



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

Date: July 15, 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
Tamara Scronce
Vacant
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, Ahren Hertel, Geralda Miller, Tamara Scronce.

Absent: Mahsan Ghazianzad, Matthew Mclver.

Also present: Alexis Hill, Arts, Culture and Special Events Manager; Megan Berner, Public Art Program Coordinator; Kasey Christensen, Midtown District; Rudy Leon, Ward 3; Kerrie Koski, City of Reno Public Works; Charla Honey, City of Reno Public Works.

2. Public Comment on Agenda Items or Other Matters.

Lindsey Ellington comments as applicant for a position on the Public Art Committee she is here to observe how the Committee proceeds.

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes - June 17, 2019

Eric Brooks makes a motion to approve, seconded by Tamara Scronce. All in favor, motion passes.

4. Approval of the Agenda - July 15, 2019.

Geralda Miller makes a motion to approve, seconded by Bryce Chisholm. All in favor, motion passes.

5. Discussion and recommendation of an artist for the Midtown Public Art Project in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.

Berner presents artist presentations to committee:

Hunter Brown

Large-scale piece for roundabout.

Flourish (Proposal 1)

Tree-like form representing community, growth, the winding forms represent different segments of the community.

25 feet high, 18 feet wide with the sphere measuring at 6 feet.

Synergy (Proposal 2)

Form represents togetherness to build a community, the red ribbon representing Midtown.

30 feet high, 10 feet in width with a sphere measuring at 6 feet.

The red paint is an automotive finish.

Reciprocity (Proposal 3)

An interlocking form that represents community.

30 feet high, 12 feet wide with a sphere measuring at 5 feet.

The reflective ball is up enough to where it will not blind or distract drivers.

Aiazzi asks if the pieces are unique to the site as Brown's work is all similar.

Berner replies the piece will be built specifically for Midtown.

Eileen Gay

Proposal options include:

- Core Strength
- Urban Core
- Gates
- Milestone

Core Strength

Cores will be 3 feet in diameter and 11 feet tall, feature a spiral fissure allowing light to pass through and will be lit up at night. Core Strength represents layers of the heart and history of the site – lava, stone, wood, brick, concrete, steel, circuitry and mirror/glass on the top to reflect the sky.

Urban Core

Cores will be 3 feet in diameter and 11 feet tall, feature a spiral fissure allowing light to pass through and will be lit up at night. Forms represent enriching life forces of water, stone and modern technology.

Gates

Two towers will be 3 feet in diameter and 11 feet tall, the two main faces will be lit up all night and may be used as a way-finding visual. The two spill way forms for Gates are an homage to the design era of the Public Works Administration. The Gates would face each other across the intersection with the golden circuitry sides facing the roundabout and waterfalls facing outward.

Milestone

Acts as ancient gateways. The face of the stones will feature a flowing pattern that shows two pieces on opposite sides of the roundabout, that indicate it was once one stone. The smaller portion leans towards the other stone as if seeking its lost half.

Jonathan Russell & Saori Ida

Entwine

Considerations: iconic, monumental, visual impact, colorful, inviting and interactive, enjoyed by all, kinetic movement and nighttime presence.

Approach and Goals: to reflect the culture of the Midtown community, uniqueness, fun, funky/eclectic, scale, widely appealing, nighttime enhancement.

Concept: a large circular, crossing loop with both ends extending upwards represents unity and connection between the old and new. The two top circles freely rotate in the wind.

The free-standing flower-like shape represents Midtown and the possibility for growth.

20 feet in height, Entwine will not be placed in the center of the roundabout, but on the side to be more accessible to people.

Berner states the kinetic sculpture should be insured for up to 150 MPH.

Discussion

Chair opens it up for public comment. Pierre Riche comments. Riche feels having a piece within the roundabout won't be distracting to drivers.

Leon states she feels as though Gay's pieces, while great for Nevada in general, did not capture what Midtown represents.

Christensen states they should think about what they want this piece to be; do they want something large or something that the public can interact with.

Scronce states it would be ideal to purchase the largest, most bang-for-your-buck piece now with the idea that benches and bike racks will be forthcoming and that will fulfill public interaction.

Aiazzi states that before this is sent to Council they should make certain that RTC is all right with the measurements.

Miller asks if they have to stay with the chosen color palette or can they change it to silver and blue or something else.

Scronce states they need to think about a piece that they can grow to love.

