

## Administrator's Report

Department: Community Programs and Relations

April 2023

### Highlights

#### ➤ Revolving Loan Fund Update

- 13 loans out. One business has a final payment still outstanding from December. Another had been two months behind, but recently caught those up. Staff will be working with the attorney regarding any payment follow up needed.
- \$88K to loan currently. Staff expect to see renewed interest and activity in the spring and have been getting questions.
- [Revolving Loan Fund Article in Redstone Review for March](#)

#### ➤ RFP'S issued:

- Historic Context RFP (Grant funded from History Colorado) was due on April 28. Staff hopes to work with HPC member and score proposals to hopefully award for the next BOT meeting.

#### ➤ Main St/ EVC Programming

- Staff applied for and received notification of an \$18K award for a wayfinding strategy from the Colorado Tourism Office. Letters of support were also submitted by the Chamber, EVC and local business owners. The grant will be funded and accepted in early May, after CTO works through their process. An RFP will be developed this summer. The EVC discussed elements to consider at their April meeting and will include for the upcoming meeting discussion.
- Staff attended the National Main St Now Conference during the last week of March. This is paid for by the State of Colorado and they require each Colorado Main St community to participate. Sessions covered included Surviving and Thriving during Construction, Trends for Building a Resilient Downtown, Main St and Municipal Collaboration
- Staff working with Colorado Tourism Office and Consultants regarding web updates of timed entry to Rocky Mountain National Park, which begins again May 2023 and Elkstang bus service to RMNP which includes stop in Lyons.
- Getting Creative in Lyons and Business Article were in the April/May issue of Redstone Review – screen shots attached.

#### ➤ Outreach

- Messaging about upcoming public meetings, the dates and agendas happening since Mid March, weekly via eblast and social media.
- Sending BOT meeting recap after the BOT meetings. Have completed three to date, and will work to get them out on Tuesday or Wednesday after each

meeting.

- Partnered with City of Longmont and St Vrain Left Hand Water District – regarding water conservation and Garden in a Box Program. More water conservation messaging coming in spring and summer.
- Sent 18 various eblasts during March and April covering news for Lyons residents including Bear Trash Bins, Annual Report, Golf Car Registration, Garden in A Box, scrap metal pick up and more
- Staff coordinated the Limb Drop Off, Bear Proof Trash Bin Pick up, Open House at Public Works and BOT Meet and Greet. Thanks to all who attended, volunteered and helped.
- Historic Insert in the April / May issue of the Redstone Review in recognition of May as History Month.

#### **Board and/or Commission Items:**

- ***Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission***

Mr. Toolman by Justin Deister is now installed along SH-66, thanks to town staff and our LAHC members, Melinda Wunder, John King and Jacob Leewenburg. [Image attached](#) of the installed piece.

- Two more public art installations/sculptures by Kirk Seese were placed in late April. A local business has sponsored a sculpture in front of their business, but on the town right of way. This will be placed in May.
- Schedule for 4 – 6 more public art sculptures being placed in the next 6 weeks. The Lyons Community Foundation supports the program in 2023 with \$4K in Grant funding
- The [call for artists for Creative Outlets](#) closed April 24. We received 7 submissions. The LAHC will determine their selection at the May 9 meeting. This is funded with a \$1,500 grant from LCF.
- Great Town Hall and Library Art Show held on Wednesday, April 12.
- LAHC reviewed budgets for various projects (creative outlets, public art, ute trail sculpture ) at their April 11 meeting. The new LAHC Chair is Clauia Paterno.

- ***Economic Vitality Commission –***

EVC has 7 current members. Next meeting is April 19.

Business incubation thoughts, how to help foster new businesses

Upcoming events include third annual Artisan Market, Sunday June 4

Ride the Rockies in Lyons, Friday June 16

Summer Concert Series, Wednesdays, June 21 – Aug 9

## Getting creative in Lyons

By Kim Mitchell  
Redstone Review

**LYONS** – Whimsical or serious, thought provoking or iconic, the sculptures, performances, creative outlets and murals that grace the public spaces in our community brighten them up.

The eclectic display of public art in Lyons enriches the physical, economic, social and cultural fabric of Lyons too. Over the past several years, the arts' momentum has been exploding in Lyons. Whether it's poetry, theatre, music, painting creative outlets, adding murals or public sculptures, a group of dedicated residents and volunteers make the magic of the arts happen in Lyons.

Last Wednesday, April 12, was the quarterly art show, featuring Linda Dole Backup at the library. Linda is a 40 year plus resident of Lyons, retired cardiologist and active painter. Each quarter, one local Lyons resident has a curated show at the library which is on display for three months.

Meanwhile, local artists also display their artistic expression with the Town Hall Art show, featuring art that dots the board chambers. You can check out either display during open hours. These local quarterly art shows provide a venue for our residents to display their creative side and for the public to enjoy.

