

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF DENTON**  
**PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE**  
February 7, 2019

After determining that a quorum was present, the Public Art Committee of the City of Denton, Texas, convened on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 4:05 p.m. The meeting was held in the City Council WorkSession Room, 215 East McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, 76201.

**PRESENT:** John Weber, Ed Steele, Nic Bagherpour, Monet Franklin, Brian Wheeler, Terry Nobles, and Jodi Ismert

**EX-OFFICIO:** **PRESENT:** Georgina Ngozi

**ABSENT:** Michelle Lynn

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michelle Cunningham, Jim Jenks, Pritam Deshmukh, Christina Davis, and Michelle Coughlin

**1. PRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** - There were no presentations.

**2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**A. PAC19-011** **Consider approval of the minutes of the January 3, 2019, meeting.**

Bagherpour made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2019, meeting. Steele seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

**B. PAC19-007** **Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding changes to the Loop/IH-35 medallion project.**

Jim Jenks, Engineer with the City of Denton, gave a report regarding the bridge medallion project. Jenks presented four concepts for the PAC to review:

1. Wall Mount (A) - Approximate cost \$150,000 - \$200,000
2. Wall Mount (B) - Approximate cost \$125,000 - \$175,000
3. Berm Concept (Option C) - Approximate cost \$400,000 - \$500,000
4. Pedestal Concept (Option D) - Approximate cost \$600,000 - \$700,000

Katherin Utecht, engineer representing Kimley-Horn, was present at the meeting to answer questions. Kimley-Horn had previously been contracted by the former Director of Transportation, Mark Nelson. Kimley-Horn was contracted in order to work with TXDOT to provide the engineering aspects of the medallion structure; medallion weight calculations, size information, mounting, pattern, criteria, etc.

Jenks conveyed to the PAC that the TXDOT schematics utilized by Kimley-Horn indicate three of the four abutment walls at Loop 288 are curved at the intersection. Since the medallions must be anchored to flat surfaces, these corners would require locating medallions further away from the intersection where the curved abutment wall flattens and wall height is sufficient. Similarly, the same conditions exist at the IH35/Brinker Road intersection, necessitating the same considerations. Due to these changes, Jenks suggested the PAC may wish to amend its decision to

## Exhibit 1

install four medallions at Loop 288/IH-35. In light of this issue, City Engineer/Director of Capital Projects Todd Estes, recently met with TXDOT's area Engineer to discuss potential placement alternatives. Kimley-Horn then deployed their landscape architects to prepare the alternative renderings that were provided to the PAC in the PowerPoint presentation.

The PAC asked questions directed at Jenks and Utecht regarding the options that were presented. In the final analysis, the PAC chose to edit their selection of the wall medallions and chose the pedestal concept. Jenks asked the PAC members for staff direction regarding how many pedestals the PAC would want to have, where the pedestals would (roughly) be located, and any further input the PAC would like to convey.

Steele made a motion to select the pedestal option. Wheeler seconded the motion. There was a question by Weber regarding the placement and number of pedestals that were being voted for. Wheeler clarified the motion that was being made - at this point the PAC is only voting to move forward in the direction of the pedestal concept. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

### **C. PAC19-008**

#### **Receive a report, hold a discussion, and make a recommendation regarding an opportunity for public art at North Lakes Dog Park.**

Gary Packan, Director of Parks and Recreation, previously met with the PAC in September of 2018. At that time Packan presented the initial concept of the proposed new North Lakes Dog Park, and asked for the PAC's input regarding the project. Since that time there have been several meetings with other Council committees and the City Council. The project has now been approved by the City Council and plans are moving forward to begin construction.

Glen McLain, Landscape Architect for the Parks and Recreation department, was also present at the meeting to answer questions. McLain was instrumental in designing plans for the dog park. Options for placement of the Public Art on the grounds was discussed as well as the type of art and funding.

