

**City of Fort Worth
Art Commission
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

**Monday August 10, 2020, 5:00 p.m. CDT
Webex Videoconference**

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commissioner Robert Lee, Chair
Commissioner Estrus Tucker, Vice Chair

PRESENT:

Commissioner Bill Campbell
Commissioner Carol Hendrix
Commissioner Robert Lee
Commissioner Raul Pena

Commissioner Jennifer Casler Price
Commissioner Leslie Thompson
Commissioner Estrus Tucker

ABSENT:

Commissioner Sheila Hill
Commissioner James Talambas

CITY STAFF

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager
Sydney Sexton, Planning & Data Analytics Department
Royce Hansen, Assistant City Attorney
Tracy Edwards, Community Engagement Office

SENIOR ARTS COUNCIL STAFF

Karen Wiley, President & CEO
Martha Peters, Director of Public Art,
Anne Allen, Public Art Project Manager

MINUTES

- I. Roll Call – Anne Allen
Roll Call confirmed a quorum of seven (7) Art Commissioners in attendance.
- II. Call to Order – Chairman Lee called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
 - a. Reading of COVID-19 Statement – Anne Allen
Allen read the statement regarding the City's use of teleconference format due to public safety concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- III. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Lee
 - a. Special Called Meeting of July 13, 2020

A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Casler Price to approve the Art Commission Minutes of July 13, 2020. Motion passed (7-0-2).

- IV. Report of Chair – Chairman Lee
 - a. Introductions of new City of Fort Worth staff assigned to the public art program:
 - i. Royce Hansen, Assistant City Attorney (replacing Matt Murray)
 - ii. Tracy Edwards, Community Engagement (replacing Dot Kent)
 - b. Upcoming Art Commission Vacancies:
 - i. Position 4 Design Professional
 - ii. Position 2 Curator
 - c. Comments on Current Agenda Items – None

V. **DRAFT FORT WORTH PUBLIC ART FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

- a. **PUBLIC HEARING - DRAFT Fort Worth Public Art Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Work Plan (All Council Districts)**
 - i. Presentation- Martha Peters
Peters highlighted nine (9) completed public art projects from the FY 2020 Public Art Annual Work Plan and stated one (1) more projected may be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

In the FY 2021 Annual Work Plan staff anticipates 49 new and in progress public art projects with cumulative budgets over \$12 million, various types of Collection Management Projects, and ongoing implementation of the *Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan Update*.

New projects in FY 2021 include a Graffiti Abatement Mural Artist-in-Residence, three (3) projects from the 2018 Bond Program, and three (3) projects from the 2014 Bond Program.

Peters presented a staff recommendation to reprogram funds from the “Urban Village 2” project in the amount of \$80,000.00 to the South Main Underpass (CD 9), both from the 2014 Bond Program, Proposition 1, for a total of \$380,000.00 to create a greater impact at that site. The Six Points Urban Village Phase 2 (“Urban Village 1”) will be combined with the Riverside Park Project from the 2018 Bond Program for a total project budget of \$325,000.00.

Due to proposed changes to the FY 2021 Annual Work Plan, staff suggests that the Art Commission hold another Public hearing at the September meeting prior to making its recommendation to City Council.
 - ii. Citizen Presentations (3 minutes per speaker)
None
- b. Endorse REVISED DRAFT Public Art Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Work Plan and set a Second Public Hearing during the next meeting of the Fort Worth Art Commission currently scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020, 5:00 p.m. (All Council Districts)
 - i. Report of Staff – Martha Peters
 - ii. Discussion
None

A motion was made by Commissioner Pena and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to endorse the Revised Draft Public Art Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Work Plan and to set a seconded Public Hearing during the next Fort Worth Art Commission Meeting currently scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020, 5:00 p.m. The motion passed (7-0-2).

VI. Action Items

- a. Approval of Artist Joe Barrington’s Final Design for the Fire Station #45 Public Art Project to be Located at the Intersection of Quail Grove Drive and Harmon Road, 76177 (Council District 7)
 - i. Report of Staff – Michelle Richardson
Richardson introduced artist Joe Barrington. After spending 40 hours with the Fort Worth Fire Department, Barrington developed a preliminary design which was approved by the Fort Worth Art Commission in October 2019. Upon approval of the Final Design, City Council will be asked to authorize an Artwork Commission Agreement with Joe Barrington.

- ii. Artist's Presentation – Joe Barrington
Barrington stated the Project Core Team expressed interest in art that is rustic, historic and Fort Worth-oriented. Barrington's design, *Cowtown Dalmatian*, is a larger-than-life stainless-steel Longhorn steer with bronze spots, playfully mixing the icon of Fort Worth with the historic icon of fire stations. The sculpture faces downtown Fort Worth with its front hooves atop a native limestone base.

Barrington added a firefighter helmet to remind viewers of the department's 24/7 commitment to service. Directional LED lighting at the front of the sculpture will provide a warm glow at night.

The proposed materials are considered low maintenance. The artist suggests the sculpture be washed yearly and have an anti-graffiti wax applied.

