

Non-Code Ordinance

By: Museum
Introduced: June 8, 2015
Public Hearing: June 22, 2015
Adopted: June 22, 2015

Vote: Buswell, Graham, O'Barr, Sullivan-Leonard, and Wall in favor; Wilson opposed

**City of Wasilla
Ordinance Serial No. 15-18**

An ordinance of the Wasilla City Council amending the Fiscal Year 2015 Dorothy G. Page Museum budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Rasmuson Foundation in the amount of \$6,000.

Section 1. Classification. This is a non-code ordinance.

Section 2. Purpose. To amend the FY15 Museum Budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Art Acquisition Fund Grant awarded by the Rasmuson Foundation and Museums Alaska to the Dorothy G. Page Museum.

Section 3. Appropriation of Funds. The funds are appropriated to the following:

Capital Purchases/Mach & Equip Grant 001.4510.451.70-46 \$6000.00

Section 4. Source of Funds

Contributions-Priv.Src/Rasmuson Foundation 001.4500.364.70-00 \$6000.00

Section 5. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption by the Wasilla City Council.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on June 22, 2015.



BERT L. COTTLE, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk



[SEAL]

CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT

Ordinance Serial No. 15-18: An ordinance of the Wasilla City Council amending the Fiscal Year 2015 Dorothy G. Page Museum budget by accepting and appropriating funds from the Rasmuson Foundation in the amount of \$6,000

Originator: Bethany Buckingham, Curator

Date: May 5, 2015

Agenda of: 6/8/2015

Route to:	Department Head	Signature	Date
	Chief of Police		
	Public Works Director		
X	Recreation & Cultural Services Director	Bill Mulready for Archie Gaddings	5/27/15
X	Finance Director	Donna Kappert	5-27-15
X	Deputy Administrator	[Signature]	5/27/15
X	City Clerk	[Signature]	5.27.15

Reviewed by Mayor Bert L. Cottle:  05:27:2015

Fiscal Impact: yes or no

Funds Available: yes or no

Account name/number:

Capital Purchases/Mach & Equip Grant	001.4510.451.70-46	\$6000.00
Contributions-Priv.Src/Rasmuson Foundation	001.4500.364.70-00	\$6000.00
		Total: \$6,000.00

Attachments: Ordinance Serial No. 15-18 (1 page)
Rational for *Looking for Color* (3 pages)

Summary Statement: The Art Acquisition Fund through Museums Alaska and Rasmuson Foundation allows museums and other cultural institutions the opportunity to purchase artwork by local Alaskan artists. The Dorothy G. Page Museum applied for the grant to purchase a piece of metal artwork for the collection pertaining to mining in Hatcher Pass by Jeremy Winslow. This meets with our collections policy and art exhibitions policy that we collect and display art depicting the Matanuska-Susitna Valley region. The purchase price of the piece was \$6,000 and the Art Acquisition Fund granted us \$6,000 to purchase the work from Mr. Winslow.

Staff Recommendation: Introduce and set for public hearing Ordinance Serial No. 15-18.

Rationale for *Looking for Color*

The Dorothy G. Page Museum is interested in purchasing, *Looking for Color*, a metal artwork piece by local artist Jeremy Winslow. Our collections policy states that we collect "fine art by Alaskan artists or art depicting the Matanuska-Susitna Valley region. Fine art includes, but is not limited to, painting, drawing, sculpture, prints, photographs and crafts. Criteria for selection of such acquisitions will be outstanding aesthetic quality and historical significance to Alaska."

Winslow is owner of J&R Metal Arts in Big Lake, Alaska. He has been working with metal art for the past six years. While he is a newer artist, Winslow has established himself through a show and competition at the Alaska State Fair 2012 - 2014 and has had a show at the Dorothy G. Page Museum in 2013.

He began making yard art for his wife, but has since honed his skills. He created two covered wagons that he entered into the Alaska State Fair Creative Arts and Crafts Division in 2012 and won first place. This win encouraged him to learn and continue building his skill set. Winslow created *Looking for Color*, in 2013 for the Alaska State Fair competition. He was awarded First Place and Division Grand Champion for his workmanship and attention to detail in *Looking for Color*. This contemporary artwork embodies the spirit of mining of the gold rush era in Alaska.

Looking for Color is a placer mining scene that could be captured anywhere in Alaska, but his inspiration was the history of the Hatcher Pass/Willow Creek Area in the Matanuska Susitna Valley. The artwork shows a miner with his gold pan next to a river.

