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**Meeting Notice**  
**Visual Arts Commission**

Thursday, June 13, 2013  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Cedar Rapids City Hall – Council Chambers Conference Room (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
101 First Street SE, Cedar Rapids IA 52401

**Agenda**

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes, April 11, 2013 and May 9, 2013
2. Street Mural Project (Ignite Idea)
3. Central Fire Department Sculpture
4. Project Updates
  - a. Convention Center Phase I
  - b. Convention Center Phase II
  - c. Amphitheatre
  - d. Paramount
  - e. Globe and GTC Repairs
5. Future Calls for Art – Discussion and Recommendations
6. Art not on display
7. Announcements / Items for Next Meeting
8. Adjournment

*Next Meeting: July 11, 2013*

## Meeting Minutes Visual Arts Commission

Thursday, April 11, 2013  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Cedar Rapids City Hall – City Hall Training Room (Lower Level)  
101 First Street SE, Cedar Rapids IA 52401

### Attendance

<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Not Present</i>
Jim Kern, Chairman	X	
Mel Andringa	X	
Arbe Bareis		X
Marilee Fowler	X	
Ann Knierim	X	
Andi Londquist	X	
Ashley Lowe	X	
Suzy McGrane-Hop		X
Grant Stevens	X	

Staff Present: Seth Gunnerson (Community Development) &  
Angie Charipar (City Manger’s Office)  
Others Present: Mark Shelton

## Agenda

**The Meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm by Chairman Kern.**

**1. Approval of Meeting Minutes, March 21, 2013**

Motion was made by Fowler, seconded by Londquist, with unanimous approval to approve the minutes of the March meeting

**2. Cedar Rapids Murals & More**

Mark Shelton of Cedar Rapids Murals & More made a presentation on the group’s proposal to place a mural on a public building downtown. Locations suggested include either a parkade or on a skywalk. The VAC showed support for the project, and asked to be involved in the selection of the artist and the final design.

Murals & More is working with staff to identify a location and this project will go before the Commission again as the scope is refined.

**3. Gift Art Application – Gary Anderson**

Gary Anderson, a local artist, made an application to donate a painting to the Cedar Rapids Fire Department. A motion was made by Knierim, seconded by Andringa, with unanimous approval to approve the application and accept the work into the city’s collection.

**4. Project Updates**

Staff provided an update on art projects.



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- a. Amphitheatre – Installation is anticipated later this summer.
  - b. Convention Center Phase I – The Artwork is scheduled to be installed the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>, the contractor out of Denver will be on site approximately 3-5 days.
  - c. Paramount – The final piece (Joan of Arc Statue) is being restored by the Chicago Conservation Center
  - d. Globe – The RFP for the globe has been issued
  5. **Announcements / Items for Next Meeting** - No additional items were discussed
  6. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Visual Arts Commission**

Thursday, May 9, 2013  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Cedar Rapids City Hall – Collins Conference Room (Lower Level)  
101 First Street SE, Cedar Rapids IA 52401

**Attendance**

<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Not Present</i>
Jim Kern, Chairman	X	
Mel Andringa	X	
Arbe Bareis	X	
Marilee Fowler	X	
Ann Knierim	X	
Andi Londquist		X
Ashley Lowe		X
Suzy McGrane-Hop	X	
Grant Stevens	X	

Staff Present: Seth Gunnerson (Community Development)  
Others Present: Bill Tirone

**Agenda**

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes, April 11, 2013**  
Minutes for the April 11 meeting will be distributed prior to the June 13 meeting
2. **Convention Center Grand Opening**  
Bill Tirone, of the Doubletree by Hilton, spoke about the plans for the Grand Opening of the Convention Center on May 31. The VAC will have commissioners on hand after the ribbon cutting to discuss
3. **Street Mural Project (Ignite Idea)**  
Marilee Fowler, of the Commission, discussed the
4. **Project Updates**
  - a. **Convention Center Phase I**  
Installation of “Distortion” is complete. Volkan will be on hand for the Grand Opening May 31.
  - b. **Convention Center Phase II**



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Paintings will be installed in the Convention Center by May 24.

**c. Amphitheatre**

Work on the Amphitheatre site is progressing, the artists are about to begin construction of the piece, which will be installed in August.

**d. Paramount**

Staff anticipates that all art will be returned by the Paramount by June.

**e. Globe**

One applicant, Todd Sabin of Cedar Rapids, responded to the RFP to restore the Globe and deliver it to Kirkwood. Staff will work to get him under contract.

**5. Announcements / Items for Next Meeting**

No additional items were discussed

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm

*Next Meeting: June 13, 2013*



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**Visual Arts Commission**  
**June 13, 2013 Meeting**  
**Agenda Item 2 - Street Mural Project**

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**Item Description:** Review of Design of proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Mural.

