



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

**DATE:** MONDAY March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
**TIME:** 11:00 AM  
**PLACE:** MCKINLEY ARTS & CULTURE CENTER

### MEMBERS

Nettie Oliverio  
Mahsan Ghazianzad  
Matthew McIver  
Tamara Scronce  
Robyn Powers  
Carola Nan Roach  
Barbara Santner  
Maria Partridge

- Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 11:08 am by Nettie Oliverio.  
**Roll Call** – Present: Nettie Oliverio, Eric Brooks, Ahren Hertel, Carola Nan Roach, Tamara Scronce, Barbara Santer. **Absent:** Robyn Powers, Mahsan Ghazianzad, Matthew McIver, Maria Partridge. Also present: Megan Berner, Public Art Coordinator. Reno South Rotary Club, Debe Fennell and Marlene Olson. Megan Jewett, Public Art Technician. Sharon Honig-Bear, Arts & Culture Commission Chair.
- Public Comment** – Hailey Kovac, introduced herself as a UNR graduate who believes a conservation effort should be made for the arts and wishes to be a part of art culture in Reno. The second, Hawley Harrigan, introduced herself as a local who wishes to be a part of Reno art, and contributing to making Reno beautiful. Sharon Honig-Bear: wants to sit in to have an idea of what's going on, encourages interest in current event; the demolition of Reno's mid-modern motels, proposal to save one city block for a 3 motel remodel for an art space.
- Approval of the Meeting Minutes** – February 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 Public Art Committee Meeting – Nettie Oliverio moved to approve the March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Public Art Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Carol Nan Roach. All in favor, 3 approve, 3 abstain, 4 absent. Motion carried.
- Approval of Agenda** – March 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 (For Possible Action)

Nettie Oliverio – Motion to approve. Carola Nan Roach, Eric Brooks – Move to approve. All in favor, motion approved.
- Discussion and possible approval for a Call for Artists for Bicentennial Park installations for 2018 – 2020 (For Possible Action.)** – Megan Berner gives some background; working with Rotary Club to get new sculptures, was delayed, has okay to go forward with Call for Artists with Rotary. Tamara Sconce asks about time frame. Megan Berner replies 2 years. Marlene Olson from the Rotary has some concerns with timing/budget. Last Call for Art was successful, but wants to rethink for a long term plan. Megan Berner brings up budget concerns, suggesting to bring total up to \$2,000 for each artist and taking a case by case basis for each artist. Barbara Santner asks about install/deinstall, how much assistance should be clarified for the artist vs what the artist is expected to do. Megan Berner replied we (the City) should

partially help, but will need some time to figure out an exact cost. Rotary club will change out plaques/will come up at a later date with a budget. Nettie Oliverio asks if the Rotary club feels all right about the current setup. Debe Fennell answers yes, but we will need to figure out future plans/are we buying pieces in the future/wishes to apply for an event during Artown during last week of July coinciding with new sculpture- a 'meet the artist' idea, asks for suggestions for better success.

Carola Nan Roach suggests doing a single day, instead of over a period of weeks. Also suggests to bring in plein air painters to paint the sculptures. Tamara Scronce suggests signs and an art stroll that will go park to park.

Sharon Honig-Bear questions selection committee will include members from the Rotary. Yes. Tamara Scronce suggests under project description clarify that it will be a 2-year period, clarify project conditions (weather) feels it is unclear. Megan Berner agrees to rewrite. Tamara Scronce motioned to approve changes, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor, motion approved (will include \$500 increase on next agenda)

**6. Discussion and update on term limits and status of current PAC member (For Possible Action)**

– Megan Berner explains term limits and enforcing them. New system, Robyn Powers resignation will open up a new position. Tamara Scronce says term limits them to 3 years, may serve 2 terms for a total of 6 years. Is there a written policy?

Megan Berner replies yes there is an attendance policy that states each member may miss up to 3 regular meeting and then will be asked to leave. Eric Brooks asks if this is the calendar years. Megan Berner replies it is the fiscal year. Carola Nan Roach asks for Megan to email a copy. Tamara Scronce feels abiding by policy is important, but asks that Megan gives some warning so everyone is aware. Megan Berner suggests the beginning of this year. Sharon Honig-Bear talks about accountability and commitment. Tamara Scronce says their presence is needed. Megan Berner offers to bring attendance for entire fiscal year but suggests alternative of bring attendance starting from January 2018. Eric Brooks wants to see attendance from fiscal year. Asks Sharon is RACC going to start enforcing 3 strikes. Sharon Honig-Bear replies I hope not and says it's just a maybe, case by case scenario. Wishes for people to understand what priorities they have but hopes for self-policing so a committee doesn't have to enforce 3 strikes. Tamara Scronce also brings up that in the last fiscal year there were at least 3 separate times when a meeting fell on a holiday, or a date was shifted, suggesting some leeway.

Megan Berner reads Robyn Powers resignation letter. Tamara Scronce suggests giving something back to Robyn, a plaque for her service. Eric Brooks suggests a plaque located in a park. Talk of recognition at Council.

