

MINUTES
CITY OF DENTON
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
April 4, 2019

After determining that a quorum was present, the Public Art Committee of the City of Denton, Texas, convened on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at 4:06 p.m. The meeting was held in the City Council Work Session Room, 215 East McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, 76201.

PRESENT: Michelle Lynn, Monet Franklin, Brian Wheeler, Jodi Ismert, Nic Bagherpour, and Ed Steele

EX-OFFICIO: **ABSENT:** Georgina Ngozi

ABSENT: Terry Nobles

STAFF PRESENT: Scott McDonald, Gary Packan, Michelle Cunningham, Ron Menguita, and Michelle Coughlin

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

2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. PAC19-021 **Consider approval of the minutes of the February 7, 2019, meeting.**

Lynn made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2019 meeting.
Steele seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

B. PAC19-014 **Receive an update, hold a discussion and give staff direction regarding the I-35 Medallion project and the large gateway signage proposed for the City.**

Scott McDonald and Ron Menguita gave an update regarding the I-35 Medallion project and the large gateway signage proposed for the City. Menguita spoke about creating consistency in the signage to try and create a “sense of place.” Ismert asked if the cost associated with the signage would now be funded as part of another project. Menguita said the cost would be funded from the Public Art Committee’s HOT Funds and City funds. McDonald talked about partnering and offering art in different ways in different places, and that he was here to “offer what we can do.”

Steele and Lynn said that art and design are different. Lynn asked why the Public Art Committee was looking at wayfinding signs. McDonald said we are not here to replace or alter public art, regarding funds, we are providing a larger canvas/another option. Steele said he agreed that signage is needed. Lynn said in order to get PAC member’s input, do we need a sub-committee? Wheeler, Fort Worth has a program whereby they give the money to the artist. They place art on existing pieces.

Bagherpour would like the artist to design the works of art. Ismert said if we were to add art to what you are doing, she would be okay with that. McDonald said we are here to provide options. The signs that you see in the presentation today are only renderings, if the Public Art Committee has ideas, we are open to that. Bagherpour requested that it be made clear to the City Council during the same presentation to them, that the signs they see in the presentation are only renderings.

Menguita said, we are not artists, what you see here today are renderings of designs that have been designed to be consistent with variety and have similarities in concept. McDonald said, we do not have to be rigid, we only need to have a common theme.

Bagherpour said he would like to see two phases -design and art as separate concepts.

McDonald mentioned having a theme, he said he and Menguita would be glad to comeback after the PAC has had a work session. Menguita said they were open to ideas.

C. PAC19-016

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and make a recommendation regarding a public art opportunity at the new Roland Vela Soccer Complex.

Packan gave a report for a public art opportunity at the new Roland Vela Soccer Complex. Packan presented, as part of his presentation, four color renderings with actual photos of the locations which were taken at the soccer complex -as possible locations for placement of public art for the PAC to consider:

1. The turn-around island
2. Entry (outside) between buildings
3. Entry (inside) between buildings
4. North of playground

Within the discussion regarding the art work placement, Packan suggested the PAC consider the sun's position and how it would affect photo opportunities throughout the year. Packan suggested that based on being on the soccer grounds, option 2 or 3.

Packan also spoke about the art specifications and requested the PAC's input regarding:

- Would the PAC like to have the base installed during construction?
- 32" high?
- Surface mounted
- Square, circle or octagon shaped?
- Weight 1500 lbs.?

There was discussion about the various placement options. Wheeler said that either direction the PAC decides to go that it is important that the connection to Dr. Vela is made. From there, there was discussion about Muzquiz the Friendship City.

Packan asked for a ballpark estimate as to what the PAC would like to spend regarding the height of the structure in relation to the base. There was discussion regarding an approximate cost estimate of \$3500-\$4000.

Steele made a suggestion for the PAC to take a field trip to the new soccer grounds in order for the PAC to do their due diligence and consideration to what type of artwork would work well for the selected location.

Ismert made a motion for placement option # 3, with an estimated cost of \$3500-\$4000 for the surface mounted base (10ftx10ft), with placement at the entry inside the complex, between - buildings - for the protection of the artwork investment by the City and the PAC – due to concern and consideration of the costly lesson learned with regard to the "Pops" Carter sculpture damage-

that occurred. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

D. PAC19-018

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and make a recommendation regarding the 2019-2020 program year application for Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds for Public Art.

Cunningham gave a report about the 2019-2020 HOT Funds application for Public Art. Cunningham conveyed the application for funds will be the same as the 2018-2019 application, with the exception of an additional \$5,000.00 for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Cultural Districts Program promotion expenses. Also, the PAC discussed using a portion of the funds for a historic piece celebrating Denton.

Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 program year application for Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds for Public Art. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

E. PAC19-020

Staff Reports:

1. Update on the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center artist project schedule.

Cunningham reached out to Artist Wiener regarding the selection of the theme “Bench People” at the time Cunningham spoke with Wiener, Ms. Wiener mentioned that part of her artwork includes citizen participation – Weiner gives polishing clothes for the public to have an interactive experience with the artwork, for each person who would like to – to polish the sculpture. Cunningham mentioned that the estimated timeframe for the art to be ready, per Wiener, is January 2020.

2. Update on the Tom “Pops” Carter Rededication Reception.

Cunningham talked about the well-attended re-dedication reception, and thanked everyone for their help to make the event a success. With special thanks to Georgina Ngozi for her efforts.

3. Update on Keep Denton Beautiful and Public Art Committee mural collaboration.

The PAC gave consideration to collaboration with Keep Denton Beautiful, and determined that if there were to be a collaboration whereby PAC funds would be expended for a collaborative project, Keep Denton Beautiful would need to concede control of the project to the PAC.

4. Update on the Dog Park project-related inquiry.

Cunningham gave update that in Denton there are 1000 pet-friendly hotel rooms.

5. Update on the Denton Cultural Arts District.

Cunningham conveyed that on April 17, 2019 there is an event scheduled at GDAC

3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

A. The PAC determined they would like to select a sub-committee to review the next round of artists at the next PAC meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.