First Round Vote

Flourish – 6 votes

Reciprocity – 1 vote

Milestone – 1 vote

Discussion

Sharon Honig-Bear states she is not in favor of using the University's colors; they have enough representation.

Chisholm asks what other piece had the vote.

Berner replies Reciprocity.

Scronce states she is more in favor of Reciprocity than Flourish.

Committee decides to vote among Hunter Brown's pieces.

Eric Brooks makes a motion for the Committee to choose 'Reciprocity' for the Midtown art project, seconded by Dave Aiazzi.

Discussion

Oliverio states that lighting will not be included in the budget.

Hill states they will need to work with RTC on that subject; in the past NV Energy sponsored lighting for Believe, this might be a possibility.

Scronce adds that this piece must be lit.

Leon states they should keep in mind the possibility of changing the light color to reflect holidays, or events.

Dave Aiazzi amends the motion.

Dave Aiazzi makes a motion to select 'Reciprocity' with the discussed foundation to be send forward to RTC for approval before it goes to Council, seconded by Eric Brooks. All in favor, motion passes.

6. Financial Report and Budget Update.

a. Review and possible acceptance of the FY2019/20 Public Art Budget Report.

Time constraint disallows discussion.

7. Discussion and possible recommendation of two new members to fill the vacant positions for the Public Art Committee.

Oliverio states that they have two vacancies now, but to remember that her term will be up in October, leaving another vacancy.

Scronce asks if this is a decision that must be made today. The adopted goal of diversity, equity and inclusion hasn't really been met or discussed as a priority.

Miller states the Committee should think about not just race/culture but other factors like age, different skill sets, etc.

Aiazzi suggests not doing an open pool, but to be more specific in choosing candidates.

Geralda Miller and Dave Aiazzi state they may also be stepping down in October.

Ahren Hertel states he will abstain from voting.

Committee asks present applicants to speak to their qualifications and reason for applying. Paul Quade comments. He has a background as an attorney and has an interest in the arts. He is a board member on Art Spot.

Dana Kilroy comments. She is a 20 year Reno resident with a background in communications.

Lindsey Ellington comments. She appreciates and is interested in the Committee process and how they function within the city and is working towards becoming a landscape architect.

Hill states Cynthia Albright was another strong applicant who could not make it today.

Ahren Hertel rescinds his abstention from voting.

Aiazzi states this may be a good learning position for Lindsey Ellington.

Bryce Chisholm makes a motion to approve Lindsey Ellington and Paul Quade, seconded by Geralda Miller.

Discussion

Aiazzi states that if the Committee approves two members today, they can start working on outreach to fulfill the DEI goal for the positions that will be open in October.

All in favor: 4, 1 abstention from Tamara Scronce, 1 opposed, Ahren Hertel. Motion passes.

Dave Aiazzi makes a motion to reconsider the motion on item 7 and change it to Cynthia Albright instead of Lindsey Ellington, seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor, motion passes.

Geralda Miller makes a motion to approve Paul Quade and Cynthia Albright, seconded by Dave Aiazzi.

All in favor: 4, Tamara Scronce and Ahren Hertel abstain. Motion passes.

8. Discussion and possible recommendation to the Reno Arts & Culture on a plan for City Plaza art.

Time constraint disallows discussion

9. Discussion and possible recommendation on an East Truckee River mural project as part of a larger East Truckee River enhancement proposal.

Time constraint disallows discussion.

10. Discussion and possible recommendation on repair, maintenance, or deaccession of mosaic public piece “Ravens & Rabbits Continuous” by Ali Sullivan at Pat Baker Park.

Time constraint disallows discussion.

11. Update on ongoing projects.

- a. **Bicentennial**
- b. **Art Belongs Here**

Time constraint disallows discussion.

12. Announcements not anticipated at notice date.

Berner announces new exhibitions at the McKinley East and West galleries.

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

August 19th, 2019 11:00 am.

14. General Public Comment.

Miller states the Space Whale contract will be up at the end of August, this is something to be discussed at the next meeting.

4th Street now has Burning Man sculptures; perhaps the Committee should consider non-Burning Man art in the future.

Eileen Gay comments. She enjoys being part of the process and commends the Committee on the choice for the Midtown sculpture.

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

Geralda Miller makes a motion to approve, seconded by Bryce Chisholm. All in favor, motion passes.

DRAFT