACHP Commission recently met at the parking lot to discuss public art opportunities with the City project manager Eric Bush. Updates from the meeting were provided by Ms. Upton.

Ms. Upton gave an update on the bronze sculptures going in at Travers Park New Playground. The sculptures are donated by a couple who are retired veterinarians. They were inspired by Patrick McManus's Sandpoint Stories which were based around his memories of play on Sandcreek with his friend James E. Russell (donor of the James E. Russel Sports Complex). The bronze statues are of a bear and a cougar and cub. Georgia Gerber is the artist, she is known for her bronze pigs in the Pike Street Market, in Seattle, WA.

One of the functions of the ACHP Commission is approval of public art in civic spaces per Building Design Standards Code 9-2-15 item E. The Homestead Village development, located at 2025 US 2 in Sandpoint, is seeking approval of the art proposed for their civic spaces. After discussion, commissioner McAlister moved to approve the homestead village art with the addendum that the artist confirm the originality of the designs to eliminate copyright concerns. Commissioner Decker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Chair Susnis, Commissioner Burgess, Commissioner Combs, Commissioner Wedemeyer, Commissioner McAlister, Commissioner Shook, Commissioner Gray, Commissioner Lithgow, Commissioner Decker

General Announcements/Comments

7. General Announcements and Comments

Around the Room: ACHP Commission and Staff General Announcements and Comments

Commissioner Gray with LPO Repertory Theatre shared that "Legally Blond," opens at the Panida on May 24, 2024. Commissioner Wedemeyer shared that the Music Conservatory will soon be replacing the first set of windows on the front of their historic building and provided an update on MCS programming. Commissioner Combs shared that the museum will be hosting a membership drive, Saturday, June 15, 2024, and invited the public to attend. It will be modeled off historic community picnics and will feature games, a cakewalk and churning ice cream. Commissioner Decker shared a photo of an etched "window into history" and advocated for a similar public art piece for Sandpoint.

Adjourn

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 am.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that these minutes, prepared by the Commission Clerk, were approved by the Commission on 6/11/2024.

Elle Susnis, Chairwoman

Attest: _____
Kami Omodt, Commission Clerk