**VAC Action:** Recommendation to Approve Design

**Overview:**

At the 2013 Ignite Event, Dan Thies of OPN Architects suggested that the downtown can be improved by painting artwork on sidewalks and in the street.

Inspired by this idea, a group organized by the Convention and Visitor's Bureau is proposing to paint a mural on the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE. The proposed date for the project to be completed is July 20.

The project is being funded by the City of Cedar Rapids, the Cedar Rapids Area CVB, Theatre CR, and other local businesses.

VAC is being asked to provide feedback and make a recommendation to approve the design of the mural.

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**Proposed Intersection Mural Information (From Casey Prince, Theatre CR Director)**

**DESIGN:**

Attached is a sketch from our designer. I apologize for the b/w copy.

The thematic idea here is that *the whole is greater than the sum of parts*, demonstrated through *elements* using *geometry*. Sound too esoteric? I'll simplify the sound bite:

Imagine the a mosaic of fire flames. When those mosaic pieces are in the correct puzzle formation, they take on their natural colors (orange, yellow, red, etc). When they are disorganized or out of order, they are all gray scale.

In the attached example you see a droplet of water. Inside the curved line of the droplet outline, the geometric pieces are blue, lavender, white, light blue, dark blue, etc... and outside of the droplet they are gray scale. To scale, this installation would be 30x40 feet approximately, well within the dimensions of the intersection.

What we like about this design is it can be carried through future designs and ultimately will make community participation down the road very simply ("you, paint this square, you, paint this rectangle, all within these grid lines").

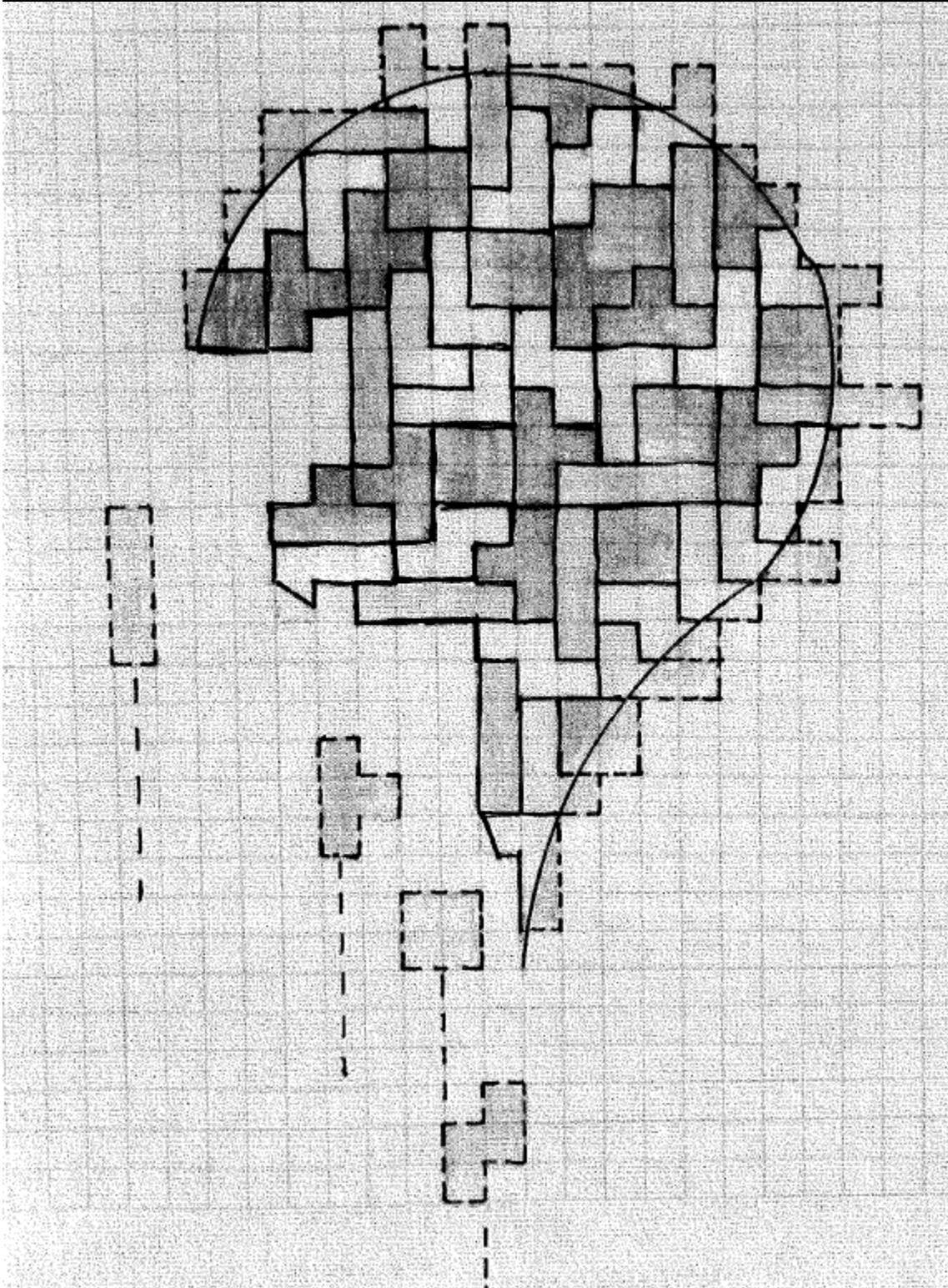
And it would take us four years (or four different intersections) to get through the elements of water, wind, fire, earth, but then easily could transition into other designs using the same geometry to make the whole picture, something greater than the sum of the parts. It all is very much in line with the mantra of this community, I think. And starting out in a grid system would allow changes to the art in future years to much more easily "line up" a future design.

