

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

**Tuesday, June 30, 2009
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Fremont City Hall
City Council Chambers**

PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE

Call to Order

The DDA Public Art Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 9:08 AM.

Public Art Subcommittee

Members Present:	Marianne Boerigter	Executive Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts (Chair)
	Jeannie Caris	Community Member
	Bonnie Erber	DDA Marketing Chair
	Jim Rynberg	Fremont Mayor
	Tom Schmidt	Community Member

Staff Present:	Michele Ribant	Fremont Neighborhood & Economic Development Director
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Update on the Moose Lodge Façade Renovation/Public Art Project

Marianne Boerigter informed the Subcommittee that the Façade/Historic Preservation Subcommittee voted to recommend eliminating the condition attached to the approval of the Moose Lodge façade renovation project of having to incorporate artwork on the front west windows of the building. She indicated that the cost of the artwork proposed by a local artist was too expensive for the Moose Lodge and what the Moose Lodge was recommending in its place would not be in keeping with the Subcommittee's original intent. She indicated that the Façade/Historic Preservation Subcommittee felt the front façade of the Moose Lodge was acceptable in appearance without the artwork. The Public Art Subcommittee agreed.

Status of Letter Fundraising Drive for Public Art in Fremont

Marianne Boerigter asked the Subcommittee to report on the letter fundraising drive that they are organizing for the Fremont Public Art Program.

Bonnie Erber indicated she has obtained the Fremont High School class alumni lists for 1978, 1979 and 1983. She said she is waiting for the alumni list for 1977. She was asked to provide the lists to the Subcommittee in an electronic version.

Michele Ribant shared a draft fundraising letter that would be sent to Fremont High School alumni requesting funding for Fremont's Public Art Program. The Subcommittee made suggestions for change. She was asked to update the letter and to develop a donation card to send along with it.

Marianne Boerigter reported that the Fremont Area Community Foundation will house the funding for the Fremont Public Art Program.

Marianne Boerigter shared a copy of an e-mail from Renae Wallace in which Ms. Wallace outlined that she amended the scope of the Fremont Cooperative Mural project so that it would be reduced in size; and therefore, there would be a cost reduction. Ms. Wallace recommended that the mural consist of 42 – 4 x 8 panels, stacked in two rows. The new overall size would be 16' x 84'. The Subcommittee supported the change.

In terms of the cost of the project, the following was decided:

- The City should enter into a contract with Renae Wallace for the amended project within the next month. The Subcommittee has raised enough money to cover the mural as amended in size. The amended amount minus the cost of lighting and installation is \$33,330.00. Bonnie Erber is to inquire about storing the boards and transporting them at a reduced cost of \$250.00. The storage cost and transporting cost as originally outlined by the artist was \$550.00. The amended contract amount would be \$33,030.00.
- The contract will not include costs for lighting or installation. The Subcommittee still needs to raise \$8,535.00 to cover those costs.

Discussion on Next Fremont Public Art Project

As was decided at the last meeting, the next public art piece the Subcommittee will pursue funding for after the Fremont Cooperative mural project will be a public art piece (e.g., sculpture) in the northwest corner of Veterans Memorial Park. It was suggested that Ron Head, an artist with local roots, be commissioned to do a bronze piece; he specializes in memorial statues. Bonnie Erber indicated a friend of hers thought the Subcommittee should create a piece of art in Veterans Memorial Park that included a checkerboard table and chairs. The Subcommittee was receptive to the idea, so Bonnie said she would invite her to present the idea at an upcoming meeting.

While the Subcommittee wants to create a public art piece in Veterans Memorial Park, at the same time, it wants to work on creating a public art piece for the southwest corner of Main Street and Stewart, a major gateway into our community. Mayor Rynberg suggested that the corner be a farm stand with a child holding a sign that says, "Welcome

to Fremont”. Tom Schmidt indicated that Fremont produces a variety of fruits and vegetables and the farm stand art piece could depict the variety. Michele Ribant was asked to look into obtaining an easement for public art at that corner.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

Next Meeting

The Subcommittee will convene in July to stuff envelopes to get the fundraising letters sent out.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the DDA Public Art Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 AM.