Be sure to take some time to visit both venues, you will be impressed with the level of artistic talent that resides in Lyons. If you haven't had a chance to go to the quarterly li-

brary and town hall art shows, why not make a spring resolution to get to the next one? It's a wonderful celebration of community, along with sharing in the talents of local artists.

The Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission (LAHC) will continue the Creative Outlets program to enhance the community through art in public places.

The program's goal is to bring beauty to unexpected places via creative painting of utility boxes. Next on their list is a creative outlet-utility box along Railroad Ave, near the post office. Artists receive a \$1,250 stipend for their artistic creation. There is a formal call to artists which can be found online, [townoflyons.com/643/Creative-Outlets](http://townoflyons.com/643/Creative-Outlets). To date, several local artists and local outlets have benefited, with artistic expression in Bohn Park, LaVern Johnson Park and at the Lyons Regional Library.

The arts are unavoidable in Lyons – which is exactly how we love it. And Lyons sure has a public art collection to boast about. Installations by internationally revered artists dot the landscape.

The LAHC has been curating new public art sculptures and expanding the collection. Most recently, Mr. Toolman, by Justin Deister was installed in early April near Black Bear Hole. Plans are to install nearly a dozen new or replacement pieces throughout town in the next few months. The sculptures are an outdoor exhibit, readily available to everyone.

The public sculpture program comes together with the financial support of the Lyons Community Foundation and the enormous volunteer efforts of the Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission, especially Melinda Wunder, Jacob Leeuwenburgh and John King. Installation and equipment is supported by town staff.



Justin Deister's sculpture Mr. Toolman was installed on Hwy 66 on April 5. Left to right: John King, Kyle Kolakowski, Joe Boswell, Justin Nittman, Chase Reiter, Mr. Toolman, Jake Coffin, Jacob Leeuwenburgh, Melinda Wunder

The LAHC wishes to thank the Lyons Board of Trustees for their continued support and appreciation of public art in Lyons. In addition, public art funding also comes from the Lyons Community Foundation and the residents who graciously donate to this important non-profit in Lyons.

- **Sustainable Futures Commission** – The SFC has a new Chair, Edward Kean. Update from Tierra Resources. Questions about how to best prepare to host spring clean-up day. Challenges with staffing/resources, no Boulder County Sheriff Crew. The volunteer organized March scrap metal and Styrofoam pick up included 26 locations, with 900 lbs of scrap metal and 1.5 cubic yards of Styrofoam. For comparison, a typical business dumpster is about 3 cubic yards.

## Springtime vibes bring Lyons outdoors

By Kim Mitchell  
Redstone Review

**LYONS** – Ah, April in Lyons, Colorado. Our varied climate, abundant sunshine, location in the foothills, and temperature fluctuations converge to create a rewarding spring and the impending lush green hues. Residents and wildlife alike begin to

emerge from the winter's slumber. There is plenty to look forward to in Lyons and the warming temperatures allow for locals to gather for events and exploration before the summer guests discover Lyons.

On Saturday, April 22 (Earth Day), the Town will be hosting a limb dropoff and open house at the town's public works facility, located at 4687 Ute Hwy. This is also

a great opportunity to meet members of the Lyons Board of Trustees, who set the policies for town operations and are the key decision makers regarding town policies. The limb dropoff will take place from 8 a.m. to noon, with the meet and greet and open house at public works, taking place from 9 to 11 a.m. Staff will be on hand for the tours and there will be light refreshments.

In honor of Mother Earth, the Parks and Recreation Commission is sponsoring a spring cleanup on Sunday, April 23 from 9 to 11 a.m. Interested participants are asked to meet in Bohn Park, up by the pavilion for a spring cleaning of our parks and river corridor on Sunday morning.

As the wildlife and bears also wake up from hibernation, the town partnered with Boulder County to secure bear resistant trash cans. The Colorado Parks and Wildlife grant program was well received and has sold out. Those who ordered the bins should have received an email with pick-up info. Lyons and details.

With the spring transition towards summer, now is a great time for our citizens to

Sign up for yours today, by visiting [townoflyons.com/dog](http://townoflyons.com/dog) and providing proof of vaccination for your dog(s).

In addition, parking passes for our parks are available for town residents. If you live in unincorporated areas of Boulder County, but outside the town limits, you may purchase a vehicle parking pass for \$80. Town Hall often gets questions as to why one parking pass is free for residents of the town, but not our neighbors in the county.

This is mainly fiduciary. Those who reside within the town limits, pay town utilities, and vote in town elections, also pay property taxes to the town as well as an extra 3.5 percent sales tax on purchases, such as new or used vehicles, online deliveries (from Amazon or similar retailers) and for large items such as dishwashers, ovens, furniture etc. Thus, town residents are eligible for one free parking pass and may purchase an additional parking pass. To order your parking pass, visit town hall from Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or go online, [townoflyons.com/parking](http://townoflyons.com/parking) and fill out the form.

