



City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Meeting Minutes Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

4:30 PM

City Hall - Basement Conf Rm A

I CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:36pm.

II ROLL CALL

Members present: M Chamberlin, B Miller, C Gendron, T Reid, J Kotarski & M Winborne

Members absent: W Simbuerger, T Derezinski, & C Rizzolo-Brown

Others: Aaron Seagraves, Public Art Administrator; Mary Morgan, Ann Arbor Chronicle

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Reid suggested there is more detail than needed. Another commissioner made the suggestion to record only the motions. Public Art Administrator explained what he is attempting to record with the minutes and said he will look at the detail needed, by reviewing other city Commission minutes.

Approved

IV APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kotarski asked to include public comments at the end of the agenda—to be consistent Council and Planning Commissions. Allow the public to reflect on what happened. Miller suggested looking into the benchmark of what other commissions do for Public Comment.

Commission agreed to asked that the Public Art Administrator look at how it's handled by other Commissions and make a recommendation to AAPAC

MOTION: Made by Reid, seconded by Kotarski; Agenda approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Approved as presented

V PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments

VI ONGOING BUSINESS

A. Chair's Report

Chamberlin recognized the Public Art E-Newsletter as nicely done. Asked if it could be sent to City Council members. Appreciated the response to the Golden Paintbrush Awards and said the reception was good. The presentation went

well.

B. Administrator's Report

1. *Written report*
2. *Public Art Budget*

South Main Corridor Study:

Public Art Administrator reported on meeting regarding the South Main Corridor Study. Met with Planning staff person, Kristin Baja, to discuss public art as a part of the report and reviewed the Public Art Commissions process for project development. He offered to set-up a meeting between Baja and a Commissioner who would be interested in participating in the study's interviews. Commission asked what the time frame of the study and when would public art fit with the study. Chamberlin said the Administrators input as the representative is valuable and glad the Commission has a presence as part of the Study. Miller offered to be interviewed for the Corridor Study, as a representative of the Public Art Commission.

C. Committee Reports

1. *Public Relations Committee*

Gendron asked for any suggestions for the Public Art E-Newsletter to be passed to her. It is the nicest looking Public Art E-Newsletter in the nation, in her opinion.

a. *Townie Party*

Gendron spoke about the Townie Party, July 16, and updated the Commission on the Public Art Commissions information table at the event. She would like to have it staffed by the Commission and would send a sign-up sheet for scheduling. Hannah Nathans, the Public Art Intern, created a replica of the Mural on Liberty Street and State. The replica is a cardboard upright with the faces cutout to use at the Townie Party for photographs. The Commission discussed attendance, scheduling and other logistics of the Townie Party. The Commission discussed the acquiring signatures on a petition as a sign of general support of public art; this was discussed at the PR Committee meeting. Chamberlin said a petition has an implication and that it probably doesn't apply to the role of a city commission. Reid said a sign-up sheet could serve the same purpose as the petition.

Kotarski commented that Hannah Nathans did a spectacular job. The Committee budgeted the \$250 for the purpose of the display. He would like to offer the entire budget to Hannah. Chamberlin considered if payment would fit in with the city policy and with her internship considering she is getting college credit for the internship. Winborne offered that there could be rules that fit with payment for the intern and we have to go by them. Miller supported some recognition for her volunteer service. Chamberlin said that offer is the right sentiment for her role we will do something to recognize the role she had played. The Commission agreed upon developing something to show their appreciation, such as an annual recognition of volunteer effort.

D. Project Reports

1. *Justice Center - see Administrator's written report*

2. *Allmendinger Park Mural*

Public Art Administrator presented the final design for the Allmendinger Park Mural. The new design incorporates the materials collected from the participatory aspect of the project, which took place with Slauson Middle School students, in the Fall Semester, and it made changes suggested by the Task Force to reduce the highly representational images toward abstraction. An email sent the Allmendinger neighborhood was shared that detailed the neighborhood's participation in the project.

The Commission clarified with the Public Art Administrator what approval was required and for what. Chamberlin said this has been vetted and viewed by the Task Force and so this is something we need to approve.

Motion for approval of the final design of the Allmendinger Mural, as recommended by the project's Task force, made by Miller, and seconded by Kotarski. On a voice vote, the motion is approved.

