



MEETING MINUTES

Public Art Commission

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Members Present: Scott Mumma – C, John Foster – VC, April Dunn, Nancy Neely, Ingrid Hooks, Margo Pemmaraju

Members Absent: Melissa Jackson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Scott Mumma at 6:32pm with a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from 5/08/19 motion: April 1st by Nancy 2nd and all present approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ATRIUM INSTALL UPDATE

Sent the Atrium budget to Todd and Grace to start reworking the piece to match the final number provided. Atrium came and approved the new spot for the piece. The piece is going to be redesigned so the piece is focused on working with 500 tiles in a more user friendly way. The new design has the same concept of the pyramid and benches that go around the piece utilizing the tiles. The piece can still be kinetic (thinking the top 3 out of 4 pieces but will work with design to make sure). The sculpture piece is the most expensive to figure out. The benches allow there to be more surface area so all the tiles could be used while taking height off the main piece bringing down costs. The new height of the piece is between 4ft and 5ft. The number of tiles was driving the height of the piece. Taking tiles and placing them to benches allows the height of the piece to come down. We will look at using more horizontal space. The benches will be a part of the budget already provided. A new itemized budget is not ready but artist is working on that to report back. Benches are not movable and are made out of concrete. ADA regulations will need to be looked at in the area to make sure the benches do not encroach. Maybe we do 3 or 2 instead of 4. Tiles are not graded for the sidewalk, they must be on the side of pieces so water does not pool on them. The main project will hold half the tiles and the benches will hold the other half of the tiles.

Looking for a deadline for the tiles to be completed. Atrium is going to give the lump sum in check form so payment can be provided to the artist to continue the project. Contracts will be worked up so we can finalize the project. Will work with Atrium for final payment and final events for activation. Will work with Grace and Todd for a final project design and deadlines.

Will look to place up a sign that says no climbing. \$21,500 is left over for the artist. \$3,500 went to tiles/materials and \$5,000 to marketing, activation and the reveal. We may have to adjust the kinetic parts to fit the final project budget left.

April motion to finalize the moving of the piece from the old location in the square of Town Center to the new location on the concrete pathway between the parking garage and the grass 2nd from Margo and all present approved.

ELECTION NEW CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR

It is one year from the election since we started the committee. We can go the next 6 months and hold the new election in January or change now for the next 6 months and then re-elect in January. The commission does not want to change until January. Keep the existing leadership. April motion to keep existing Chairman, Scott Mumma, and existing Vice Chairman, John Foster, through December 31, 2019 and elect new chairman's for the next year in January following the written by laws. Margo 2nd and all present approved.

Scott and Ingrid are up in December of 2019 but can re-apply once the posting for those spots is open. 2 consecutive terms you're allowed to apply for the commission and the term is every 2 years.

GRANT ELECTRICITIES UPDATE

Kathy Jones – Old Huntersville Historic Society (OHHS) signed a contract to take the jail over for 5 years. The renovations and staging is complete. Need to move onto the exterior. There is a list for what the exterior would look like. OHHS was looking to do a pocket park. The entire parcel is a historic landmark. Approval has to be given before anything is added/changed. Not opposed to having a piece of art. It needs to go to OHHS and to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission (Stewart Gray) for a certificate of appropriateness. This process needs to be followed. A barn door from the late 1800s needed to go through the COA process to be placed up. Anything on the grounds benches, picnic tables, and art needs to go through the process. It is 3-4 days. The scale would need to be reasonable and go to the side or back of the building, not to the front.

There are no master plans, only ideas have been presented to the town for the property. OHHS does not have money. To save money on landscaping OHHS was looking to use bricks from Ice House and keep its historical importance. They were looking to see if they could find a landscape architect to do different designs for how to use the bricks. The ice house bricks have a lot of historical purpose. They would like to use the bricks to tell the story of the icehouse. Only the bricks from the ice house as far as material is left (500 bricks). Use the bricks to look like ice cubes with a plaque as an idea.

Will ask about the ice house bricks and if they could be used as art. Would like to dedicate a spot at Veterans Park with the bricks. This may be how the grant is utilized.

Another grant focus could be plaques at historical sites throughout the town embedded in the sidewalks. \$2,500 per plaque. It is an expensive project. Need to look at another grant to potentially fund this. OHHS has all information for the different locations throughout town.

Would like to do a call to artist to use the 500 bricks from the ice house at Veterans Park to see how we can utilize it. See what the best design is. Plaque that tells what the Ice House means. Pictures of the ice

house can be placed on the bricks, info relating to the historical site can be placed there, etc. July 10 OHHS meeting and Parks and Rec Commission June 19 where the discussion will be brought up.

Other ideas: old jail bars for pictures. Horses showing the transition of the town. Bulbs from Spartanburg Art Council - do they light up? Will get more information.

Murals are a big one. Picnic tables painted and placed in public spaces. Put solar charging on the tables. West Palm Beach having trouble getting people to the downtown. Brought art in. \$750,000 or more in projects puts 1% of the project cost to public art. Murals were first in this area to bring public awareness and help start the art movement.

Narrowing it down to the Ice House and the bulbs. Two bulbs would give impact to the community. The bulbs are like the mascot idea. The mascot for the town has the business help to pay for the piece. Businesses sponsor part of it. Maybe we look at one instead of two bulbs so it stays unique. The bulbs were specifically for Spartanburg. Need to come up with our own mascot and idea. Like the light bulb because it is the ElectriCities grant and it matches that. The bulbs have the creativity of each artist who placed their design on the bulb.

We are limited on murals because of the buildings downtown. We have buildings and contacts for murals if there is a spot that looks like it works.

Not a fan of the bulbs because it is someone else's idea.

Streetscapes in the intersections is something to look at as well.

Would like to use ElectriCities \$5,000 for the bricks. Use (up lighting) on the bricks. Recreate a photograph of the Ice House on the bricks. Water feature out of the bricks either a fountain or a dog fountain. Wagon used at first at the ice house and then brought in by trucks. Maybe the design could play off something in the history of it. Next Tuesday Greenway Commission. Will be talking with them regarding their projects and vision for art on the greenways.

Nancy in favor of murals not opposed to the ice house bricks. All others present looking at the bricks being the front runner. The idea of the ice house and using the bricks is a great educational aspect.

UPDATES/COMMENTS – CHAIR

Tuesday June 18th at Spare Time VIP room: 11:45-1p Mayors lunch – Cain Center for the arts as a speaker. Update on sponsorships next meeting.

MOSAIC BENCH UPDATE

The final image of the mosaic was sent and install will be known Friday. Once the install is complete a picture of both locations will be sent to the commission and the sponsors.

There being no other business to discuss – motion to adjourn... April: 1st, Ingrid: 2nd and unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m.