**7. Financial Report and Budget Update (For Possible Actions)**

i. Review and Possible acceptance of the FY2017/18 Public Art Budget (for Possible Action). - Nettie Oliverio remarks that is similar to last month. Megan Berner says she removed Reno Star repairs from encumbered to spent column, as the modifications have been done to the base. Carola Nan Roach says public comment hated red but liked the color white but 'what are we going to do about the floating base'.

Sharon Honig-Bear asks when the light chimes come down. Megan Berner replies in April. Nettie Oliverio moves motion to accept budget. Eric Brooks motioned to accept. Carola Nan Roach also accepts. All in favor. No objections.

8. **Review and Possible Recommendation of artist to paint original art on signal box for the 2018 program, from the list of the following applicants, in alphabetical order (For Possible Action):** Ryan Harris – Megan Berner is bringing it up again because of some confusion as he did have a complete proposal but was a mix up with the format. Tamara Scronce mentions she enjoyed his work very much but felt frustrated by lack of professionalism in young artists/incomplete entries that end up disqualifying them. Megan Berner suggests a workshop for future artists. Tamara Scronce suggests a mandatory educational workshop in the future. Carola Nan Roach wishes to give Ryan Harris a chance because of the confusion that led to him not being chosen. Megan Berner displays Ryan Harris’ design proposal for signal box. He prefers the signal box at California and Arlington as he grew up around the area. Megan Berner says unfortunately the box has already been assigned. Tamara Scronce suggests an alternative box. Nettie Oliverio suggests a signal box located near the Tribal Hospital. Tamara Scronce is against this idea as such an idea could get tricky. Eric Brooks suggests a commission. Megan Berner brings up the suggestion of Pickett Park. Tamara Scronce motion to approve to find appropriate location for Ryan Harris. Carola Nan Roach approves. Eric Brooks seconds this approval. All in favor, motion carries. No opposition. No abstention.

9. **Discussion and possible approval of repairs to David Boyer’s kinetic banners not to exceed \$20,000 (For Possible Approval).** – Megan Berner brings up locations, damages and testing the estimate to repair banners. Tamara Scronce has concerns about the First Street Banners obscured by tree foliage. Megan Berner suggests taking down and re-using damaged banners that may help towards the cost. Megan Jewett suggests the problem areas for the banners are not the park banners but the banners that are on delivery routes on narrow streets and in front of bars. Megan Jewett suggests West Street, Sierra Street and along First Street banners should be taken down as they have the most damage. Sharon Honig-Bear asks exactly what the \$20,000 will include. Megan says the estimate may be under that amount but that will include everything – materials, replacing damaged, fixing damaged banners. Carola Nan Roach asks what decision the council is asked to make, whether to decommission them, repair some, scrub all of them. Tamara Scronce brings up the fact that some of them are from the Arts District, and asks if we have a formal destination for the Arts District. Megan Berner says a few years ago the art commission decided to change their focus. Tamara Scronce says the Arts District Committee went on hiatus and that the merchants in the downtown Reno area have taken over events/wine walks/downtown arts. Megan Berner says they have reached out to the downtown merchants concerning the Kinetic Banners and are scheduled to attend a river walk meeting/see if they are willing to be involved/help financially. Megan Jewett mentions the original installation date of the Banners was around 2002 or 2004. Nettie Oliverio brings up the point that the City of Reno is poised on the edge of the Business Improvement District in the downtown area, which overlays what was the river walk merchants district. Brings up the point that the location of the banners is in pretty much exactly the location of the B.I.D. Wonders if there is a way to do double-duty, continuation of a downtown arts district, an evolution of

the banner in that they don't come down but change into something else. Megan Berner also brings up the additional problem of the brackets within the metal poles/the banners take specific hardware. Tamara Scronce mentions the Public Art Technicians take point on this as the art techs on the ones with the most experience and would know best what is viable and what isn't.

Eric Brooks mentions that the kinetic banners are one of the best art pieces in town; everyone agrees it is important to preserve them. Tamara Scronce recommends walking tours to get a better idea. Nettie Oliverio asks if there is anything further to discuss on this issue. Committee gives direction for staff to work with Public Art Tech's and come back with a recommendation.

