



**Reno Arts & Culture Commission's  
Public Art Committee**

**Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Date: December 17th, 2018**

**Time: 11:00 a.m.**

**Place: McKinley Arts and Culture Boardroom  
925 Riverside Drive, Reno, NV 89503**

<b>Committee Members</b>
Nettie Oliverio, Chair
Dave Aiazzi
Eric Brooks
Bryce Chisholm
Mahsan Ghazianzad
Ahren Hertel
Matthew Mclver
Carola Nan Roach
Barb Santner
Tamara Scronce
Geralda Miller

---

**AGENDA**

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

**Present:** Nettie Oliverio, Chair, Eric Brooks, Bryce Chisholm, Mahsan Ghazianzad, Ahren Hertel, Matthew Mclver, Geralda Miller, Carola Nan Roach, Barb Santner, Tamara Scronce.

**Absent:** Dave Aiazzi

**Also Present:** Megan Berner, Public Art Program Coordinator; Sharon Honig-Bear, RACC Chair; Robyn Powers, former PAC Member; Eileen Gay, public artist.

**2. Public Comment on Agenda Items or Other Matters –**

None

**3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2018 Minutes of the Public Art Committee**

Eric Brooks makes a motion to approve, seconded by Ahren Hertel. All in favor, 9, 1 abstain (Tamara Scronce), 1 absent.

**4. Approval of the Agenda – December 17, 2018**

Eric Brooks makes a motion to approve, seconded by Carola Nan Roach. All in favor, 10, 0 abstain, 1 absent.

**5. Financial Report and Budget Update**

a. Review and possible acceptance of the FY2018/19 Public Art Budget Report

Berner summarizes. There has been an extra \$100,000 found that is reflected in the budget. The Art Belongs Here Neighborhood Grant will come out of the Public Art budget at \$50,000.

The Commission has gone through and labeled projects they would like to pursue, bookmarking the extra money found.

There has been discussion on doing an Artist Laureate/City Artist program which has been approved by the Commission for the 2019 year. \$2,000 for one year (with another \$2,000 for a potential purchase of art) with commitments that include: an exhibition at the Metro Gallery, to curate an exhibition, and public talk. There also was an Artist Residency pilot program approved by the Commission for a three month time-period embedded in a department with a \$3,000 stipend plus period to create work and then present. There is a potential for a budget for materials up to \$3,000. The pilot program will take place in the Sustainability Department.

Tamara Scronce makes a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor, 10, 0 abstain, 1 absent.

**6. Discussion and possible approval of an outreach plan and calendar for the Midtown Public Art Project.**

Berner summarizes. The \$30,000 NEA grant has been approved, matching the \$30,000 that was set aside for the Midtown Public Art Project, for a total of \$60,000.

There is an idea for further fundraising as the \$60,000 can be used entirely for the artwork.

The extra money will go towards travel expenses for the artists and further outreach.

The Community Engagement Committee has been allocated \$11,000 that was set aside for community engagement and outreach.

The funding period officially begins in January 2019, after that the Commission has two years to complete the process and spend the money.

Berner has gone to one of the neighborhood advisory board meetings, and given a short survey to give a little information for initial feedback. There is a public meeting coming up with the targeted businesses, that will happen later in January. The date has not yet been set. The initial meeting is not looking for funding, rather it is to inform and to get feedback.

Berner is looking for suggestions from the Committee.

Santner asks if Berner has any idea where the art will be located and what type, has that been decided yet?

Berner replies not necessarily. RTC has given some options about where things can go. The Committee will get a chance to make recommendations at a later meeting.

Berner states she would like to do the RFQ through Codaworx.

Scronce asks how much it would cost.

Berner replies the cost is \$450.00 but there is the option of fundraising to help with the cost.

Berner states that the process wouldn't work for temporary work; it has to be something the Commission/City is buying.

Miller asks what the plans are concerning fundraising.

Berner replies the Community Engagement Committee has some ideas. If anybody has connections they are comfortable using to pursue that path. Some of the big property owners have expressed interest.

There are multiple wards included in this project, including Wards 1, 3, and 5.

Brooks suggests that over the two years, events could happen at the businesses. That way a percentage goes back to those businesses, and that would help strengthen ties.

Honig-Bear asks Berner what happened when she attended the first NAB meeting.

Berner replies due to weather conditions there was no quorum, so there were only three members. She will return to do another presentation in January.

#### **7. Discussion and possible approval of a new signal box program for 2019.**

Berner summarizes. The Signal Box program has been very successful, and there is an idea to now go further from the downtown area due to the increase in popularity.

There are a number of boxes on the list that are up for repainting. The artists whose boxes are being painted over can reapply through the call.

Berner would like to request funding for materials – priming paint for the signal boxes, which is calculated at \$500 for 19 signal boxes.

Each signal box costs \$500 to paint for materials and artist fees.

