



HPAC Minutes

Thursday, August 13, 2015
Room 426, Fourth Floor, City-County Building
Helena, MT

Members present: Jim Gilman, John Moore, Susan Steffens, Bart Campbell, Katherine Haque-Hausrath. Staff: Judy Garrity. Kathy Macefield also attended.

1. Call meeting to order and establish quorum

John called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. A quorum was eventually present.

2. Approve minutes from July's meeting

The committee approved, with amendments, minutes from July 9 regular meeting and July 14 special meeting. John agreed to scribe for this meeting.

3. Downtown Helena Master Plan

Sandy Schull from Birds and Beasley's described ideas to make the 2016 Governor's Cup more festive than recent races. She suggested having a chalk art "mini-festival" on the Friday before the race during the Health Fair. She said it could perk things up and promote Chalk Up Helena. Contact Sandy at 449-0904 or Sandy Robinson.

Tracy Reich from Downtown Helena, Inc. presented information on the effort to develop a Master Plan. She described it as a community-based effort through a pre-survey, followed by four design charrettes. The first charrette will take place September 2 from 5:30 – 7 p.m. at the Great Northern Best Western. Tracy is looking for input regarding art; she encouraged HPAC members to take the survey and be involved in the process.

4. United Way Mural

Allison Munson, executive director of United Way of Lewis & Clark, presented information on the upcoming mural on UW headquarters. Five 15-16 year-old students will paint the mural in August, focusing on community themes. Danzer Paints donated material for the mural. Allison invited HPAC members to attend the mural's dedication.

5. Chalk Up Recap

Registration came to 70+ (down from the last two years), and revenue came to about \$480. No posters sold, but Jim gave one to the young artist whose drawing was featured; this

resulted in a \$15 donation to HPAC. (The group discussed selling posters on the website and at future Art Walks.) Suggestions for improving Chalk Up included: splitting up publicity tasks, getting information out during Governor's Cup, offering a "grand prize" of substantial value, laying out more locations, and preceding the event with "chalk on walk" publicity. In addition, it would be good to have food available, either from nearby restaurants or mobile vendors. Carol M. sent thank-you cards related to Chalk Up.

6. Public Art Survey

Kathy summarized results from 70 respondents so far: the highest percentage (28%) wants more functional art, while 27% favors sculptures. Areas of interest include, in order, southwest, south central, west, and northwest. A majority has not heard of the Archie Bray Economic Impact Study. A majority (58%) favors an HPAC Economic Impact Study. About 12 respondents say they want to help HPAC; Kathy has information on names and types of help. Kathy summarized comments from the survey. She will seek technical help on entering data from hard-copy surveys.

7. Parking Garage Mural

The subcommittee has not met.

8. Open Studios Discussion

If an event like Open Studios Tour were to take place in the future, these suggestions should be addressed: timing of the event, suggestions from artists (gathered by survey), how HPAC can help artists (such as website links). Would some other type of event be more beneficial, such as a "quick draw" featuring several artists? How best to promote an event? John will draft survey questions for artists.

9. 2015-16 Transportation Alternatives Call for Applications

This has not moved along. Brian Obert wants to involve an elected official and plans to talk to Andy Hunthausen of the County Commission.

10. Public Comment / Other Business

John will complete the Public Art Agency Census on the website of Americans for the Arts. Katherine said no additional parking meters are available for the project; the Grand Street meter is complete, but not yet installed. Kathy brought up the possibility of art on traffic signal boxes. She has spoken with Kathi Olsen of City of Missoula; the city has a process laid out and Olsen sent Kathy a list. Kathi Olsen is willing to come to HPAC and describe what Missoula has done. John will check into what Great Falls has done.

11. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

12. Next meeting on Sept. 10, 2015