ACTION ITEM: Review and Approval of Final Design of the Allmendinger Park Mural

3. *Argo Cascades - see Administrator's written report*

4. *Mural Program*

The Public Art Administrator and Chamberlin introduced the Muralist SOQ for review and approval. The Public Art Administrator clarified for the Commissioners the draft presented for approval reflected some changes after comments from legal, but was not final. Chamberlin said the reason behind the SOQ was to stock pile pre-qualified artists in order to draw from for upcoming mural projects. Miller asked when another SOQ for muralist be sent out and what the timeframe was. Public Art Administrator indicated it was to be for projects up to 2014. The discussion began to consider if a rolling Statement of Qualifications could be done and if qualifications could be asked for every year. Chamberlin said then we would send out a SOQ each time we do a project with this we shorten the timeline. The goal is to cut down the time on projects going forward. Gendron asked if there was something that would prevent us from posting on the website the fact that we are collecting this information from artists year round. Winborne said that this SOQ is setting parameters and we are just opening a window of opportunity for artists to apply. The question was asked if there could be a different timeframe such as annually. Could the same SOQ be reissued annually and therefore not complicate the timeline or extend it. Winborne suggested that we have to merge the process with public financing. Some of these projects from several years ago are still on our list. Kotarski explained that the SOQ would create have these pools of artists. A Task Force reviews the pool of muralist and selects from it. Then muralist would be requested to participate in the RFP for a project. The Commission questioned if the SOQ could be released every year, at a certain time every year, and widens the pool of prequalified muralists—if that was the language indicated in the SOQ. The Public Art Administrator would need to check with the procurement policies to see if that could be done. Winborne argued that the two year period an okay limitation, with one window to apply for two years. Miller would like to investigate the option for refreshing the pool annually with one two year SOQ. Motion made to approve draft of the SOQ for two years and investigate widening the pool annually for future SOQs, made by Gendron, seconded by Miller. On a voice vote, the motion is approved.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Muralist SOQ

5. *East Stadium Bridges - see Administrator's written report*
6. *Kingsley and First Rain Garden - see Administrator's written report*

A question was posed about the public meeting held for the rain garden at Kingsley & First and how public art for the project would be presented at the meeting. Public Art Administrator said he would present the public art project at the information meeting and gather public input to inform the RFP. Gendron asked if this policy is one that the Task Forces would build into the process going forward, and if so, the Commission could check with the city about public information meeting about the Argo location. Chamberlin said that including input about public art as a part of the city information meetings for the rain garden is good and often better than holding our own. A statement was made that the Commission needs to promote this information meeting. Kotarski asked if the meeting was for input or to provide information. A comment was made that the Task Force would want to know what the public's ideas are and there would be a give and take of information at the meeting. Gendron suggested capturing email address of the attendees at the meeting.

E. Additional Reports

1. *North Main task Force*
2. *Inside/Out with DIA*
3. *Dreiseitl sign/sculpture :*

Kotarski asked if rain water is the source of the water feature. And asked how it is collected. And he asked about the water storage and how much rain water it could hold. Public Art Administrator explained the water collects from the rooftops of City Hall and the Justice Center and collects in water tanks under the sculpture. He said the tanks hold 2,300 gallons. Kotarski asked if the intent of the artist was for the sculpture to run dry. Public Art Administrator said the artist designed it run on rainwater and was a part of the sculpture's design team. Miller asked if there was there water loss. Public Art Administrator said that there was nothing found to be leaking. Reid asked what the spirit of the questions were in. Kotarski said that Commissioners were being asked what is wrong with the sculpture and was not sure if the intent of the sculpture was to run dry and if that should be the narrative. He also said the Dreiseitl sculpture was the best example of locally sourced art that we know of as most of it was locally sourced and it is conceptual work of the story of Water. He offered a suggestion that the Commission investigate to come up with answers to the issues. Winborne said his was our first big project and an experience to learn from. He said that the Commission should come up with questions to ask. He said he looks at sees maintenance as the issue, but that there should be specific questions to address, those that we want to be clear. Gendron wanted to find out if this was designed to be dry in the summer and asked if we have options to remediate it and what we can do to tackle it. Was there a transition during the engineering that changed the design? Chamberlin asked if there some change from the presentation originally and said that this was a highly technical project. Winborne offered to collect the Commissions questions and then pass them along to the Public Art Administrator. He asked for a set time frame to have these questions answered and asked that the Commission email him.

Reid said that if it is dry in the summer, and frozen in the winter, that is a disappointment. Miller asked where the city was in the connection

between the cistern and the sculpture's water. Seagraves said it is just initially being looked at.

Chamberlin said that there is still work to be done on the content of the sign for the sculpture.

VII OLD BUSINESS

- A. *Strategic Plan FY 2012-2016 - see written objective*
Strategic Plan, Fiscal Year 2013 to 2016 – see the written objective Winborne said the outlined goals were his attempt to develop a consistent process. He went back to the idea of using the quadrants for planning public art. He also suggested taking the budget for public art and dividing equally into the different areas of the city and then developing projects in the areas. He said a Commissioner Champion would be assigned to each quadrant. He thought these goals would be a way to represent the structure and the process for public art development. He said the idea was to have public art in all areas of the city. Gendron asked how dividing the city into four areas would work with the funding source relationship for public art. Winborne offered the scenario of particular section of the city where most of the construction is happening and asked why that section of the city should have all the public art.

Kotarski asked if the goals would be asking Commissioners to serve on a Task Force and to represent the land area.

Winborne said the project Task Force would function the same as before.

ACTION ITEM: Introduction of two proposed goals and related objectives for strategic plan

- B. *Project Intake Forms, tabled in April*
1. *Large installation of whirlydoodles*
ACTION ITEM: Commission support for endorsement of public art
 2. *Ellsworth Rd and State St Round-about (2013)*
ACTION ITEM: Approval of project for FY2013
 3. *Inside/Out with DIA*
ACTION ITEM: Approval of program in association with Inside/Out

VIII NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

[12-0901](#)

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Attachments: June Administrator Report.pdf, Allmendinger Mural Design.pdf, Mural SOQ 061112.pdf, Project Intake Forms.pdf