



**City of Fort Worth
Fort Worth Art Commission
REGULAR MEETING**

**Monday, March 15, 2021, 5:00 p.m. CST
Webex Videoconference**

PRESENT:

Commissioner Maggie Adler
Commissioner Bill Campbell
Commissioner Carol Hendrix
Commissioner Sheila Hill

Commissioner Raul Pena
Commissioner James Talambas
Commissioner Estrus Tucker

ABSENT:

Commissioner Randle Harwood
Commissioner Leslie Thompson

CITY STAFF

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager
Mark McAvoy, Planning & Data Analytics Director
Royce Hansen, Assistant City Attorney
Dot Kent, Community Engagement Office

ARTS COUNCIL STAFF

Karen Wiley, President & CEO
Martha Peters, Director of Public Art
Anne Allen, Public Art Project Manager
Alida Labbe, Public Art Project Manager *absent*
Michelle Richardson, Public Art Project Manager
Jenny Conn, Public Art Collection Manager
Michael Asbill, Public Art Community Engagement Coord.

MINUTES

- I. Roll Call – Anne Allen, Public Art Project Manager
Roll Call confirmed a quorum of six (6) Art Commissioners in attendance.
[NOTE: Commissioner Campbell joined the meeting before the action item.]
- II. Call to Order – Chairman Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:03 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 Tucker
 - a. Special Meeting of February 22, 2021

A motion was made by Commissioner Pena and seconded by Commissioner Adler to approve the Art Commission Minutes of February 22, 2021. The motion passed (6-0-0).



IV. Report of Chair – Chairman Tucker

a. Chairman's Comments on Current Agenda Items

Commissioner Tucker stated that it is the Art Commission's intent is to hear from project stakeholders, citizens, and commissioners, in that order, in order to hold timely deliberations and minimize back and forth exchanges.

V. Citizens' Presentations – General- None

VI. Presentation

a. Briefing on Proposed Redistricting Criteria for the City of Fort Worth

• Report of Staff – Martha Peters

The 2020 US Census will result in the City of Fort Worth adding two (2) Council Districts. The timing of this change coincides with recommendations in the *Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan Update* (Appendix 3) regarding the number and appointment methods for the Art Commission:

- Increase the number from nine (9) to thirteen (13), with
- Three (3) art professionals (e.g., practicing artist, curator, and design professional) appointed by the Mayor; and
- Ten (10) commissioners with a background or interest in art or design appointed by City Council Members to represent their districts.

Currently, all nine (9) Art Commissioners are appointed at-large.

• Presentation - Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager

On August 4, 2020, the City Council appointed a Redistricting Task Force and gave them the responsibility to provide advice about redistricting criteria and procedures that the City Council should use going forward. Costa stated that we are redistricting to ensure that districts contain roughly equal populations as required by federal law and to create two (2) new districts, as required by City Charter, in view of Fort Worth's rapid growth.

On April 6, 2021, the City Council consider a resolution to adopt the report to establish criteria and procedures for redrawing Council District boundaries. After City Council adopts the criteria and procedures City staff will provide software training for any interested residents who wish to draw their own district maps for Council consideration, and residents can register "communities of interest" for redistricting. The Council elected in May 2021 will work with Task Force members to redraw the district lines.



- Discussion
 1. Commissioner Tucker states that this gives the Art Commission a foundation and insight as they prepare to offer recommendations regarding the process in selecting Commissioners.

VII. Action Item

- a. Approve Artist Selection Panel's recommendation of artist Rar Farmer, and alternate artist Frederick Cowlah, for the Park and Recreation Department Graffiti Abatement Program (GAP) Mural Artist-in-Residence (All Council Districts)

- Report of Staff – Jenny Conn

The selection panel interviewed three (3) artists. Ultimately the panel felt Farmer best demonstrated the ability to plan strategically, has the enthusiasm to work with GAP staff and the community, and was sensitive to the project goals. Well-known for her community work, including collaborations with local mural artists, the Selection Panel stated that her inclusive approach appealed to them.

- Project Stakeholders

Megan Henderson, Near Southside, congratulated the Art Commission and FWPA on a wise approach to support the Park Department's GAP Program. Henderson was honored to be part of the committee and learned a lot about the program. She was inspired to see the program include the voices of working artists to help provide direction for the future, and is especially happy with the selection of Farmer, with her unique perspective. Confident that this selection will yield great results in a written form that provides a roadmap for the future of the program and community.

