

MEETING MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) SUBCOMMITTEE

May 2, 2007
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Fremont City Hall
City Council Chambers

MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE

Call to Order

The Public Art Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Chair Boerigter.

Public Art Subcommittee

Members Present:	Marianne Boerigter	Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts (Chair)
	Bonnie Erber	Community Member
	Lorna Kosztowny	Downtown Property Owner
	Lori Layne	Fremont Postmaster
Members Absent:	Dusty Bitson	Downtown Business Owner
	Jeannie Caris	Community Member
	James Rynberg	Fremont Mayor
Staff Present:	Michele Ribant	Fremont Neighborhood & Economic Development Director
Guest Present:	Cara O'Brien	Local Artist

Presentation of Design Ideas for the Fremont Post Office Site – Cara O'Brien

Cara O'Brien presented a refined design idea for the proposed sculpture she is designing for public art in front of the Fremont Post Office. The Subcommittee took a field trip to the site to make sure that the dimensions of the sculpture will be proportional to the site. After viewing the site, the Subcommittee returned to City Hall, and the following feedback was provided:

- The Subcommittee liked the design for the art piece entitled “Writer’s Stone”, but recommended the following modifications:
 - That the height of the sculpture, not including the rock it is to be placed on, be 6-1/2 feet rather than the 7 feet as depicted on the sketch
 - That the length of the stone base be 5 feet rather than 6 feet as depicted on the sketch
 - That the artwork be made of a metal that can be easily maintained
 - That a plaque outlining the name of the sculpture and the artist be attached to the artwork
- The site needed some changes to compliment the sculpture. The changes included the following:
 - Landscaping: A few bushes on the north side of the Post Office need to be removed and replaced with 6 boxwoods or birdsnests and 1 dwarf Rododendrum. These plant materials are to be spaced as follows along the north side of the Post Office: A grouping of 3 boxwoods or birdsnests – 1 dwarf Rododendrum – a grouping of 3 more boxwoods or birdsnests. Grass should also be planted to the west of the new landscaping.

- Surface Treatment: The brick pavers need to be removed and new concrete (at least 3 feet wide to make it handicap accessible) poured in accordance with the path as outlined on the site plan. The bumpouts in concrete are no longer desired. The sculpture may be easily viewed from the sidewalk by people with handicaps who require a wheel chair. The bench will be placed directly on the grass. The stone base of the sculpture will also be placed directly on the grass.
- Lighting: Lighting needs to be provided. One light should be sufficient. It will be on a timer.

A budget for the project must be devised before the grant funding request is submitted. The following items must be included in the budget, and the individuals listed below are responsible for providing Michele Ribant with estimates for these items by Friday, May 11, 2007:

- Rock base (materials and mobilization) – Cara O’Brien
- Art materials and labor for art piece – Cara O’Brien
Note: The labor should include the cost of attaching the plaque to the art piece.
- Design fee for art piece – Cara O’Brien
- Landscape materials and labor – Lori Layne
- Lighting – Lori Layne
- Plaque – Marianne Boerigter
- Bench – Michele Ribant
- Concrete (35 feet x 3 feet) and labor – Michele Ribant

The grant request must be submitted by May 15, 2007. Michele Ribant is responsible for the grant submission.

Lori Layne indicated that the Post Office will maintain the sculpture. It was decided that an Agreement between the City and the Post Office will need to be created to ensure that each entity understands its responsibility in relation to the art piece.

Next Meeting

A time for the next DDA Public Art Subcommittee was not set.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.