Berner states that she would like to officially name the project and asks the Commission to think about it and have suggestions for the next meeting.

Santner suggests to look at each area within Reno to make sure there aren't too many painted signal boxes stacked into one area.

Miller states that the Commission should consider blighted areas and Fourth Street, as there may be a possible grant for the area.

Berner states that AT&T has definitively said no to painting their signal boxes.

Berner states that the box on Lake and Center Streets (Mike Burke 'Enjoy Reno') while a popular piece of art, only has one side that faces the street and is completely destroyed. Berner brings up the possibility of taking the signal box off the list and just painting over it.

Berner also reminds the Commission that the signal boxes are a temporary piece of art.

Nan Roach states that if there are areas that invite more vandalism than others, perhaps its time to retire those areas.

Berner responds that the painted boxes deter most vandalism and graffiti and so are a positive addition.

Scronce states that as a test the Commission can try to have higher quality art, as those with higher quality seem to get hit with vandalism less.

Tamara Scronce makes a motion to allocate money to the signal box program to not exceed the sum of \$10,500 with an expectation of 20 signal boxes, that the Committee selects artists for new projects totaling 12 and with eight boxes identified as needing repainting, with \$500 allocated towards prep materials. Seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor 10, 0 abstain, 1 absent.

## 8. **Arts & Culture Grants Update.**

### a. Neighborhood Public Art Grants

Berner summarizes. She will do an update on the Galleries at a later date. The City of Reno Public Art webpage will be updated to reflect the addition of the neighborhood grants.

The graphic designer for the city has added a graphic.

The office of communications and community engagement started doing a Reno Minute, and will do one for this program. Berner is working on a short script.

\$50,000 will be divided into separate wards/per ward.

Berner states she would like to start putting another committee together as the Commission has decided they wanted a special committee that could help with the process.

The timeline includes a call for art in January -March, a notification in April, with up to \$10,000 for each project.

Brooks asks where the money is coming from.

Berner replies from the Public Art budget.

## 9. **Update on ongoing projects**

a. Bicentennial Park

Berner summarizes. The Commission approved the recommendations, and it will go to Council January 9<sup>th</sup>.

There was some concern about there not being many local artists-- there is one: Carolyn Guerra. There are regional artists and the work from out of town was of higher quality and will give local artists a chance to be inspired by what other artists are doing.

There are still two pedestals to fill, they could potentially be local artists.

At the last meeting the Galleries were approved to move forward with reaching out to educational institutions. The beginning of January will have a show by the Drakulich Foundation.

March is youth art month, Berner has reached out to Doral Academy to show some younger students as well as Sierra Arts Foundation's Teaching Artists to curate student work.

TMCC students will potentially have an independent study to towards curating, however there aren't many students in the program. Some of the students under Rossitza Todorova's guidance will work with high school students to curate a show, or do an artist mentorship with students for exhibition in April.

The Artist Laureate has been approved, the specifics have not been decided if the Committee wants to add suggestions.

The pilot program for the Artist Residency collaboration with the City has been approved, which includes: a \$3,000 stipend for a period of 3 months, 5 hours a week working within a department/doing research, and \$3,000 for funding production.

Oliverio asks for an update on the AT&T art pieces.

Berner states the Commission was hesitant about the AT&T collaboration without some kind of guarantee that the artwork wouldn't disappear and the Commission should have some say.

Berner is working with the City attorney but it is a tricky situation due to the location being on private property. There is the idea of going through the process of getting an easement agreement, and that would have to go to Council.

This can be discussed at a future date as it is not an agenda item.

Oliverio recommends getting it on the next agenda. Berner replies she will get it on agenda for January.

**10. Announcements not anticipated at notice date**

Honig-Bear states that there will be a presentation before Council on January 4<sup>th</sup> with herself and Geralda Miller.

While the initial plan was to give an update on the Arts and Culture in Reno, it has now moved towards including ways in which the Council can be more responsive and helpful to produce more art within the community.

There are ordinances that dictate providing certain 2% of public projects that are not being followed. Honig-Bear would like to move the Council towards compliance or changing the ordinance.

There is need for further discussion and investigation about the matter, and ultimately make the Council aware about the issues.

The Council is starting a new concept of taking the first Friday of every month to listen to presentations. Honig-Bear and Miller's presentation will be one of the first in this new process.

There is a joint meeting with the City of Sparks art group and the Commission later today at 4:00pm

**11. Set date, time and agenda for the next meeting.**

January 14<sup>th</sup> 2019

The February meeting has been moved to February 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 (This will be Barb Santner's last meeting.)

**12. General Public Comment –**

Eileen Gay states the Committee has done a good job and she is excited to see a full Committee and so much going on.

**13. Adjournment – 12:10 pm**

Tamara Scronce motions to approve, seconded by Carola Nan Roach.