"I was proud of all the detail I was able to create. I look around me for inspiration. I am color blind, so my wife helped me with coloring the river. I would tell her what I wanted, and she would let me know when to stop or burnish more to get the right effect. This piece highlights the colorful mining history of our area." - Jeremy Winslow Artist Statement

The Dorothy G. Page Museum mission is to identify, collect, preserve, research, interpret and exhibit the cultural and historical heritage of Wasilla, Knik and Willow Creek Areas. Hatcher Pass/Willow Creek area is an integral part of our history. Residents came here "Looking for Color" in the surrounding streams and rivers. This contemporary artwork ties history and culture together in one sculpture. Children visiting the museum are drawn to the artwork. They look inside the cabin and see the detail of the plates and silverware on the table, the detail in the quilt on the bed, and the burls on the logs holding up the roof of the cabin. A variety of smooth and rough surfaces show hewn logs and a sod roof. There is a pot over the cook stove and a small rifle near the miner as he looks for gold. There are three pieces of real gold flakes that Winslow added for effect. The river glows with an iridescence that resembles a running river. Each group that comes in finds something different and repeat visitors continue to discover something new about the sculpture with each visit.

The artwork is currently on loan to the Dorothy G. Page Museum. It is displayed at a level that children and adults can view it from various sides. It is a wonderful educational tool as it generates discussion about gold mining, what life was like in Wasilla during the gold rush and subsequent mining eras and just how the artist manipulated the metal to resemble real life items. What is interesting about this piece is that it speaks to historic mining, but also could be an image from today.

Winslow is currently working on a scale size bear head and is researching and preparing to build a model of the wagon from the John Wayne film, *The War Wagon*. Local organizations and individuals continue to support Winslow in his effort to devote full time to his art.

“Deb Averitt, owner and operator of Averitt’s Anvil, has been one of many supportive people in my artistic career. She has donated hundreds of horseshoes to me to use in my artwork.” – Jeremy Winslow Artist Statement

The Museum attempts to stimulate the activities of a creative population of artists, historians and other allied professionals. This work is also used as a teaching tool for Winslow to bring school groups in to discuss his work and process. He has conducted lessons with his son and his son’s classmates at Houston Middle and High Schools. He enjoys his work and wants to share his talent and knowledge with others. He has provided demonstrations at the museum and is looking forward to working in our blacksmith shop a few times this summer.

Looking for Color would be purchased directly from Jeremy Winslow, the artist. It would become part of the permanent collection and be an integral piece interpreting the mining history of the area.

Recently on an edition of Antiques Road Show in Birmingham, Alabama, a Folk Art Piece of a blacksmith shop was valued for insurance at \$3,000 - \$5,000. We believe the cost of this piece is within fair market value after speaking with other local artists.

Looking for Color increases the opportunities at the Dorothy G. Page Museum for visitors to view art and history together. Art enhances the history of our area and history inspires artists to create new works. Bringing both worlds together not only stimulates creativity within our visitors, but provides a catalyst for new ideas, ever changing media and growing our artistic venues in Alaska.

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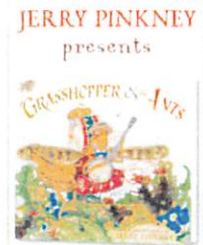
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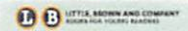
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1922 Folk Art Blacksmith Shop Model

APPRAISED VALUE: \$3,000 - \$5,000 (2014)

APPRAISED ON June 21, 2014
APPRAISED IN Birmingham, Alabama
APPRAISED BY Ken Farmer
CATEGORY Folk Art
EPISODE INFO Birmingham (#1912)
ORIGINALLY Aired April 13, 2015

Like 0

APPRAISAL VIDEO (1:38)



IMAGE 1 of 1



APPRAISED BY
Ken Farmer
Decorative Arts, Folk Art, Furniture, Musical Instruments
Owner

APPRAISAL TRANSCRIPT

GUEST: There was a couple of fellows who came to Alabaster, which is about 20 miles south of here, in 1922. They came in with a carnival and decided to stay in Alabaster. A Mr. Simpson, who owned a curb market in Alabaster, befriended them and gave them room to practice their trade as cobblers. They made this as an appreciation gift for Mr. Simpson and presented it to him 12/30/22, it's dated. As a child I delivered papers in downtown Alabaster. We were from a poor family, didn't have any toys. And I would look at this thing for hours-- I loved it. He had it on display. It was just about head high for me. About ten years ago a fellow came into my office and he started telling me about this little blacksmith shop he had purchased. And I stopped him and I said, "You don't need to tell me "about that blacksmith shop. "I've looked at it for hundreds of hours as a child. "And if you ever want to sell it, I'd love to have an opportunity to buy it." Well, about two years later he came back and said, "That blacksmith shop's in my house, nobody ever sees it. If you'll display it in your office, I will sell it." We paid \$500 for it.

APPRAISER: People bring stuff to the folk art table all the time that are handmade, that are not as successfully executed as this is. When I started looking inside this thing and I saw the forge and how much trouble they'd gone to make everything in there, there's even a little fan in there that looks like it was made in one of those factories back in the '20s.

GUEST: External blades, exactly.

APPRAISER: Yeah. It's amazing detail. I would say for insurance purposes you should probably go in the \$3,000 to \$5,000 range.

More Like This:

VALUE RANGE [\\$3,000 - \\$5,000 \(2014\)](#)

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