

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

**Thursday, November 29, 2007**  
**9:30 AM – 10:30 AM**  
**Fremont City Hall**  
**City Council Chambers**

**MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Call to Order**

The DDA Public Art Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. by Chair Boerigter.

**Public Art Subcommittee**

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

**Update on the Fremont Post Office Public Art Project**

It was reported that the lighting, landscaping, the cement pathway and the pad for the park bench has been installed at the Fremont Post Office site. Michele Ribant reported that she is working with Cara O'Brien, the artist, to finalize a contract. The goal is to have the contract signed in December 2007 so that the sculpture can be installed by June of 2008.

Jeannie Caris suggested that there should be a way for a handicapped individual to get from the parking area located north of the Fremont Post Office to the pathway where the sculpture will sit; she indicated a recessed curb is needed. Marianne Boerigter suggested that the idea be conveyed to the designers when the plan for the SW downtown parking lot is created, and the Subcommittee concurred.

Mayor Rynberg departed from the meeting.

**Discussion on Public Art for the Fremont Cooperative Produce Co. Site**

Marianne Boerigter led the discussion. She indicated that the Subcommittee toured the Cooperative site to get ideas on where public art could be placed on the site. After some discussion, the Subcommittee agreed on the following:

- A mural or some kind of silhouette painting could be placed on the large north wall of the main Cooperative building.
- The large silo located slightly to the southwest of the main building that can easily be seen from Main Street is the silo that should be painted as public art.
- It is not necessary to create a sculpture on the site; a sculpture could be placed somewhere else in the DDA District. It may be overkill to have another piece of public art on the Coop site.

- The theme for both the mural and the painting on the silo should be an agricultural theme.
- It was suggested that a Call for Artists be created some time in December for the project.

### **Discussion on Public Art for the SW Corner of Veteran's Park**

It was suggested that a sculpture be placed somewhere in the SW corner of Veterans Memorial Park. This location was suggested because it would have high visibility, and it is in a public space rather than a private space. Jeannie Caris indicated we should include some historical elements of our City as we work to create public art. She specifically mentioned that we once had a button factory; it was suggested we could have a sculpture made of buttons. After some discussion the Subcommittee concluded that they would be open to a myriad of ideas as suggested by artists.

### **Discussion on whether Memorials fall under the Category of Public Art**

The Subcommittee had a brief discussion on whether memorials were to be considered public art, and the Subcommittee members concurred that memorials should definitely be considered public art.

### **Unfinished Business**

Lorna Kosztowny reported that her son was looking into whether the Fremont Public Schools had a contribution they wanted to make to the public art program.

### **New Business**

Marianne Boerigter said she had met with Bob and Bonnie Erber and that they were proposing that stained glass art be created for the south end of the market pavilion where the glass currently sits. Bonnie Erber indicated that Bob's brother is a very talented artist who makes stained glass art and that he would be willing to make the stained glass piece if someone else designed it. The Subcommittee felt that they should look into including lighting in the pavilion for the art piece. The Subcommittee decided that a Call for Artists should be written which would invite artists to come up with a design for the stained glass. Michele Ribant said she would write the Call for Artists in December.

Michele Ribant reported that superintendent Kingsnorth said that the Fremont Public Schools would be interested in having public art displayed at the corner of Main Street and Stewart and that the kids at the middle school would most likely want to participate.

### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, December 20, 2007  
Time: TBA  
Fremont City Hall  
Council Chambers

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business of the DDA Public Art Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.