- iii. Project Core Team Comments

Alan Baylock stated that he enjoyed the process and Barrington's design. He stated that the hat is a great addition but feels that its positioning looks a bit off in the rendering; however, he trusts that the artist will make it appear to hang naturally in the final artwork.

- iv. Citizens Presentations
None

- v. Discussion

Commissioner Casler Price questioned the position of the helmet and its necessity. When asked what the firefighters thought of this, Richardson responded that one firefighter had previously questioned the helmet's position but, after consideration, Barrington had decided to leave the helmet as is. Barrington followed up that the helmet would rest naturally on the final artwork.

A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Hendrix to approve Artist Joe Barrington's Final Design for the Fire Station #45 Public Art Project to be Located at the Intersection of Quail Grove Drive and Harmon Road, 76177 (Council District 7). The motion passed (7-0-2)

- b. Approval of Artist Julie Richey's Preliminary Design for the North Animal Center 301 Hillshire Drive, 76052 (Council District 7)

- i. Report of Staff – Alida Labbe

Labbe reported that the location of this project is off US-287 in a City campus that includes a drop off center and North Service Center. All three (3) facilities share an entry drive. Funding comes from bond funds tied to all three (3) facilities. Julie Richey has already meet with Animal Center staff and the Project Core Team. The campus is composed of structures modeled off the barns at the Will Rogers Memorial Center, with a contemporary influence.

- ii. Presentation, Julie Richey, Artist

Richey presented a series of mosaic elements throughout the North Animal Control Center. The mosaic designs depict a variety of colorful and playful animals meant to bring happiness and convey a sense of gratitude to visitors.

Location A (driveway entry): Three gabions made from local and rustic materials to match the design of the complex will be visible to passing traffic and mark the entry of the campus. A mosaic mixed-breed dog named "Chip", a cat named "Luna", and chihuahua named "Pepita" to be placed on top of the gabions.

Location B (veterinary clinic): A series of five (5) flat mosaic dogs that will be the same on both sides. They will be framed in a thin band of stainless steel to cover the edges of the pieces. The pieces are positioned to look like a “dogs giving chase” and meant to guide visitors down to the kennels. The mosaic dogs will be placed above the height of the pedestrian walkway to prevent climbing and dogs from urinating on the sculptures. Richey suggested there is an opportunity for the public to name the dogs and cats throughout the campus.

The mosaics will be made of quarry tile which is high fired, eco-friendly recycled material that is frost proof and weather resistant. The pieces will be hand shaped and sanded with a wet stone so there are no sharp edges.

Location C (adoption center): “Murphy”, a six-foot tall blue dog sits patiently on a bench just outside the adoption center. Richey envisioned this as a place for visitors to take a selfie with their new pet, which may be three dimensional.

Location D (interior lobby walls of adoption center): This mural would be an original painted canvas on one of the walls. Richey suggested “Raining Cats and Disco Dogs”, which will be painted by Texas artist John Wehrle. In addition, a few mosaic “sleeping” and “lounging” mosaic cats on the beams leading visitors to the cat adoption area are proposed.

Location E (behind the adoption center): This location is meant to attract visitors through to the back patio of the adoption facility and adorn the walking path area. A five-foot mosaic cat, “Terra” will be mounted to the ramp railing. This piece can also be three dimensional if the budget allows.

iii. Project Core Team Comments

Cindy Rodriguez asked what required maintenance is needed for these pieces. Richey responded that her pieces are relatively low maintenance. The grout and mosaics are anti-bacterial and weatherproof. Richey suggested painting the stainless steel versus powder coating because the paint can endure the weather and is easier to fix chips if they happen. Richey added that the armatures for the three-dimensional pieces would be fabricated with reinforced sculpted concrete and the mural will have a protective coating.

Councilmember Dennis Shingleton commented he was impressed with the creativity of the animal designs and is excited for this addition to the City’s Public Art Collection. Shingleton noted that he also enjoyed Barrington’s design, presented earlier in the meeting. He added that, during this time of pandemic, it is nice to have something to make you smile and public art does that.

Design Team member Michele Elbers added that the placement of the animals does a great job of drawing people through the facility.

iv. Citizens Presentations

None

v. Discussion

Commissioners agreed that the artist’s design is charming, fun, colorful, and smart. That it will guide people through the campus; that it exudes hopefulness. Commissioners also liked the idea of a selfie station and commended Richey on the thoughtful placement of the animals throughout the facility.

Richey thanked the public art staff for their work adding that they make the process for artists easy and organized.

Chairman Lee expressed he is interested to see how the interior piece will work.

A motion was made by Commissioner Casler Price and seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve Artist Julie Richey's Preliminary Design for the North Animal Center, 301 Hillshire Drive, 76052 (Council District 7). The motion passed (7-0-2).

