



Ridgway Creative District Creative Advocacy Team (RCD C.A.T.)



Meeting Minutes

Ridgway Town Hall: 201 North Railroad Street

August 20th, 2019

C.A.T. Members in attendance: *Betsy Baier, Joan Chismire, Brenda Ratcliff, Julia Reid, Ninah Hunter, Paula Marlatt, Sue Lake, Amanda Gabrielson, Diane Thompson, Jen Randolph; Staff: Diedra Silbert, Karen Christian (minutes)*

- 1) **Call to Order** - 3:05 p.m.
- 2) **Agenda Review** – There were no additions or deletions.
- 3) **C.A.T. Prowl Review** (C.A.T. community participation) – Brenda reviewed 16 local events. The results of advocacy were: 3 participating, 4 volunteering and 44 attending.
- 4) **Approval of 7/16 Minutes*** - Approved via consensus
- 5) **Old Business**
 - a) CCI Grant Update
 - i) Space to Create Artwork Selection – Diedra updated C.A.T.s on the selection process and showed a concept drawing of the piece chosen by the selection task force. The art piece entitled *The Ridgway Ride for Space to Create* by Salida artist Jimmy Descant was unanimously approved by the Town Council on Aug. 14. Diedra will work on contracting with the artist this week.
 - ii) Event Plan-10/27- The unveiling for the S2C art piece will be on October 27 from 1- 3 pm, onsite for the unveiling and location TBD for the rest of the event. The C.A.T.s agreed to provide hors-d’oeuvres and refreshments per the CCI grant budget. Diedra noted \$3,800 is budgeted to cover equipment and music, and there is \$500 in unused stipend funds plus probable advertising funds to be used for the event as well. Brenda, Amanda, Betsy, Sue, Jen, and Diane volunteered to be a part of the Unveiling Event Planning subcommittee.
 - b) First Fridays (FF) Review and Update – Thanks to Sue, Paula and Jen for their volunteering work during the last FF! Jen said she received positive feedback from Treehouse artists. Brenda said that while C.A.T. is promoting businesses and encouraging activity on the streets, businesses are being asked to communicate with their neighbors on their own about activities that could affect each other. Next month’s FF volunteers are Joan and Amanda.
 - c) Film Festival Subcommittee Update - Diedra emailed 150 Film Fest Call flyers to the subcommittee’s outreach list and approximately 200 to locals, more than once. She will be meeting again with Sherbino staff to discuss details for the evenings of the Film Fest. She asked the group to advise her of their needs for that evening. Joan reported the subcommittee has discussed printing table tent advertisements in local restaurants, directing people to the FilmFreeway.com website to enter films.
 - d) Ridgway Old West Fest (OWF) Subcommittee Update – Paula reported that Manuel Heart, former Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Chairman will speak at the event. She will see if any artists participating in a Montrose Western Art exhibit soon would like to participate in our Western art exhibit. The time for the show has been changed to 10-3p (instead of 10-4p). Paula will meet with Diedra to review the budget. Joan said a new website has been created for the event: ridgwayoldwestfest.org.

Brenda circulated versions of the RCD Western Art show Call flyer to vote on which design to use, and C.A.T.s will help post the flyers to publicize the Call which ends 9/18. Ninah reminded everyone that tickets are already on sale for some OWF activities.

- e) Liaisons to Community – Brenda highlighted one of her assigned businesses, Mountain Girl Gallery. She shared the outline of her conversation with the people at the Gallery as an example of how to bring that information back to C.A.T. She explained the location of the business, a brief history about the business, what the business has to offer, and explained RCD, CAT, Space to Create and First Fridays to the people at Mt. Girl Gallery. She also listened to their thoughts and concerns. (For instance, the business is located on Clinton Street; is made up of various local artists selling works on consignment that have been sharing space for about 3 years. The artists currently include a potter, a fiber artist, a jeweler, and a blacksmith.)
- f) Creative Corridor 2020 Application - Diedra said the application was submitted for all the Corridor towns to the CO Tourism Office by Carbondale. Our Chamber agreed to match the \$2,500, if the grant is approved, in addition to the \$2,500 the RCD will match (for Ridgway's \$5,000 match total).

6) New Business

- a) 2020 RCD Planning and Budget Discussion – Diedra distributed the 2019 RCD Work Plan, the 2019 RCD budget, the Master Plan Snapshot document, and the action items from the Master Plan specific to RCD. She explained the budget process with the Town Council. She also explained that Town Council will need to discuss whether or not to proceed with a 5 year RCD strategic plan based on the Master Plan. The group reviewed 2019 objectives and expenditures and touched on some ideas for 2020. They will look at the action items from the Master Plan for discussion at next month's meeting. Betsy asked the group to think about how C.A.T. can affect the community and how to get residents involved while considering the action items.
- b) COMS (Colorado Main Street) Annual Visit Participation – 9/18 – Diedra explained the annual visit from COMS is to learn more about the Town's progress on its Creative Main Street objectives. C.A.T.s are encouraged to attend the visit. The visit is anticipated to occur between 10 am and 1 pm, 9/18.
- c) Fall CD Leadership Convening, Oct. 23-24 – Per CCI, two people from each creative district can attend. Anyone interested in going to this conference in Boulder should let Diedra know by September 10, so that she can apply for a scholarship to help with the travel expenses. No funds remain in the RCD Trainings budget for this. John and Diedra are both interested. No one else expressed a desire to attend.
- d) C.A.T. Retreat Date and Planning – The C.A.T. agreed to hold its annual retreat on Tuesday, November 19 from 3-7 pm, extending the regular meeting time. They also agreed to ask Christi Strickland to facilitate the retreat again. A subcommittee will be needed to put together the details for the retreat. Betsy will check with Christi on availability.

7) Next RCD C.A.T. Meetings –

- a) Tuesday, Sept. 10th - 5:00p (CCI Summit Review) at the Tree House Studio.
- b) Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 3:00 – 5:00p (regular C.A.T. meeting with Amulet Arts tour, to be confirmed) – Check your emails to see if the tour is at the beginning or end of next month's meeting.

8) Announcements - Jen has been officially appointed by Town Council to the C.A.T.!!

Betsy said that Kane Scheidegger's Gallery is holding an exhibition August 22. Paula said local artist Loretta Casler is showing in a Western art exhibit at the new Montrose Center for the Arts in September. Paula expects to enter one of her works in the exhibit! Diane said Top of the Pines is having a BBQ on September 25 to show off their new improvements.

9) Reflection on Meeting, Tasks, Next Agenda, and Parking Lot - none

10) Adjourn - 5:01pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Christian**

Parking Lot (no changes made)

1. Activating Spaces in the Community (outside eyes tour)
2. Adding existing public art placements into the local Creative Corridor brochure/map
3. Bear paw representation to honor native heritage
4. Healing Arts Moon Walk
5. Outdoor Murals
6. Story Plaques
7. C.A.T. Schwag