10. **Discussion and possible approval of repairs to Creatures of Nevada on the Riverwalk to be done by Alan Osborne/Art Foundry Inc. not to exceed \$75,750 (For Possible Approval).** – Barbara Santer reminds us that they have been stolen. Megan Berner explains she has spoken to Alan Osborne/how the pieces were originally attached, all bronze (part of expense) has original cast/ can replace them. Most of the work has been completely stolen or has been damaged. Wants to take all 12 panels off/reinforce them in a way that cannot be stolen/easily damaged. Carola Nan Roach asks if the cost includes everything/repair/replacement/12 pieces? Megan Berner replies yes. Tamara Scronce mentions that this is a big undertaking/is a great deal of money/will take a huge chunk out of the budget. Megan Berner mentions there is no easy solution, that the design was integrated into the actual architecture of the downtown area so not replacing them/fixing them isn't really an option. Sharon Honig-Bear has two questions, the first being where the funding came from originally. Megan Berner replies she doesn't know exactly but has the original plans for the structure, but also hasn't come across any files for the art side of it, how much, where it came from, none of it. Nettie Oliverio suggests John Hester might have some information. Sharon Honig-Bear has a second question which is, is it our responsibility? What other alternatives do we have, given the cost? Suggests an alternative metal, as bronze just keeps getting stolen and is expensive. Megan Berner will research further and will continue her conversation with the foundation as the original artist has passed since he made the sculptures. Carola Nan Roach asks are we to be the caretakers of projects like this. Tamara Scronce says the position is evolving, and we have started to set aside money for maintenance but to also be aware of the cost when we commission. Wants to look at alternatives such as moving the intact pieces to indoor locations, etc. Eric Brooks recommends we wait before we discuss it further, until we can find more information. Megan Berner agrees but wants the committee to assess options. Tamara Scronce suggests looking into what a decommission would look like. Megan Berner brings up what would entail that action; do we let the sculpture stay and go further into disrepair, do we remove it, what would that cost, what do you do with the panels? Further research is required. Megan Berner suggests that should they be removed to an indoor location that they would need to be cleaned before doing so.

11. **Discussion and possible approval of a policy for Public Art Community Proposals and funding requests (For Possible Approval).** – Megan Berner would like

feedback, need a new process as there has been a lot of interest generated from people requesting funding. Need a written policy, a guide so everyone has an equal chance/process. Ahren Hertel asks is there way for when people submit that we have a template. Megan Berner brings up different approaches we have tried in the past, including Cafe which is costly. The signal box call has a template.

Tamara Scronce asks how often we are solicited vs people responding to a call. Megan Berner replies that it varies – sometimes multiple solicits at a time, requests for funding as a part of this process, Grad students, even random emails.

Tamara Scronce asks who do we allow into this process and that we clarify that everyone is subjected to this process.

Sharon Honig-Bear suggests that funding and permission to place on artistic right-away is clarified within the process, with no funding attached if there was such a case (IE a donated piece).

Nettie Oliverio gives an example of the eagle sculpture at Sommerset, there was no funding as the artist just wanted a place to stick his sculpture. Megan Berner recommends transparency of process, treating every applicant equally. Tamara Scronce asks that Megan Berner go ahead and look over it/redraft the policy and bring it back for possible approval at the next meeting.

## **12. Discussion and possible approval of an agreement to program and maintain the art exhibition spaces and pedestals at Canyon Flats student housing project in Downtown Reno (For Possible Action) –**

Megan Berner gives background of student housing project using the 1% of public amenities to create public art, video wall, approved sculpture wall/sculpture rotation. Wishes to know if commission is on board with project. Barbara Santer asks who will curate. Megan Berner replies it will be us. Carols Nan Roach asks about rotation for the art. Megan Berner answers that it will be 3 years. Tamara Scronce is concerned that it will take very specific artwork to fill the pedestals. Megan Berner says that they will be permanently owned pieces, and it will only be every 3 years. Carola Nan Roach asks whether the art will be inside or outside. Megan Berner replies that they will be outside. Megan Berner brings up the point that the video digital art will be on a different schedule than the sculpture. Digital art will be replaced quarterly, the sculpture will be replaced every 3 years. Sharon Honig-Bear likes the concept but wishes to do less than eight sculpture pieces. Carol Nan Roach brings up the concern of maintaining eight sculptures and asks about lighting, electrical capabilities, interior lighting, vandalism, cost etc. To be researched. Everyone agrees to go forward with project with caveat of further discussion/research above problems.

## **13. Update on Virginia Lake Public Art Project, the Playa Art Park, Reno Star, Midtown Public Art Process, and Valley Wood Bench. –**

Virginia lake had a dedication on Feb. 15, well attended, well received. No negative feedback. Nettie Olivier mentions it made the front page of RGJ. No Playa Park updates, except one piece has been moved to the Smithsonian. Reno Star base is done. Mid-Town Art process: NEA grant submitted in the amount of \$100,000. Will know outcome in November. Another grant submitted to do a workshop with RTC and the community sometime in the summer.

**14. Announcements not anticipated at the notice date (Item for general announcements and information only. No deliberation or action will be taken on this item).** – Flyers for the Flag for Reno contest. A lot of interest in the invent.

**15. Set date, time and agenda for the next meeting (For Possible Action).**  
April 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 11:00am

**16. Public Comment** – Hailey Kovac wishes to thank the committee for allowing her to sit in, and wishes to give some feedback that perhaps the committee contacts the Tribal Hospital and ask whether they would be interested in participating getting some Native American art in the area and also regarding 11. perhaps adding in a small section on for security purposes on what the committee is willing to do to protect the artists project.

**17. Adjournment (For Possible Action).** Nettie Oliverio motions to adjourn. Tamara Scronce approves motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:38pm