

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Friday, June 8, 2007**  
**8:00 AM – 9:00 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 8:09 a.m. by Chair Boerigter.

**Public Art Subcommittee**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Marianne Boerigter Bonnie Erber James Rynberg	Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts (Chair) Community Member Fremont Mayor
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Dusty Bitson Jeannie Caris Lorna Kosztowny Lori Layne	Downtown Business Owner Community Member Downtown Property Owner Fremont Postmaster
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Michele Ribant	Fremont Neighborhood & Economic Development Director
<b>Guests Present:</b>	Sandy Siegel Renaee Wallace	President, Fremont Rotary Club Local Artist

**Update on Public Art for the Fremont Post Office Site**

Chair Boerigter informed the Subcommittee that a grant request to cover the cost of the public art piece (sculpture) proposed for the Fremont Post Office site was sent to the Fremont Area Community Foundation and that we should hear if the grant was awarded in July.

**Update on Public Art for the AT&T Building**

Chair Boerigter welcomed Renaee Wallace, the artist who designed the murals that are to be painted on the front and rear facades of the AT&T building. Michele Ribant indicated that a grant was awarded by the USDA Rural Development to the City to fund the public art projects. She went on to say that we are waiting for AT&T to sign the contract which would allow the art to be placed or painted on the AT&T building located at 25 E. Main Street. The Subcommittee decided that the rear of the building should be painted first. Ms. Wallace said she could probably begin painting the rear of the building in August and that work on the front façade would follow. Ms. Ribant indicated that the City would also want to enter a contract with Ms. Wallace, so everyone is aware of their responsibilities in relation to the public art project.

**Update on Public Art – Yahaba Sculpture**

Chair Boerigter informed the Subcommittee that the Yahaba Committee raised the funds for the public art piece that is to be erected in the southwest corner of the City Hall lot. She indicated that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the art piece will be on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

## **Funding of Public Art by the Fremont Rotary Club – Restroom Facility by the Fremont Market Place Pavilion**

Chair Boerigter welcomed Sandy Siegel to the Subcommittee meeting. Ms. Siegel confirmed that the Rotary Club has \$2,000.00 to contribute for public art for the pavilion restroom facility; however, she stressed that no more than that can be dedicated to the project. Marianne Boerigter expressed the Subcommittee's appreciation of the generous donation. The chair asked Ms. Siegel if the Rotary Club had ideas as to what should be included on the design and what type of art they would like to see. Ms. Siegel indicated that the Fremont Rotary Club was open to ideas but that they felt strongly that the Rotary wheel be prominently displayed on the artwork.

The Subcommittee expressed some of the following ideas with regard to the artwork that is to be placed on the pavilion restroom facility:

- The artwork should be attached to the west wall of the restroom and that since there are grooves in the wall material, it was suggested that the artwork be mounted on a frame.
- It was suggested that the artwork did not have to span the entire west wall and that the artist could make suggestions on how the artwork could be proportioned on the wall.
- It was also suggested that a mosaic could be the form of artwork to be placed on the wall but that an artist could suggest any form of art (mosaic, mural, etc.) to be considered by the Subcommittee.
- It was suggested that the colors of the artwork should be in keeping with the other colors in the NE public parking lot.
- The following possible themes were suggested for the artwork, but the Subcommittee was open to other ideas artists may have as well:
  - Emphasize the Market Place Pavilion – not just the Fremont Farmers Market
  - Celebrate Fremont's rural community and its agricultural heritage
  - Harvest theme

The Subcommittee wanted to move quickly on the project, so the following was decided:

- Michele Ribant would write a Call for Artist proposal the week of June 11, 2007.
- The due date for the proposals will be July 31, 2007.
- The information in the Call for Artist proposal would be advertised in the Artsplace newsletter and the City's newsletter, if the timing of the newsletters coincide with the dissemination of the Call for Artist information.
- The meeting to discuss the proposals would be Thursday, August 2, 2007.

Sandy Siegel was invited to attend the next meeting to take part in the selection of the design and type of art for the west wall of the pavilion restroom. Ms. Siegel excused herself from the remainder of the meeting.

**Discussion on the Role of Art/Culture in the Community**

The Subcommittee discussed the information that was included in the Newaygo County Informational Survey compiled by the Newaygo County Council for the Arts. The comment was made that the feedback in the survey makes it clear that establishing a public art program in Fremont will assist in Fremont's revitalization efforts. Chair Boerigter encouraged the Subcommittee to share any ideas with her regarding ways to encourage cultural activities within Newaygo County.

**Next Meeting**

DDA Public Art Subcommittee meeting  
Thursday, August 2, 2007  
8:00 a.m.  
Fremont City Hall  
City Council Chambers

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.