**Please advise if this is approved and/or requires further presentation/discussion.**

**DATE:**

We would like to request the following installation date for your consideration:

Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>





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**Visual Arts Commission**

**June 13, 2013 Meeting**

**Agenda Item 3 – Central Fire Station Sculpture**

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**Item Description:** Discussion of proposed Central Fire Station Sculpture Project

**VAC Action:** Informational Item

**Overview:**

On June 12, staff was contacted by members of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department to discuss a potential sculpture project in front of the new Central Fire Station. The project is being funded by private fundraising through a Firefighter's organization.

At this time this is an informational item to the VAC. Staff is requesting that one or more Commissioners be appointed to discuss the project with the group and offer suggestions on holding a call for art.



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**Visual Arts Commission**  
**June 13, 2013 Meeting**  
**Agenda Item 4 – Project Updates**

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**Item Description:** Update on Current VAC Projects

**VAC Action:** Informational Item

**Overview:**

Staff has the following updates to report on active projects:

***Convention Center Art:*** All art has been installed, the Grand Opening was held on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The VAC and staff will work with Hilton on potential relocation of artwork in the near future.

***Paramount Art:*** The Joan of Arc Piece is ready to be delivered. Due to potential severe weather delivery was postponed from June 12 to June 19. The “Czech Painting” is also to be returned as part of this delivery. The VAC has previously discussed loaning the Czech Painting to the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library.

***The Globe:*** Todd Sabin of Cedar Rapids has been selected to restore the Globe. Delivery to Kirkwood is anticipated in early August.

***Amphitheatre Sculpture:*** The Latka’s have begun designing the outer forms for the sculpture (see pictures on next page). Installation is anticipated to occur the week of August 19.

***GTC Renovations:*** Staff has requested drawings of the work to be done in front of the sculpture Rapids (4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE). If available, they will be handed out at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

“Chrystal Impression” – In Progress Photos



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**Visual Arts Commission**

**June 13, 2013 Meeting**

**Agenda Item 5 – Future Calls for Art – Discussion and Recommendations**

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**Item Description:** Future Calls for Art – Discussion and Recommendations

**VAC Action:** Informational Item

**Overview:**

With the opening of the Cedar Rapids Convention Center on May 31, the VAC has completed the purchase and delivery of six pieces of art from five artists with a price tag of \$135,000.

At the June 13<sup>th</sup> VAC meeting, staff would like to have a discussion on lessons learned and suggestions for future calls for art. Based on feedback from artists selected for the Convention Center project, staff is recommending the following:

- 1.) **Clearer direction to artists on artwork location or expectations:** Staff heard feedback from multiple artists concern over not being given a specific location for their artwork. Specifically, staff recommends that in the future artists either be given a specific location, or clear direction is given for the size of artwork to be obtained.
- 2.) **Assign VAC Liaison to work with artists:** Staff recommends that on future calls an individual Commissioner be assigned as a primary point of contact for “creative” questions involved with the design of artwork.



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**Visual Arts Commission**  
**June 13, 2013 Meeting**  
**Agenda Item 6 – Art Not on Display**

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**Item Description:** VAC discussion on placement of artwork in the collection that is not currently on public display

**VAC Action:** Informational Item

**Overview:**

In December of 2012, the VAC appointed a committee of Commissioners Bareis, McGrane-Hop, and Kern to identify pieces in the collection that is not on display or may be candidates for deaccession or long term loan.

Staff would like to identify next steps to work on finding locations for artwork in City Hall.