



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

Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: April 15th 2019

Time: 11:00 a.m.

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

Committee Members
Nettie Oliverio, Chair
Dave Aiazzi
Eric Brooks
Bryce Chisholm
Mahsan Ghazianzad
Ahren Hertel
Matthew Mclver
Geralda Miller
Carola Nan Roach
Tamara Scronce
Vacant

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Called to order by: Nettie Oliverio at 11:03 am

Present: Nettie Oliverio, Chair, Dave Aiazzi, Eric Brooks, Bryce Chisholm, Mahsan Ghazianzad, Matthew Mclver, Geralda Miller, Tamara Scronce.

Absent: Ahren Hertel, Carola Nan Roach.

Also present: Megan Berner, Public Art Program Coordinator, Sharon Honig-Bear, Reno Arts & Culture Commission Chair; Kasey Christensen, Midtown; Rudy Leon, Ward 3.

2. Public Comment on Agenda Items or Other Matters

Berner announces that two students from UNR are visiting. They are taking a journalism/communications class with a service learning component and have come to observe the Committee. Brie Lucia and Sophia Roth.

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

March 18th, 2019.

Eric Brooks makes a motion, seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor, 7. 1 abstention, Tamara Scronce. 2 absent.

4. Approval of the Agenda

April 15th, 2019.

Geralda Miller makes a motion to approve, seconded by Tamara Scronce. All in favor, 8, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

5. Discussion and possible acceptance of additional voting members, two from the Midtown District Association, one from Ward 1, and one from Ward 3, to select artists for the Midtown Public Art

process from the following nominations in alphabetical order: Melanie Crane, Kasey Christensen, John Hardwick, Rudy Leon.

Kasey Christensen and Rudy Leon are present. Melanie Crane and John Hardwick are absent.

Dave Aiazzi makes a motion, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor 8, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

6. Discussion and possible recommendations of three artists to move into Round 2 of the Midtown Public Art process to create a proposal in the Midtown District.

Berner summarizes.

Mural artists will likely not fit into this call.

The City has recently approved an additional \$300,000 towards Midtown enhancements. The list may include: pole enhancers, banners, custom manhole covers, stamps on sidewalk, kinetic banner restoration, and more.

Berner recommends looking at the top ten scored artists.

They have \$60,000 that can go towards one large piece, or several smaller pieces.

Christensen states Midtown likes the concept of commissioning one artist to work on the kinetic banners, and one to propose a project.

Berner states that RTC has agreed to help with the installation of whatever is chosen.

Leon asks what is Midtown, thematically. This is something to consider; whatever they choose will be a signature piece (or pieces) and should define Midtown.

Christensen states with her experience in Midtown, she feels it is eclectic and funky, different, unique and vibrant. These are the key words she feels stands out for Midtown.

Aiazi states that with the Council giving a lump sum of money the pressure has been taken off of this piece. It frees up the Commission to choose something not just good for Midtown, but all of Reno.

Berner states they can only choose three artists to move forward since each will receive a stipend to develop a proposal.

All first round scoring has not been completed.

The top ten so far is summarized as:

- Mark Gideon
- Jake Balcom
- Eileen Gay

- Michael Broth
- Mike Hansel
- Robert Barnum
- Hunter Brown
- Lydia Aldreidge
- Michael Clapper
- Jose Antonio Aguirre

Aiazzi states that an important part of the discussion is placement.

Berner replies when they look at the top three artists in June they can discuss that further.

Oliverio states that part of the dictum of public art for the Commission is that they do not consider memorial pieces.

Oliverio asks if it is possible to choose more than three pieces.

Berner replies no, the reason being is that there is not funding set aside for more than three pieces.

Honig-Bear asks whether they should give priority to regional artists.

Scronce states she feels they should be open to bringing national artists to the community.

Christensen states it is important to have a cohesive voice of who we are as a city. Midtown/downtown has a similar vibe.

Berner states that this is a major commission piece for the city.

Aiazzi states they should have a special meeting.

Scronce asks if there are any artists that stand out that did not make the top ten list.

Brooks states that if they have a special meeting they can discuss the top ten artists, plus any artist they would like to advocate for.

Berner states everyone can finish scoring the first round then she can send out the top ten choices and they can come back at a special meeting to discuss those choices and any artist that did not make the list they want to advocate for. They will narrow it down to the top three at the special meeting.

Eric Brooks makes a motion to have a special meeting to continue the discussion of the top ten with the list provided by Megan Berner and advocate for anyone who is not on the top ten list, seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor, 10, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

The special meeting will be on April 19th 2:30 pm at the McKinley Arts & Culture Center.

7. Discussion and possible approval of a mural on retaining wall along Gibraltar Drive by Jennifer Charboneau, sponsored by Councilmember Brekhus.

Berner summarizes.

Residents of Ward 1 expressed interest in doing the project, and the funds will come from Councilmember Brekhus discretionary funds.

Dave Aiazzi makes a motion, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor, 8, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

8. Discussion and possible recommendations of artists to paint 20 signal boxes for the 2019 Art Signals program.

Committee reviews and scores on a sheet each application. Berner states she will tally the votes and come back with a final score at the special meeting. They can vote on the 20 artists then.

9. Discussion and possible approval of Nevada Arts Council Nevada Traveling Initiative exhibitions in Metro Gallery.

Berner summarizes.

City Hall had scheduled construction and there had been no art scheduled because of that plan. That plan fell through and there is nothing scheduled for the Metro Gallery.

There have been requests to program the space.

Berner would like to work with the Nevada Arts Council and their Nevada Touring Initiative in which they hire a curator to create a professional exhibition.

The timeline would tentatively be to have the exhibition up May through June.

Dave Aiazzi makes a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor, 8, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

10. Discussion and possible approve of a proposal for art signage created by Andy Tibbets in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.

Berner summarizes.

The base unit cost is \$95.00 and if they want the higher quality paint it will be \$12.00

Public Works is on board for helping with install.

There is not an exact count, but there are around 75 pieces of art that need signage. The number will likely be around 50 so it may not be the entire \$8,000.

Scronce asks if the signage will exceed \$8,000. Berner replies no.

Tamara Scronce makes a motion to approve, Matthew McIver seconds. All in favor 8, 0 abstain, 2 absent.

(Tamara Scronce leaves at 1:15 pm)

11. Financial Report and Budget Update.

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

Berner summarizes.

The Commission has been discussing budget priorities for the next fiscal year, it is reflected in the budget.

Nothing has really changed.

Some things have been moved into the balance.

The Light Chimes are coming down today; this will be reflected in the budget.

Art Belongs Here grants will be decided tomorrow.

Geralda Miller makes a motion, seconded by Dave Aiazzi. All in favor 7, 0 abstain, 3 absent.

12. Discussion and possible action on FY19/20 budget recommendations to Arts & Culture Commission.

Berner summarizes.

They are trying to put together what they are spending money on next year as the fiscal year is coming to a close, and Council has requested to see the budget.

Miller asks what the cost would be to bring in a surveyor.

Berner replies she hasn't been able to research that yet. That cost could go under Maintenance.

Art Belongs Here has been put on Optional as there is a lot of potential for the Council to support it.

There is a \$50,000 request for art for City Plaza.

Chisholm asks if there will be less signal boxes next year.

Berner replies very likely; this year was a little unusual because the signal box program was expanded and some of the older boxes are being repainted.

Aiazzi states the Commission also put more money into the Bicentennial Sculpture Garden.

Eric Brooks makes a motion, seconded by Dave Aiazzi. All in favor 7, 0 abstain, 3 absent.

Honig-Bear adds that the Commissioners have volunteered to speak one-on-one to the Council members and advocate for additional funding.

13. Update on ongoing projects.

Berner states Bicentennial is going forward and will be up around mid to late June.

There was a recommendation for a NEA Grant for \$100,000 and will go to Council on April 24th 2019 for approval.

The Ginnever piece is moving along; the footing plan is out to bid right now.

There is no news for the AT&T Waves of Light piece.

The contract for Space Whale is up at the end of August.

Midtown has \$300,000 from Council to look at design elements/art work. There is \$120,000 from RTC for bike racks and benches, which will come through this Committee.

Midtown is also interested in potentially having some sort of kinetic banners, which will come through the Committee if they decide to commission an artist for this.

Chisholm states the Light Festival is also an ongoing project.

A large signature piece has been chosen for the Light Festival; Architects of Air

There is also funding to commission local artists.

14. Announcements not anticipated at notice date.

Berner has flyers for the current show at McKinley from the TMCC art club, 'Food: Appetites and Delectability'.

15. Set date, time and agenda for the next meeting.

A special meeting has been set for Friday, April 19th at 2:30 pm

16. General Public Comments.

None

17. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Geralda Miller makes a motion, seconded by Bryce Chisholm. All in favor 7, 0 abstain, 3 absent.