

MINUTES
CITY OF DENTON
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
June 6, 2019

After determining that a quorum was present, the Public Art Committee of the City of Denton, Texas, convened in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2019, at 4:03 p.m. The meeting was held in the City Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, TX.

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

ABSENT: N/a

EX-OFFICIO: Present: Georgina Ngozi

STAFF PRESENT: Jessica Rogers, Michelle Cunningham, Ron Menguita, and Michelle Coughlin

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

2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. PAC19-037 Consider approval of the Public Art Committee meeting minutes of May 2, 2019.

Nobles made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the May 2, 2019 Public Art Committee Meeting (PAC). Lynn seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

B. PAC19-031 Receive an update, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the I-35E and Brinker Road Medallion Project.

Cunningham gave an update regarding the I-35E and Brinker Road Medallion Project and said the Public Art Committee had looked at four different concepts. Of the four concepts, the PAC instructed Kimley-Horn to take a look at the design that would involve a separate art project which would be pedestal style. The PAC determined the locations they were interested in for the Public Art; the corners that are adjacent to Golden Triangle Mall, and on the opposite side, the south-east corner of the I-35 intersection. At the request of the PAC, Kimley-Horn gave estimates for the project.

In the interim, Cunningham said, the Planning department approached the Public Art Committee about possibly co-locating wayfinding signage and public art. Scott McDonald and Ron Menguita gave a presentation to the PAC at their April 4, 2019 meeting regarding their idea of co-locating. Menguita conveyed the idea behind this consideration regards the needs that each of the sites either for wayfinding or public art would require site engineering improvements, concrete, landscaping, electric, and lighting. With each of these requirements being met by the wayfinding sign age budget, this would leave funding for procuring or commissioning public art pieces, and more money for the artist.

Cunningham said the PAC has \$274,000 to spend on art pieces at the Loop 288 location and I-35. If the projects are able to obtain Green Ribbon Grant funding the PAC would have approximately \$132,500 to \$155,000 to spend on each piece. Without the Green Ribbon Grant funding Cunningham said, each piece would cost approximately \$150,000 to \$175,000.

Cunningham then asked if the PAC would like to wait until the July City Council meeting to learn whether the City Council will approve the large gateway signage in order for the PAC to decide to co-locate or go back to Kimley-Horn regarding the medallion concept at I-35 and Loop 288.

Steele said that he is in favor of co-locating, but not if it means putting art on the pylon wayfinding signs, because that is not art, the PAC agreed with Steele's opinion and they had expressed the same at the April 4, 2019 PAC meeting. Menguita confirmed that what was shown in the last meeting, the pylon concept is what City Council has already approved.

Rogers clarified the balance of \$274,000 must be utilized for a transportation project(s), as stipulated by the HOT funds grant for Public Art.

Menguita said that three City corridors have been identified by the Planning department in order to place the wayfinding signage; at Highway 380 West, Highway 377 South, and Dallas Drive.

Lynn said there is a lot of room for creativity and there is a way to work this out.

Nobles said that Denton is a vibrant artistic community and he would like to see the character of the city reflected in whichever design is chosen.

Ultimately the PAC had the collective opinion that no one wants to incorporate any PAC funds toward the pylon signs, they felt that the signage being proposed to the City Council is not reflective of art.

Rogers recommended that she and Menguita have a more in depth conversation about the preliminary sites and ideas as to how Public Art can be incorporated into the transportation projects at the City corridors. Rogers said staff will come back to the PAC at the July with more information at the July 11, 2019 meeting, with the goal of getting clear recommendation to convey to the City Council at their July 23, 2019 meeting.

The PAC chose to table the topic until their July 11, 2019 meeting.

C. PAC19-032

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the traffic box wrap pilot Project sites and program options.

Cunningham gave a report and said the PAC has \$5,000 to use toward the utility box wrap program and said that she has been in contact with companies that do utility box wrapping. Cunningham asked the PAC if they would like to have an art contest whereby local artist could design a wrap for the utility boxes or if the PAC would like to consider using the artwork from the "black box" citizen art project in order to create the wraps. Cunningham said that based on her conversations with companies that work on wrapping electrical boxes, the cost would be approximately \$2,500 per box.

Lynn suggested that in the future the PAC work toward efforts to place Public Art in other areas outside of the Downtown Square. Wheeler agreed.

Bagherpour made a motion to recommend two locations for the traffic box wrap pilot project: at the corner of Locust and Oak and the other at McKinney Street and Oakland. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

D. PAC19-033

Staff Reports:

1. Update on the Cultural Arts District.

Rogers said staff will bring back to the PAC Bring plans for the Cultural District in July or August. Rogers also mentioned hosting another community art project.

2. Update on proposed 2019 Bond Program

Cunningham said the Citizen Committee will meet on Thursday June 20, 2019 at the Police Public Safety Training Center from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. to discuss bond funds as pertaining to Public Art. Cunningham to send the reminder notice to the PAC members.

3. Update on July 11, 2019 Public Art Committee meeting.

On July 11, 2019 staff will present the last section of the Public Art Policy to the PAC.

3. CONCLUDING ITEMS –

The committee thanked Brian Wheeler for his service and contributions to the Public Art Committee, as he cannot attend The July meeting, this is his last PAC meeting as Chairman of the Public Art Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.