

**CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE  
CULTURAL COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, May 12, 2021  
6:00 p.m.**

**(Via Zoom Virtual Meeting)**

**Item 1 – Call to Order**

Chair Megan Deffner called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Item 2 – Introductions – Members and Guests**

Members present: Megan Deffner, Nancy Dragani, Milly Nadler and  
Kim St. Martin-attendance was intermittent

Members absent: Celia Daly and Maru Garcia

Guests: Rachael Hultin, City Council Representative, District II

Staff: Susan Anderson, Recreation & Facilities Manager  
Wheat Ridge Parks & Recreation Center Department

**Introductions**

Chair Deffner welcomed everyone to the meeting. Brief introductions were made by all attendees. Although there was no quorum, the meeting was held.

**Item 3 – Approval of Minutes**

Chair Deffner made a motion to accept the minutes of April 14, 2021, as written. Commissioner Nadler seconded the motion, all accepted and approved.

**Item 4 – Unfinished Business**

**Arts Drop Project – Planning June Event (Deffner)**

Chair Deffner reported the following:

- Event Dates: June 12-24, 2021

- Drops to occur on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays
- Two drops per day, one in the A.M., and one in the P.M.
- Partnering with WRAL to purchase art or have art donated
- Will purchase additional handicrafts, artwork, jewelry from local businesses
- Commissioner Dragani will join the planning committee to help with drops during the event, Commissioner St. Martin also volunteered

### **Public Art – Clear Creek Crossing Project (Deffner)**

Chair Deffner reported the following:

- \$185,000 budget - big project
- 36 Colorado-based artists submitted proposals
- Selection committee ranked all proposals
- Consultant will weed out the low scores
- Second meeting will focus on narrowing down the remaining artists, there will be several proposals the committee will judge - meeting in several weeks

### **Chalk of the Town (Deffner)**

Chair Deffner reported the following:

- First-time event in 2020
- Partnership between Localworks and Cultural Commission
- Showcase volunteer and professional chalk artists at several businesses during the months of June, July, and August
- Event dates for 2021: June 12-19, July 10-17, August 14-21
- Chair Deffner made a motion to partner with Localworks on the 2021 Chalk of the Town event, all were in favor, motion passed and approved (for the record, this motion passed via email sent to all commissioners as there was no quorum at the meeting)
- Cultural Commission will sponsor up to 7 artists to create installations
- Cultural Commission will reimburse artists \$200/installation, if more than one artist works together, the \$200 sponsorship will be split between them
- Financial support from the commission would total \$1,400
- Commissioner Dragani volunteered to take the lead on this partnership

### **Carnation Festival Plate (Deffner)**

Chair Deffner reported the following:

- Carnation Festival has asked the commission to vote on the top three artworks for the plate design

- Plates are presented to winners of the parade
- No financial commitment from the commission required
- Commissioner Nadler volunteered to judge the artwork again this year
- Artwork will be sent to the commission email for review and voting

### **Recreation Center Mural Project (Anderson)**

Susan Anderson reported that she is working on a proposal to submit to the commission regarding the project. The cost is projected to be \$1,000 - \$1,500. Commissioner Nadler stated to hold off till 2022 and after discussion with Diane, shared that it needs to go through the public art process. Susan stated the city manager has given his approval to go with a non-professional, amateur-type artist to accomplish the work. She also received approval to give away rec center passes to one adult and one amateur artist for the project. Chair Deffner stated to hold off on this project and budget for it in 2022. Wheat Ridge High School indicated there may be interest from the National Honor Art Society in getting involved but the group cannot meet until the fall of 2021 to discuss this potential project and interest due to COVID. Commissioner Nadler stated that Localworks would be a good resource to check with since they just had two murals painted for their Porches and Patio event.

### **Miscellaneous**

Chair Deffner reported the following:

- Budget spreadsheet was updated and discussed to reflect upcoming projects the commission will be working on
- Most of their budget has been allocated for the 2021 year
- Many projects this year and operating with a lean commission

Chair Deffner expressed how much she appreciates everyone's time and commitment to the commission.

### **Item 5 – New Business**

#### **Commissioner Vacancies – Update**

Chair Deffner reported that no applications have been submitted and to share the position opportunity with friends to join the commission. Anderson also had no new updates regarding the vacant commissioner positions.

#### **Tootsies Pop-Up Showcase (Nadler)**

Commissioner Nadler introduced the guest, Ms. Rachel Hultin, to discuss the project. She stated the owner of Tootsies Nail Shoppe would like to showcase local artists in the 250 sq. ft. storefront on 38th Avenue over the next year. Pictures of the

space were sent to everyone. For the partnership to work, it would require financial support from the commission. Rachael has committed \$800 of her own, as well as \$1,200 from fundraising. The remaining \$2,500 would come from the commission.

Chair Deffner reported that the commission does not have the funds to fully support the program this year but could spend funds from their budget over a two-year period. She made a motion to partner with Tootsies Nail Shoppe to showcase Wheat Ridge artists in the 250 sq. ft. storefront on 38th Avenue. The Commission would provide financial support of \$1,000 from the 2021 budget and \$1,500 from the 2022 budget. All were in favor, motion passed and approved (for the record, this motion passed via email sent to all commissioners as there was no quorum at the meeting).

No dates have been determined for the program and the duration could be for six months, which is flexible time wise. Rachel expressed her appreciation to the commission for the work that they do for the city and is available for any questions or concerns.

### **Performances in the Park Live Artist Sponsorship (Daly)**

Chair Deffner reported that Commissioner Daly was not present but shared that she was hoping to get in touch with an artist that might be interested in doing live artwork during the event but has not made any connections. Chair Deffner commented that they could reach out to Wheat Ridge Art League, Localworks, or Wheat Ridge Creates for a list of artists. Commissioner Dragani will also check with her neighbor, Terry Womble.

### **Item 6 – Future Agenda Items**

Chair Deffner asked for any future agenda items. The following were suggested for next month's meeting:

- Wheat Ridge Reads Program  
This will be added to the agenda for the June meeting.
- Sponsoring Murals (Similar to 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue)  
This item will be tabled for now.

### **Item 7 – Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Nadler: No comments.

Commissioner Dragani: Great meeting, covered a lot of ground, going to be a busy summer and looking forward to it.

Commissioner Deffner: Maru has a drive-thru theatre event with details sent to everyone. You also received information on the hospital redevelopment, the public process that is kicking off soon. This is an opportunity for commissioners to share and get involved. Regarding your agenda items, please send those in to Terese with a synopsis of what was discussed for the meeting minutes.

**Item 8 – Adjournment**

Chair Deffner adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.