



**RENO ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION'S
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES**

DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 2017
TIME: 11:00 AM
PLACE: MCKINLEY ARTS & CULTURE CENTER
925 RIVERSIDE DR.
RENO, NV 89501

MEMBERS

Vacant, Chair
Nettie Oliverio
Robyn Powers
Carola Nan Roach
Barbara Santner
Maria Partridge
Eric Brooks
Matthew McIver
Tamara Scronce
Mahsan Ghazianzad
Ahren Hertel

- 1. Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 11:02 am by Nettie Oliverio.
Roll Call – Present: Nettie Oliverio, Eric Brooks, Ahren Hertel, Mahsan Ghazianzad, Robyn Powers, Matthew McIver, Barbara Santner (11:27 am) and Tamara Scronce (11:03 am). **Absent:** Maria Partridge and Carola Nan Roach. Also present: Megan Berner, Public Art Coordinator and Sharon Honig-Bear Chair of the Reno Arts & Culture Commission.
- 2. Public Comment** – None
- 3. Approve minutes for the July 17th, 2017 Public Art Committee meeting** – Robyn Powers moved to approve the July 17th, 2017 Public Art Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor, 8 approve, 2 absent. Motion carried.
- 4. Discussion and possible approval of a call for artists for the public art mural on the vents for the proposed dog park on ReTRAC West, not to exceed \$1,500**
Megan Berner passed out the call for artists for the public art mural on the vents for the proposed dog park and gave background to the project: stating that funding is coming from the 2% CIP and that the concrete area is the part of the vents that is to be painted. Robyn Powers made the comment that this call is similar to the signal box call for artists and would like to see a statement in the call that states that the design should wrap around all four sides of the concrete part of the vent. Robyn Powers also asked if this is still supposed to be a donor wall. Megan Berner responded that this is more specific than the usual signal box call for artists and the original dog park proposal wanted dog portraits painted as donations. Tamara Scronce reminded the committee that there has been a considerable amount of time spent on this project and there might be a few simple language changes in the call such as changing “dog” to “pet” to be inclusive of a variety of pets. Tamara Scronce moved to approve the call for artists for the proposed dog park mural not to exceed \$1,500 with the proposed changes, seconded by Ahren Hertel. All in favor, motion approved.
- 5. Discussion and possible approval of 2017/18 Signal Box Proposal and Call for Artists for the 2017/18 Signal Box Program**
Megan Berner provided the draft 2017/18 Signal Box Proposal and Call for Artists, she also displayed the locations for the committee to see. Each signal box will be budgeted at \$500. Tamara Scronce commented that some of the boxes provided are smaller than others and size should be reflected in the budget for those smaller boxes. Megan Berner said she would separate the sizes and provide exact measurements. Tamara Scronce suggested \$300 for the smaller boxes. Doug from the RTC cautioned against commissioning any of the Virginia St. signal boxes between Plumb & Liberty which could potentially be moved in the upcoming Virginia Street Project. There was a general discussion about specifying the type of paint that the artists are allowed to use, and it was decided that it will list the acceptable types and brands of acceptable paint.
- 6. Discussion and possible approval of a Call for Artists to paint a signal box in front of the RSCVA offices at 4001 S. Virginia St.**

The RSCVA will be funding a signal box in front of their offices at 4001 S. Virginia St. specifically depicting scenes of destination highlights in and around the City of Reno. Robyn Powers asked if they will be funding supplies. Megan Berner stated that the RSCVA will be mimicking the general signal box call for artists and will be awarding \$500 to the chosen artist to cover materials and artist fees. Eric Brooks moved to approve the RSCVA Signal Box Call for Artists, seconded by Robyn Powers. All in favor, motion approved.

7. **Discussion and possible approval of a signal box proposal from Carola Nan Roach, corner of California and Arlington Avenues – Item Tabled.**

8. **Discussion and possible approval of repair work to be done on Reno Star including sandblasting and repainting, not to exceed \$16,624**

Megan Berner sent the committee two proposals from Peabody Fleet Painting Inc. one of which is more expensive but will be longer lasting. Public Works will be removing the spines and helping to transport and sandblast the piece. There was a general discussion about extending the skirt of the piece because someone was living underneath the sculpture. Barbara Santner recommended adding boulders, native landscaping, or a concrete curb to fill in the skirt rather than add on to the base. Tamara Scronce agreed with Barbara Santner and advised against adding to the metal base because there is no way to extend the skirt without leaving obvious scarring. Tamara Scronce also asked that a representative be present at the transportation of the piece to remind Public Works that this is an irreplaceable art piece. Eric Brooks asked if the piece is staying red. Megan Berner stated that it will be painted white because it's a longer lasting color. Robyn Powers made a motion to approve the \$16,624 repair costs, seconded by Matthew McIver. All in favor, motion approved.

