



Public Art Commission Minutes

Tuesday, September 2, 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 12:03 PM
A quorum was present.

Members Attending: Melissa Crane, Chairperson; Janeale Dean, Drew Nash, Amy Westover, Tim Hafer

Member absent: Laura Stewart, Camille Barigar

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: August 5, 2025.

MOTION: Commissioner Westover moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 5 to 0.

3) Items of Consideration

a) Consider a proposal from Mariel Villegas with CBH Homes to place a heart in Twin Falls as part of the Hearts Across the Valley initiative
CBH Scrub Master Mariel Villegas presented (Scrub Master aka Project Manager):

Ms. Villegas gave a brief presentation on the project history of Hearts Across the Valley which originated from Kansas City. The heart sculptures measure about 5ft X 5ft. The project's main focus is to bring the community out and get together. Currently, Mountain Home and Caldwell have participated in this project with specific themes.

The project theme is kept secret until the unveiling event with the artist. CBH tries to have a partnership with local businesses utilizing a mobile app; the community participants take and post photos with the heart to win a prize redeemed at the local business. Ms. Villegas would like Twin Falls to be a Heart Partner, have the heart sculpture displayed for 2 years, and then the art piece will be donated to the City. The City will have the right to sell, auction, or keep the heart after it is donated.

Commissioner Dean asked if CBH handles the maintenance within the 2-year display period. Ms. Villegas answered yes, but requested the City help monitor the artwork for vandalism and maintenance needs.

Commissioner Dean asked about the branding portion of the heart.

Ms. Villegas answered that there's a plaque which has the CBH Logo, a QR code, and the artist's name on it.

Commissioner Westover asked about the price range on the artist fee being paid out by CBH. Ms. Villegas answered, some cities have a specific artist in mind while others conduct a call-to-artist, which is dependent on the city committee's decision; and the fee is \$2000. The heart is delivered and \$1000 is paid to the artist and the other \$1000 is paid after completion. Commissioner Westover asked about the changes that happen after the 2-year display commitment.

Commissioner Nash asked about CBH branding and if that is within City guidelines. Deputy City Manager Humble answered, yes.

Commissioner Crane asked about anchoring of the sculpture.

Ms. Villegas explained the sculpture is bolted on concrete.

Director Davis asked Ms. Villegas to reiterate the fact that there is no cost to Twin Falls City for the project.

Ms. Villegas answered, yes.

Commissioner Nash asked if the Commission gets a say on display location.

Ms. Villegas answered, ideally, CBH would like the piece to be displayed at a well-traveled location but would have the Commission make the recommendation.

Commissioner Crane thanked Ms. Villegas for the presentation.

Director Davis noted the donation form had been sent to Ms. Villegas for completion.

Commissioner Westover asked if Twin Falls City would be permitted only one heart or could we get more than one.

Ms. Villegas said they have set aside one heart for Twin Falls. There is only one more remaining in stock, and it depends if it will find a home soon. She also advised that there is a sponsorship agreement and an installation agreement in which the City would need to review and complete.

Ms. Villegas left the meeting.

There was discussion of location of display to decipher which artist would best suit the project, timely completion, messaging theme, and unveiling ceremony.

Commissioner Nash suggested a different location than the bridge because the location was already saturated with a variety of items and would take away from the heart.

Deputy City Manager Humble noted CBH wants the heart to be displayed at a highly visited location to maximize exposure.

Commissioner Nash noted some locations that would be great for the heart since there's currently no art displayed there.

Commissioner Crane noted that per the partnership agreement with CBH, they would have an opinion over display location as well.

There was discussion about the library building project and estimated construction completion.

Deputy City Manager Humble noted the Council has not approved the funding for that project

yet. He does agree that it would be a great location for displaying the heart sculpture. There was discussion on locations where there's currently lots of foot traffic but no art displayed.

Commissioner Westover suggested the Commission make 3 location recommendations to CBH.

Director Davis noted no set discussion is required today and for the Commission to think about it for a bit before deciding.

Commissioner Crane noted there are factors to consider: bolting down the heart, being good stewards for the art piece, and possibly absorbing the cost of bolting it down permanently.

MOTION: Commissioner Crane moved to partnership with CBH. Commissioner Hafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 5 to 0.

There was discussion about next steps for acceptance of the donation. This project is different as there's no money/budget request to present to the City Council. However, it will involve the Parks and Recreation Commission weighing in on the project.

- b) Consider a proposal from Councilman Hawkins to display some historical artwork in public buildings next year.

Councilman Hawkins presented: He noted next year is the 250-year celebration and brought in a framed movie poster to share. He thought it would be great to showcase artifacts to show the history of our country, and maybe we could make a call-to-artist and see what we can gather for display next year.

Commissioner Westover asked if this would be a display within City Hall.

Commissioner Nash asked about a historical gallery.

Councilman Hawkins said the display does not have to be art pieces exclusive, but can be historical artifacts or objects as well.

Commissioner Nash expressed his concern about switching out items and displaying locations due to the lack of space available.

Councilman Hawkins noted many cities are planning ahead for the country's 250-year celebration and cities may be entitled to \$250 in grant funding. He wants the Commission to start thinking about this as a year-long event and not just showcased on 4th of July.

There was discussion on a secure location for displaying the historical items.

There was discussion on graveyard tour: actors would be in character to speak of their accomplishments and the audience would move on to the next actor.

- c) Review the art proposal form
The item was tabled.

4) **General Public Input**

No public present.

5) **Public Art Proposal Update**

- a) Updated Art inventory list.
The item was tabled.

6) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 01:07 PM

Mable Shurtleff

Mable Shurtleff, Project Coordinator
Parks and Recreation Department