Margo Gordon, GAP Coordinator, Park and Recreation Department, thanked everyone on the panel associated with the project. Gordon is excited about the selection and is happy that Farmer will assist them with their marketing and strategic goals.

- Citizens' Presentations- None

- Art Commission Discussion

Commissioner Pena said they selected an artist who has a good plan. Commissioner Talambas said he is familiar with Farmer's work and activism and believes she is a great choice.

Commissioner Tucker expressed high hopes for this project and looks forward to it being a replicable process that we can learn from and one that engages diverse communities and artists.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pena and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to approve the Artists Selection Panel's recommendation of artist Rar Farmer, and alternate artist Frederick Cowlah, for the Park and Recreation Department Graffiti Abatement Program (GAP) Mural Artist-in-Residence (All Council Districts). The motion passed (7-0-0).



VIII.

Staff Report and Announcements

- a. Recent City Council Actions – Martha Peters
 - March 2, 2021 – Authorization of Artwork Commission Contract with FYOOG, LLC for the East Regional Library (CD 4)
 - March 9, 2021 – Authorization of Artwork Commission Contract with Julie Richey Mosaics, LLC North Animal Care & Control Center (CD 7)
- b. Collection Management Update – Jenny Conn
 - Impact of Winter Storm Uri on the Fort Worth Public Art Collection (Part I)
At the last Art Commission meeting Commissioner Harwood requested an update on the Public Art Collection following the Winter Storm Uri. This coincides with updating the Collection Management Five-Year Plan. In April, public art staff will give the Commission an update on the Five-Year Plan which will include any impacts from the storm. Although *Earth Fountain* froze over, the equipment performed properly and there does not appear to be any damage except some delaminating of the plaque.
- c. Project Reports:
 - Summer Creek / Altamesa – Martha Peters
Commissioner Harwood suggested that Public Art staff look into the timeline for using older Legacy Funds from 2007 Critical Capital Needs and 2004 and 2008 Bond Funds. Public Art staff is working City Attorney Royce Hansen and the Bond Counsel to see if those funds can be swapped out for PayGo funds, extending the timeline for use of the funds. Staff will give an update at the next Art Commission meeting.
 - Hemphill Connector – Martha Peters
The artwork supports and brackets have been installed. Displays Fine Art Services will install the horns. A hybrid artwork dedication and ribbon cutting is planned for April 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. *[Note: This event has subsequently been postponed until May with date TBD.]*
 - Westcreek Drive – Anne Allen
The fabricators have completed the wood cladding of the bridge exterior, sanded, and applied the first coat of fire retardant. On the bridge interior the wood cladding is complete except for the transition from the side rails to the decking and the decking itself. Once this work is complete, they will have an estimated delivery date.
 - Rosedale Plaza Park – Alida Labbe
Legacy, by John Yancy is a mural constructed of broken tile that resembles quilts and depicts an interurban train. The Plaza will have community gems (inlaid ceramic plaques) which depict key landmarks in the area. The mosaics have been completed and the artists plans



installation in the next month before hot weather could impact the schedule.

- Rosemont Park – Michelle Richardson
Artist Virginia Fleck has created a Rosemont Park Public Art Facebook Page to elicit wider virtual community engagement. She expects to share a Preliminary Design in the coming months.
- Lake Como Park – Michelle Richardson
Richardson showed a two-minute video from RDG Dahlquist Art Studio providing an overview of the project design and fabrication to date, which is now available on the FWPA website. The etched steel panels have been fabrication and are currently being welded together.

d. Community Engagement Update – Michael Asbill

- Lake Como Park Public Art Project
FWPA is promoting the upcoming installation of the Lake Como Park public art project by posting updates and interviews of community members involved in the project to the FWPA website and social media accounts.

e. Announcements of Staff

- Pioneer Tower Event Update - Karen Wiley
Wiley announced that the Premier Pioneer Tower event is set for the evenings of August 20-21, 2021. The new dates were chosen to comply with the Texas Commission on the Arts Cultural District Grant period for the State fiscal year 2021, as well as the schedule of the Will Rogers Memorial Center. Aurora founders Shane Pennington and Joshua King will produce the event. The event will have a component that includes local new media artists.

Commissioner Tucker commented he is looking forward to supporting and celebrating this event.

IX. Announcements of Commissioners – None

X. Future Agenda Items – None

XI. Next Meeting - Chairman Tucker

- a. Monday, April 19, 2021, 5:00 p.m. via Webex (*see agenda for details*)

XII. Adjournment – Chairman Tucker adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.