



## Public Art Commission Minutes

Tuesday, July 1, 2025, 12:00 PM

City Hall Overflow Room, CH-116  
203 Main Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho

**Members:** Melissa Crane, Chairperson; Janeale Dean, Vice-Chairperson; Amy Westover; Camille Barigar; Drew Nash; Laura Stewart; Tim Hafer

### 1) Call Meeting to Order/Confirmation of Quorum

Commissioner Crane called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM  
A quorum was present.

Members Attending: Melissa Crane, Chairperson; Janeale Dean; Camille Barigar, Drew Nash; Laura Stewart; Tim Hafer

Member absent: Amy Westover

Staff Attending: Wendy Davis, Mitch Humble, Council Liaison Craig Hawkins, Mable Shurtleff

### 2) Consent Calendar

a) Request to approve the minutes from the following meeting: June 3, 2025.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Barigar made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Commissioner Hafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

### 3) Items of Consideration

a) Discuss Public Art Commission with respect to City Website, Strategic Plan, and Priority Based Budget

Director Davis gave an update: we are still in the early stages of this matter and are not ready to put this topic in front of the Council for the next scheduled meeting on July 14, 2025.

Commissioner Dean noted she was not at the last meeting but would like to understand if the Commission have an approach to ask City Council for an increase in funding.

Director Davis noted that about 5 months ago, the Commission discussed the possibility of presenting a Public Arts funding request when the Parks and Recreation Department was going in front of Council to discuss their new fiscal year budget. Further discussions suggest that the request is actually an amendment to City Code to change the funding increment.

Commissioner Crane asked if the Commission was to attend the City Council meeting and advocate on July 14, 2025. Deputy City Manager Humble stated that it would be a good idea to have further discussion here prior to meeting with City Council.

Commissioner Dean suggested getting an estimated total of the value of the current art inventory, which would give the City Council a better idea of maintenance costs.

Council Member Hawkins suggested that City Risk Manager may have a list of the art pieces that are covered by the City insurance policy.

Council Member Hawkins noted he had not seen the list, and it was Deputy City Manager Scott that brought the possible list to his attention.

Commissioner Stewart noted it is a good idea to get prepared with information to share among this Commission before attending the next fiscal year budget meeting. It appears the new fiscal year budget allotment for Public Art has already been set.

Director Davis noted the Commission should have further discussions on an approach/ plan for future public art fund increase requests.

Commissioner Dean noted their intended attendance/ presentation on July 14, 2025, would be to give the City Council advance notice of future fiscal years Public Arts funding requests and not to discuss an increase in current allotment. It is best for all parties for the City Council to have ample information in advance to enhance their discussion.

Commissioner Nash noted conversations with the City Manager have been positive.

Director Davis noted she is currently working on the PowerPoint presentation for the City Council meeting and will include mention of the Public Art funding increase and future code amendment.

Commissioner Crane asked for clarification if it is still advisable for this Commission to attend the July 14, 2025, Council meeting, in support of Director Davis's presentation.

Commissioner Nash noted they could be there to chime in during the presentation as they support each point presented.

Commissioner Hafer noted he is afraid to take in any new donation pieces at this time since there is no budget for current inventory maintenance.

There was discussion about the percentage increase to be requested.

Commissioner Dean asked if the Commission was asking for a tier increase (annual % increase within a 5-year range) instead of a one-time increase.

Director Davis noted it is important to have a plan of action tied to the Strategic Plan, which helps the City move toward their Strategic Plan goal(s). The PowerPoint presentation: One of the slides could indicate what the Commission has done thus far, and another to indicate that current funding proves to be not sustainable versus what is considered sustainable. It should be noted that all public art enhances public spaces and its importance to the community.

There was discussion on a need to change ordinance or tie public art to Strategic Plan as a great way to advocate for public art.

Commissioner Barigar asked for clarification on what the Commission is to be tasked to do and for the Sub-committee to do the inventory.

Deputy City Manager Humble noted an inventory would be very helpful.

Director Davis noted we will need to look at the City's website, which likely needs updating.

Commissioner Crane noted it does not appear the website has a link to the art Inventory under the city library and suggested an easy link.

Commissioner Dean wants to know if there's a way to educate the City Council about the goals of this Commission and help them understand why public art funding is important.

Deputy City Manager Humble noted the funding comes from the Capital Budget Fund, and there is only so much money available to fund the different projects the City has ongoing. The next step may be to change the ordinance.

Director Davis noted the City Council was, in the beginning, in support of this Commission's goal and vision and would like to know if the Council would continually stand behind that.

b) Adjourn to tour City Hall to identify public art pieces

c) Review and revise Public Art Inventory

Director Davis noted the list presented has been updated from the last meeting: added new columns and added some of the mentioned pieces.

There was discussion of either touring City Hall and add the art pieces within the building to the inventory list or holding off for the Sub-committee to work on that.

There was discussion on the maintenance of the current inventory and surrounding fencing of the art pieces; and deciphering which entity should be funding them - Parks & Recreation or Public Art funding.

Commissioner Barigar asked about getting information about each of the art pieces' value/ dollar amount spent. She noted we should start with the insurance policy angle since that would likely have the value of each art piece as they became City property.

Deputy City Manager Humble noted the insurance policy is an umbrella plan and may not necessarily have a list of every art piece the City owns.

Commissioner Dean asked for clarification on deciphering some of the pieces that may potentially be public displayed art, which would not need City funds, but may be neglected. It helps to know what we are responsible for, so we would have a better idea of the amount of funding required for maintenance.

#### **4) General Public Input**

No public present.

#### **5) Public Art Proposal Update**

Corey Barton Homes Project: Heart Across the Valley

Commissioner Crane noted City of Jerome is working on that project and was wondering if we are

engaged in this project.

Director Davis noted at the time of project discussion, City of Jerome had already agreed to it while City of Twin Falls did not engage.

Commissioner Dean expressed her concern about spending funds on this project due to the lack of financial resources currently.

Commissioner Crane noted the Commission does not have enough information to make a good discussion on this project; they don't know if the project is being funded or if the City would need to purchase the art piece.

Director Davis looked up the project (The Heart of the Valley - Bringing a Heart to this City.)

Another project that came up: a hotel is under construction near the canyon by PetCo and looking to put in a mural by a local artist. There were suggestions of support for the project but noted a lack of funds to put towards it.

Commissioner Barigar noted we would just be curating for it and not funding the project.

Commissioner Dean noted collaboration with others on a project would have more impact on bringing forth public art's importance.

Commissioner Crane noted these types of projects had utilized Parks & Recreation Department staff for coordination.

## **6) Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 01:09 PM

Mable Shurtleff

Mable Shurtleff, Project Coordinator  
Parks and Recreation Department