VII. Presentation

- a. Preview of Artist Sedrick Huckaby's Final Design for the Stop Six Public Art Project to be located on the Traffic Triangle at the Intersection of Ramey Avenue and Stalcup Road, 76112 (Council District 5)
 - i. Report of Staff- Anne Allen
Tonight's presentation will give Huckaby the opportunity to hear feedback about his design from Art Commissioners and Project Core Team members. He will make his Final Design Presentation to the Art Commission for approval at the September meeting. Core Team Members have been appointed and oriented on the project. This project was born from a workshop in the Stop Six Community in 2011 and led to Huckaby being placed under Preliminary Design contract in June 2013. In December 2014, the Art Commission approved his preliminary design and in June 2015 he was placed under a Final Design contract.
 - ii. Artist's Presentation- Sedrick Huckaby
Huckaby's artwork entitled "The Last Train" is designed to look like a train stop. The community asked that the project include the history of the Stop Six area and provide a space to gather. Huckaby's initial preliminary design was based on using a donated train caboose; however, due to a desire expressed by the community to use an actual Interurban Train car and budget constraints, Huckaby will now fabricate an artistic version of an Interurban Train car and paint a mural showing a procession of figures on the train exterior. The mural will depict individuals from the Stop Six area from different time periods. The train car and will sit on simulated rails and be surrounded by a paved plaza area. The train will also be lit from within by LED lights at night.

Huckaby also shared a future vision for the project which included a pedestrian lighting in the form of vintage train lanterns on poles, a low perimeter seating wall, and an audio component that would include stories about the community narrated by members of the community.
 - iii. Project Core Team Comments
None
 - iv. Citizens Presentations
None
 - v. Discussion
Commissioner Pena asked if the inside of train would be accessible to the public and asked about the material to be used for the windows. Huckaby responded that the interior of the train would not be accessible. Anne Allen said the windows will be made from durable frosted acrylic.

Commissioner Campbell commented the train design is excellent and he would rather Huckaby spend his budget on the train rather than the pavers and the rails since the train is the focus of the concept.

Commissioner Casler Price commented she is happy that the essence of the original concept is moving forward and asked for clarification on what effect fabricating a train has on the budget. Huckaby responded that working with any of the existing train cars he located was cost prohibitive and none of them were actual Interurban Train cars. The cost of fabricating a simulation of an Interurban train car is within budget. Commissioner Casler Price agreed with Commissioner Campbell's comments and stated that it is important that this design give the community an area to congregate. She suggested concrete instead of the pavers for cost savings.

Commissioner Casler Price loves the audio component. Huckaby responded that there is no budget for that element, and it would need to be a future component.

Commissioner Lee suggested that instead of having the train located in the middle of the triangle it could be closer to the bus stop to allow larger numbers of people in the space.

Councilmember Bivens stated that she will meet with Trinity Metro on Friday and may look to them for funding the audio component. Bivens gave a brief update on Stop Six neighborhood improvements underway and said she is honored to have Sedrick on the project and is excited to see it move forward.

VIII. Staff Report and Announcements – Martha Peters

a. Project Reports

i. Precinct Line Road – Anne Allen

The project was seamlessly installed Monday and Tuesday of last week. Created by Sally Weber, *Haven* is composed of a grouping of three “house” structures supported on piers and inspired by people who first settled the Mosier Valley and that it depicts different aspects of the region's past and present.

ii. Six Points Urban Village – Alida Labbe

The artist had to change installers and fabricate different lighting fixtures. The fixtures are scheduled to be installed this week and a lighting test is also planned.

b. Collection Management Report – Jenny Conn

i. Lighting Mockup for *Avenue of Light* on West Lancaster Avenue

The original lighting system for this piece was installed in 2009. Essential Lighting Design Studio in Dallas, Texas has been contracted to inspect the existing lighting system, make recommendations, and create a mockup for *Avenue of Light*. Conn stated they will do an additional mockup and will present their recommendations to the Art Commission. The City is implementing their landscaping plan and staff will work with them to protect and hide the ground lights.

Martha Peters added that Public Art staff is keeping the Artist Cliff Garten up to date during this process. Chairman Lee stated that he attended the initial lighting test and that the new lights are considerably brighter.

ii. Revised Site Design for the Buster Welch Sculpture

Last month, the Art Commission approved the site plan for the Buster Welch Sculpture donation from the National Cutting Horse Association Foundation (NCHA). At that time, Commissioners expressed concern over the donor wall design. The NCHA worked with their design team to make the donor wall less visually intrusive. The design is improved and now fits the site design better.

- c. Community Engagement Update – Michael Asbill
 - i. Dedication of *Vase with Nine Flowers* with artist James Surls in attendance will be livestreamed on Facebook and Instagram (FWPublicArt) on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., and captured by City of Fort Worth TV for later viewing on YouTube.
- d. Announcement of Staff
 - Martha Peters announced that the Arts Council of Fort Worth was awarded a \$10,000 Art Works Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the Pioneer Tower Iconic Public Art Project.

IX. Announcements of Commissioners
None

X. Future Agenda Items
Commissioner Casler Price requested an update on the East Regional Library Project.
Commissioner Lee requested an update on the North Beach Street Project.

XI. Next Meeting - Chairman Lee
a. Monday, September 14, 2020, 5:00 p.m. (*details to be announced*)

XII. Adjournment – Chairman Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.