

MEETING MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) SUBCOMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 31, 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 9:10 a.m. by Chair Boerigter.

Public Art Subcommittee

Members Present:	Marianne Boerigter	Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts (Chair)
	Lorna Kosztowny	Downtown Property Owner
	Lori Layne	Fremont Postmaster
	James Rynberg	Fremont Mayor
Members Absent:	Dusty Bitson	Downtown Business Owner
	Jeannie Caris	Community Member
	Bonnie Erber	DDA Marketing Subcommittee Chair
Staff Present:	Michele Ribant	Fremont Neighborhood & Economic Development Director
Guests Present:	Rob Zeldenrust	DDA Member

Public Art Ideas – Fremont Cooperative Produce Co. Site

Marianne Boerigter welcomed Rob Zeldenrust to the Subcommittee meeting. Michele Ribant explained that Rob Zeldenrust at one time inquired whether a streetlight could be moved on the Fremont Cooperative Produce Co. site, so as to improve traffic movement on Main Street. She said that that conversation led into possibly doing a streetscape project with artwork on the site. She went on to say that the Coop was a valued agricultural business within the community and one that is very visible within the community, and it would be great if the site could be aesthetically enhanced. Rob Zeldenrust indicated that each year the Coop tries to do something (e.g., paint buildings) to maintain the site. He said that within the next year the Coop plans to demolish three buildings on the site, and they will most likely either paint or re-steel the building that flanks Main Street. He indicated that his Board is open to the idea of public art on the site as long as it is tastefully done.

Lori Layne researched ideas for artwork on the silos. She indicated that either the silos can be painted or wraps with public art on them could be installed on the silos. She showed the Subcommittee many ideas from other communities that have art work on silos. Rob Zeldenrust said that the temperature of the silos needs to be regulated so as not to create condensation, which could harm the crops in the silos. The Subcommittee then expressed the desire to pursue an artist that could paint art directly on the silos. Michele Ribant stated that whatever was painted on the silos has to be art – not advertisement.

The Subcommittee talked about having more than one art piece on the site as follows:

- Paint/re-steel side of Main Street building and paint mural on north wall
- Sculpture to be placed in landscape area
- Painting of silos

The Subcommittee agreed that any design for artwork would have to be provided to the Coop Board for approval.

It was suggested that the Subcommittee might want to pursue the idea of having the history of agriculture and perhaps even the history of the Coop painted as a mural on the Main building. The Subcommittee asked Rob Zeldenrust if they could have a tour of the site so that they could better understand how best to incorporate public art on or near the Coop site. Mr. Zeldenrust agreed to allow the Subcommittee to tour the site.

Update on the Public Art (sculpture) Project for the Fremont Post Office Site

Lori Layne reported that the old landscaping that was on the north side of the Fremont Post Office was taken out and that the new landscaping was installed on the site and that the brick pavers had been removed. She went on to say that the cost of the electrical work for the lighting for the sculpture was approximately \$1,700.00. The Subcommittee was surprised at the cost of the work. It was decided that Ms. Layne would obtain bids from other electrical contractors. Michele Ribant indicated that once the electrical work has been completed she would ask the City's DPW crew to handle the cement work. Chair Boerigter informed the Subcommittee that the goal is to have the sculpture installed on the site in the spring of 2007.

Update on the DTE Energy Foundation Grant Submission

Chair Boerigter informed the Subcommittee that a grant request for \$25,000 was submitted to the DTE Energy Foundation to request funding for elements of the following public art projects:

- Fremont Post Office Site – Sculpture
- Fremont Coop Produce Co. Site – Mural
- Fremont Veterans Memorial Park Site – Sculpture

Ms. Boerigter provided the Subcommittee with handouts from the grant request that detail the specific dollar amounts requested for each project. She concluded by indicating that she should hear from the DTE Energy Foundation by the end of the calendar year as to whether funding will be granted.

Next Meetings

Wednesday, November 13, 2007
Fremont City Hall
City Council Chambers
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The Subcommittee will walk the Fremont Cooperative Produce Co. site at 10:30 a.m. to get a better understanding of the site in order to make public art recommendations.

November 29, 2007
Fremont City Hall
City Council Chambers
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.