9. **Discussion and possible approval of a public art process for the Midtown Virginia Street RAPID Extension project**

Megan Berner distributed the Midtown Virginia Street RAPID Extension project timeline to the committee. The timeline lists community outreach and an initial public meeting to gather ideas for a public art component of the Virginia Street RAPID Extension Project in October in an effort to revise the process in which public art is placed in the local communities. Megan Berner thought it would be better to get initial community feedback before creating a call for artists to make sure that the community interests are being represented. Representatives from the Neighborhood Advisory Board and City Staff will be included in the selection panel for the top three artists. Barbara Santner asked what opportunities are available for placing public art. Doug from RTC suggested a roundabout at Mary St. and seat wall opportunities. Tamara Scronce stated that the site specifications have to be defined before creating a call for artists, and the chosen artwork has to be site specific. The Midtown renovations will be from Plumb to Liberty and the UNR renovations will be from 8th Street to in front of Lawlor Events Center. Robyn Powers asked how much money is in the budget for a public art piece. Doug from RTC stated that there isn't funding set aside for a public art piece but there is \$30,000 allocated for seating and possibly integrating footings and form liners for future public art pieces. There was a general maintenance conversation as to who will be maintaining the benches if that is the public art component the committee chooses to move forward with. Eric Brooks moved to approve the timeline – switching November and December, with the caveat that details about site specifications, materials, artist stipend, etc. are determined before the RFQ, seconded by Tamara Scronce. All in favor, motion approved.

10. **Discussion and possible approval on the City's Blight Fund public art projects in progress – UNR MEDLIFE artist renderings and Fire Station 2 project proposal**

Megan Berner passed out the artist renderings for the MEDLIFE mural which will be painted on the Neil Road Community Center at 3925 Neil Road. Amy from MEDLIFE gave background to the MEDLIFE organization and how they reach out to foreign and domestic low income communities teaching basic first aid, hygiene, and overall wellness. In an effort to reach out to the local community

the UNR MEDLIFE Chapter has partnered with artist Asa Kennedy to paint a mural that encompasses themes of community, health, and wellness using a tree with shaking hands underneath to represent these ideas. Megan Berner described the time sensitive nature of this project because it is part of a pilot program to secure blight funding for future art projects. Robyn Powers asked what the total line budget will be. Asa Kennedy stated that the budget is projected to be \$4500 with a 2-week scissor lift rental at \$650. Sharon Honig-Bear has concerns about the blight fund being used so far away from the downtown area. There was a general discussion about reflecting the diversity of the neighborhood in the mural design. Asa Kennedy explained that the colors in the mural won't be skin tone colors but rather subjective colors that reflect feelings and emotions. Eric Brooks moved to approve the MEDLIFE artist renderings pending the designation of the blight fund areas and confirmation of blight fund constrictions, seconded by Tamara Scronce. All in favor, motion approved. Megan Berner gave an update on the Fire Station 2 project proposal: Paige Gomez is going to be the artist designing the mural in addition to 4 Hug High School students, the total budget is \$3500. Jeff Voskamp from the Reno Fire Dept. is leading the project.

11. Update on Virginia Lake Public Art Project, the Space Whale, the Playa Art Park and Bicentennial Park Sculpture Garden

Megan Berner gave an overview of the updates on Virginia Lake Public Art Project, the Space Whale, the Playa Art Park and Bicentennial Park Sculpture Garden. Virginia Lake Public Art Project is on track to be completed in early October, Alexis Hill and Megan Berner will be visiting Art Tech to touch base with Peter Hazel to confirm this date. During Reno Art Fest a piece of the Space Whale fell off but the artist fixed the lighting and checked all the pieces after he returned from Burning Man. The Playa Art Park has new work and Megan Berner projected the pieces for the committee to see. There are no new updates on Bicentennial Park Sculpture Garden at this time.

12. Announcements not anticipated at the notice date (Item for general announcements and information only. No deliberation or action will be taken on this item)

Eric Brooks thanked the committee for the \$5000 towards the Mural Expo and reminded the committee of the details of the event which will take place the weekend of October 13th.

13. Set date, time and agenda for the next meeting – Monday October 16th, 2017 at 11:00 am.

14. Public Comment – None

15. Adjournment – Eric Brooks moved to adjourn, seconded by Robyn Powers. Meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm.