Boulder County Arts Alliance Notes

On the City Council Candidates Forum for the Arts

10.13.2017

Introduction Statements

MATT BENJAMIN

Restored funds back into art. The creativity in art enhances science. There is a bridge created between the two. Art is a partner in leading science.

ERIC BUDD

There needs to be middle/working class house affordability for artists. Housing really affects people in the arts. Artists need studio work places and theatres to create. Community and culture go hand in hand.

JAN BURTON

Healing through arts and outdoors is essential for people. Moved to the base of Chautauqua for the natural views. The E-Town community and environment are bound by the arts. Created mash up of the arts and nature for healthy lifestyle.

ED BYRNE

In 1981, it was possible to earn it all. Has immense compassion for the arts. People need to fight the wealth picks so it is more affordable for the artists.

CINDY CARLISLE

I was a liaison for the visual arts. Access to arts needs to be made available. Plan on making new art museums for students and professors. Need affordable working space, not expensive working space, like Namaste.

CAMILO CASAS

Creative vision through digitalization. I have a unique digital seat on the Boulder council.

JOHN GERSTLE

The changes for the long-term benefit of Boulder Space for artists are threatened by development. The budget support for the arts is insufficient and needs changing.

MARK MCINTYRE

Boulder is livable and fun. I have received the Bachelor of Fine Arts and have been on the curating comity at the Dairy. Boulder citizens rely too much on CU for arts.

MIRABAI KUK NAGLE

I have done ballet forever and have supported the Dairy. In my free time I am a jewelry maker. Involve children in art! Renaissance art is important to look at to compare to Boulder. Work with kids in less fortunate schools so that they have the opportunities in the arts.

ADAM SWETLIK

There is a lack of perspective on City Council right now. Housing affordability should be changed and there needs to be diversity in housing.

BILL RIGLER

I was apart of the Theatre Company. I support that the city will change and that change begins in the arts. Studio rental rates and apartments are too expensive and need to be lowered.

SAM WEAVER

Creativity has diminished. More space for the arts will be created through creative solutions. Live workspace is possible to have, as well.

MARY YOUNG

Citizens need to recognize art in the first place and then carry a mission forward on art.

Questions

Why are the arts important? Is the city government vital to the arts?

CARLISLE

There is a New Urban crisis. Boulder is the most creative and there’s not much affluence with artists. Priced out artists are forced to leave Boulder and the City Government can fix that.

BYRNE

Heart, soul, and humor make art. Keep Boulder weird. Need to release the budget so as to support the arts.

RIGLER

I’m a renter in Boulder as well as the Chief of an Art Foundation. Leveraging the corporate/public partnerships will begin marketing grants. Triple investment for the arts is required here.

BUDD

Architecture disinvests through its old style. I would like to change public spaces to support arts. The North Boulder armory site should have been for artists, but public spaces for the arts are disappearing.

BENJAMIN

I’m a nature photographer. Be creative and unleash it. Stop cutting arts for schools when the budget is low. It needs to be a priority to interpret natural world. We all have passion for arts in our hearts; we are all artists.

YOUNG

Art releases people. For example, music lets us to come out of our shells. This was seen with Vietnam vets sharing their experiences through music. My husband escapes my crazy campaigning through playing the guitar and woodcarving, specifically spoons. It is essential for the well being of people to have art in their lives.

WEAVER

 I write poetry and play the drums. I truly appreciate the North Boulder location to find different kinds of art. Public art has communal benefits, like the “Smile” murals tagged in Boulder. We need to hold developers to their promises so they don’t back out of artist support.

MIRABAI KUK NAGLE

The arts are vital. When I’m stuck in Broadway traffic, I appreciate a mural of a raccoon and it makes me happy. Boulder needs to keep local businesses. 20% of buildings need to be 501C3 non-profits for the arts. A developer pulled the permit on the armory, which was frustrating.

GERSTLE

Art is a community benefit. We must hold developers to their promises and not be sweet-talked. If you do the math, $6 per person supports arts, which means not enough money that Boulder needs to support local artists. Studio arts and pottery labs need to flourish.

MCINTYRE

There needs to be a site review process. I will promote creativity and flexibility. The city is not innocent in development. Art is architecture. Promote Creativity and flexibility for developers.

SWETLIK

Passion is no longer a possibility. We all share art, it was free, but not anymore. I will change that.

How would funding be used in the city?

BURTON

Need to manage budget so that the arts are the priority. North Boulder creates an overlay zone (mix of work space and art space). The city should give grants to cultural organizations. Not mandating it, but encouraging it will be best.

CARSAS

Does the audience have any ideas? “Cutting red tape.” “Buy more art for the community.” “Value the arts with dollars.” I have a digital platform to streamline and encourage art.

BENJAMIN

Boulder needs more art than just in North Boulder. Let’s pepper arts around our community. New zoning and development will aid this. Mixing housing and art will be great, but we need to franchise in the community. This spread is necessary to make it long lasting.

RIGLER

The funding would be used to create diversity of art forms. That means we need diverse funding.

WEAVER

The current funding is disappointing. The hotel on 28th street and Canyon was a beautiful building with a green wall. Now the creativity is gone. A developing company sold it to a hotel chain and now there is no greenery.

MARY

Linkage fees and housing. Let’s throw money at it. Developers pay commercial linkage fees. Lets encourage commercial housing. I want to raise linkage fees by 3%.

GERSTLE

I agree with Mary, the linkage fees are way too small. Boulder needs to help developers.

MCINTYRE

If linkage fees went up 10 times, it would stop commercial development. The cost of rent should be more affordable. The maximum amount for affordable housing hits the mandatory local communities.

BYRNE

Boulder needs to make real public/private development. The rules need to be written well enough to make them stick.

CARLISLE

The cost used to be 65$ square feet for space. Staff recommended $15, then $12 then $9. Where does money come from to support arts? Linkage fees, so let’s raise them.

How do you foster ingenuity?

BENJIMIN

I love astronomy. The scientific renaissance and linkage to the arts is fundamental to the success of vitality. Researchers are artists. Let’s create synergy.

BUDD

CU’s youth. National labs. Start-ups. This is the trifecta and it can foster support for the arts.

SWETLIK

Science pays bills, arts don’t. We need to change that. I don’t see change in diversity because there needs to be change in perspective first.

WEAVER

Engaging new technologies will help artists. Art and technology go hand in hand. For example, a video camera produces creativity through different types of film.

YOUNG

We need more design engineering for art.

BYRNE

Lots are frequently zoned RL1, but should be zoned RL2. There aren’t studios allowed in RL1. Art studios throughout Boulder aren’t allowed because of this. As long as we mitigate the impact of RL1, Boulder will be better.

Should the city charter require residency for employees?

CINDY

We would need to supply space, which we don’t have a lot of right now, so no.

NAGLE

I don’t support that. There needs to be public participation to bring community together and increase creativity. Let’s cut out certain laws.

MCINTYRE

To answer, no. Let’s look beyond boarders for new creative ideas.

BURTON

No. Lafayette has been Boulder’s affordable housing. Boulder needs more density, while still regarding the height and space ordinances.

BENJAMIN

The government should only stop in as a last resort. The city staff has choice and does not need to require residency for employees.