

MEETING MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) SUBCOMMITTEE

Friday, August 2, 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 8:00 a.m. by Chair Boerigter.

Public Art Subcommittee

Members Present:	Marianne Boerigter	Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts (Chair)
	Jeannie Caris	Community Member
	Bonnie Erber	DDA Marketing Chair
	Lorna Kosztowny	Downtown Property Owner
	James Rynberg	Fremont Mayor
	Ron Vliem	Executive Director, Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce

Members Absent:	Dusty Bitson	Downtown Business Owner
	Lori Layne	Fremont Postmaster

Staff Present:	Michele Ribant	Fremont Neighborhood & Economic Development Director
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Guests Present:	Sandy Siegel	Immediate Past President, Fremont Rotary Club
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Update on Public Art for the AT&T Building

Chair Boerigter reported that Renae Wallace, a local artist, has begun painting a mural on the rear façade of the AT&T building. Ms. Boerigter indicated that when Ms. Wallace finishes the mural for the rear façade, which will take two weeks, she will start work on the mural for the front façade of the AT&T building. Ms. Boerigter indicated that the goal is to have both murals completed by the Fall Harvest Festival in early October, 2007.

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

Chair Boerigter informed the Subcommittee that two artists submitted proposals in response to the Call for Artists that was sent in June for artwork to be created for the wall of the restroom facility by the Fremont Market Place pavilion. The details regarding the submissions are as follows:

1. **Artist:** Autumn Aslakson

Description of proposal: The art work consists of a 10' x 7' mural to be painted in acrylic on sturdy cedar paneling, which would be mounted on wood stretches for attachment to the grooved wall. The paneling would be framed with ceramic tiles and either painted frame rails or mosaic work. The proposed scene depicted various aspects of life in Newaygo County, such as the importance of family, our agricultural heritage, the beautiful rural landscape and pride in the community.

2. **Artist:** Deborah Emerick

Description of proposal: The art work consists of a 6' x 5' mosaic art piece. The art piece will include found objects of interest as well as tile and glass. The proposed scene was of rolling hills. The art piece will be constructed on cement boards.

The Call for Artist outlined that the art work would be placed on the west wall of the restroom facility. Ms. Emerick also provided a design for an art piece to be considered for the south wall. It consisted of a basket with fruit.

Chair Boerigter asked each Subcommittee member for input on the art work ideas submitted. Each person shared their views and each proposed piece of art was discussed in detail.

After much discussion, a motion was made, seconded and carried to recommend to the DDA that Deborah Emerick be selected as the artist to create a mosaic for a wall of the public restroom, which is located next to the Fremont Market Place pavilion, with the following guidelines:

- That the mosaic be designed for the south – not the west - wall of the restroom
- That the basket design be used with the following modifications:
 - Use more vivid colors
 - Make the design more of a year-round fruit basket – not a fall harvest basket (It was suggested that strawberries or cherries be added and that a pumpkin be eliminated.)
 - Adapt the size and shape of the mosaic to better fit the south wall (It was suggested that the design submitted may be too tall and not wide enough.)
 - A plaque recognizing the Fremont Rotary Club as the funding source for the art work is to be placed on the wall near the art work.

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 were recently informed that we received a grant award from them in the amount of \$13,700.00 for the art piece. Ms. Boerigter commented that the cost of the entire project was \$18,675.00. The Subcommittee asked the chair and City staff to look into other grant possibilities (Gerber Foundation, Dogwood, etc.) to cover the approximately \$4,000.00 needed to complete the project.

New Business

Bonnie Erber informed the Subcommittee that she had talked with Gerry Rich about the possibility of placing a mural on the east wall of the 37 W. Main Street building and that he was open to the idea. She indicated that the mural could direct people to the Fremont Market Place. Michele Ribant indicated she would look into whether including such a notice on the wall of the building would be permissible with regard to the regulations in the new zoning ordinance.

Next Meeting

It was determined that the next meeting would be called on an as-needed basis.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.