There was also discussion regarding how many Denton hotels are pet friendly. PAC members who own beloved pets and take their pets along with them when they travel, agreed this information was important because they themselves plan their travel around which hotels are pet friendly. Cunningham said she would research this information and get back to the PAC. Steele also suggested the addition of an emergency call box as part of the design plans or the dog park.

There was discussion about the coverage area of the art and whether the PAC would like to have art that utilized a pedestal or art that is mounted to the ground/concrete.

Bagherpour made a motion to approve a \$35,000 total budget for the Public Art project at the new North Lakes Dog Park. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Ismert made a motion to dedicate \$20,000 of the PAC budget from bonds and \$15,000 from HOT funds. Bagherpour seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Steele made a motion for a pad 15ft in diameter and load bearing of 1500lbs. Ismert seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

**D. PAC-19-009**

**Receive a report, hold a discussion, and determine an artist(s) for the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center Project.**

Steele presented information regarding the top five selections from round one and round two. There was discussion regarding each artist's qualifications and the presentation included photos of their work. While two of the three PAC artist selection subcommittee members had selected Wiener as their first choice, there was a tie in the sub-committee round two, which averaged scores for the work of Wiener and Hopen. The full PAC agreed on its preference for public art pieces that are conducive to public interaction and may provide both a visual and a sensory, hands-on experience. Interactive pieces were thought to encourage photographs of individuals alongside the art that would be shared on social media; a form of Denton "place-making". Among the top scoring artists, Ms. Wiener's body of public art works are installed at over 50 sites in the United States/internationally, and her art work is largely interactive. The PAC chose to vote by a show of hands vote in order to break the tie.

Nobles left the meeting prior to the show of hands vote.

Due to her demonstrated expertise in this type of public art, artist Wiener won the tie breaker by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Wheeler made a motion to approve Madeline Wiener as the selected artist for the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center public art project. If Madeline Wiener is not available to create the piece, the PAC agreed to start at the top and go down the top five list until an artist is selected and commissioned. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

**E. PAC19-010**

**Staff Reports:**

**1. Update on the Pops Carter stained glass sculpture repair project and Reception.**

Ngozi and Cunningham visited Christie Wood's studio, Art Glass Ensembles, to see the "Pops" Carter stained glass sculpture in its repaired state. They both mentioned how beautifully it has been repaired/restored. Ngozi spoke about the re-dedication event that will take place on February 28, 2019, from 6:00-8:00p.m. at the Patterson-Appleton Arts Center.

**2. Update on the two-year prequalified artist request for qualifications**

Cunningham is working to identify and schedule opportunities to inform Denton-area artists about the City's intent to develop the 2-year qualified list for projects of less than \$50,000. Once that call for artists is posted on CaFÉ, it will remain on the site for four weeks.

### **3. Update on utility box wraps**

Cunningham mentioned that staff from DME will be at the March meeting to discuss the utility box pilot program. Cunningham will provide photo examples of wrapped utility boxes.

### **4. Update on a Lake Forest Good Samaritan potential mural request.**

Cunningham received a message from a resident of the Lake Forest Good Samaritan Village on behalf of all the residents regarding a drainage culvert that is along the back side of their community. The culvert is City owned and is used as a parks maintenance entrance. The residents are currently working with Keep Denton Beautiful on a community garden beatification project. KDB is checking into whether the mural could be funded through KDB's mural grant funding. If they are not eligible to receive KDB grant funding, they may choose to make a funding request to the PAC. Whichever direction the residents choose to take, Cunningham mentioned the possibility of a mural that would need to be reviewed by the PAC.

Wheeler asked about whether the Good Samaritan Village residents would be open to grant matching funds? Cunningham mentioned any funds the PAC uses would need to be HOT funds, or funds that have already been allocated for projects. Cunningham to check on whether or not it would be permissible to use funds for this purpose – and will get back to the PAC at next months' meeting. Wheeler advocated the project or projects like this in order to promote public/private partnership.

### **3. CONCLUDING ITEMS**

March meeting agenda - Select a sub-committee to evaluate artists from CaFÈ.

**The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.**