



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

**Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Date: September 16, 2019**

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

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

<b>Committee Members</b>
Nettie Oliverio, Chair
Vacant
Cynthia Albright
Eric Brooks
Bryce Chisholm
Ahren Hertel
Matthew McIver
Geralda Miller
Paul Quade
Tamara Scronce
Vacant

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**AGENDA**

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

Called to order by: Nettie Oliverio at 11:00 am.

Present: Nettie Oliverio, Chair; Cynthia Albright, Bryce Chisholm, Matthew McIver, Geralda Miller, Paul Quade.

Absent: Eric Brooks, Ahren Hertel, Tamara Scronce.

Also present: Alexis Hill, Arts, Culture and Special Events Manager.

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

None.

**3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes - August 19, 2019**

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

**4. Approval of the Agenda - September 16, 2019.**

Cynthia Albright makes a motion to approve, seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor, motion passes.

**5. Presentation from Downtown Dog Park Coalition and possible approval of funding for a third ReTRAC vent to be painted by Hannah Eberle in an amount not to exceed \$750.**

Sherron Elledge presents.

They are seeking approval for the third vent, which will be similar to the other two but with a slightly different background color.

There are 31 portraits on the waiting list, with more added every day.

There will be another promotion over the holidays and they are confident they will fill the other two vents.

They have entered a new contract with the artist and raised the commission from \$60.00 per pet to \$100.00 per pet.

They have received a donation for paint for the entire project from Reno Paint Mart and Sherwin Williams.

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

**6. Presentation on Playa Art Project by Maria Partridge and possible approval of funding for the 2019/20 Playa Art Project proposal for new sculptures in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.**

The lot has been sold, however the developers are allowing another year of use for the Playa Project.

The proposal is for four additional sculptures. Six will stay at the park, one has already left, and another will be gone by November.

The four additions will be:

- 'Internal Exposure' by Jessica Levine
- 'As You Wish' by Nicole Ashton
- 'Quality of Life' by Josh Vaile & Tamz Shultz
- 'Portal' by David Oliver

Moving forward they will need to think about where the park will go next. The idea was that the Playa Project would gain momentum, gain funds and move elsewhere.

Albright suggests where the Greyhound Station used to be.

The Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services campus has expressed interest in taking the heart sculpture that is in the park now, and the angel sculpture as a two-year temporary installation.

The equipment and transportation remain the biggest costs.

Partridge is considering an event for the spring to kick off the new sculpture, as winter will be too cold.

In the past the Playa Project has received \$5,000 from the Reno Arts & Culture Commission. If the RACC is invested in the Playa Project more commitment will be needed moving forward.

Oliverio states something to consider is if the current location looks bad for the next twelve months, this could possibly negatively influence donations to make the new location happen.

Partridge asks for a commitment of \$10,000.

Geralda Miller makes a motion to double the amount given in the past to the Playa Project at \$10,000 for 2019/20 for the existing Circus Circus park area and will consider paying more in the future, seconded by Cynthia Albright.

All in favor: 4, Paul Quade abstains. Motion passes.

**7. Discussion and recommendation of artistic benches and bike racks for the Midtown District in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.**

Hill summarizes.

The Paul Reimer bike rack proposal is for \$2,500 each. The artists stated that he can do the sculpture at a lower price than the original sculpture because they are not made out of found parts—can use easier to work with material.

The budget for the sculpture and four bike racks is \$12,500. Two bikes can be attached to the small wheel, and more for the larger sculpture.

The location would be the City Plaza.

Albright states it is unfortunate the artist did not include scale in the proposal; it is difficult to get a sense of how large the sculpture is in comparison the bikes.

Miller asks how does the piece relate to the Plaza and is it functional? Is it possible to get a visual on how the sculpture would look on the Plaza?

Albright adds she would be interested in seeing how bikes are supposed to attach to the sculpture.

Hill states she can look into getting a visual from the RTC architects to see how those sculpture pieces would look in different locations downtown.

Chisholm states it would be a good idea to have variety and not have a cookie-cutter approach to choosing the sculpture.

Quade suggests looking into the coating on the benches before making a decision.

Hill states that the artist has been in contact and is willing to work with them on the materials so that it isn't burning people in the summer.

Hill asks for direction; what should she ask the artist?

Quade replies ask him if there is expertise on the metal, if he thinks he can do something to dissipate heat that will be consistent with the other design.

Discussion has been tabled.

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

Hill summarizes.

A UNR student was asked to develop some amenities to revitalize the east side of the Truckee River downtown.

Suggestions included improved walkways/trails, increasing the green space, water features, pedestrian bridges, public restrooms, etc.

Her suggestions for the Truckee River were to make the river more accessible, integrate art along the pathways, and incorporate native plants.

There are some mural opportunities along the pathway.

City Council has expressed interest and has asked that this Committee do a project along the river.

This is something that falls under the Our Town grant that Megan Berner and Alexis Hill can pursue.

Additionally this can be in conjunction with the City of Sparks.

Miller states that the path also runs through the Nevada Indian Colony.

Chisholm adds this could be something for the Art Belongs Here program.

Albright states she has a background and interest in this particular subject. From a professional standpoint she recommends lighting first and foremost. It is not recommended to put sculpture in the area, but start with one mural and see if it gets destroyed.

There has been a recent development of lighted pathways – pathways that have grounded luminescent particles that will literally glow at night.

Some issues concerning the pathway is that it is in multiple jurisdictions, there are tons of weeds and overgrown plants and people hide in them creating an uncomfortable and dangerous situation.

Albright's suggestion is to introduce lighting, have Public Works clean it up and introduce a pathway system with internal luminescence.

Hill states she will get a budget together; this may even be something that the City will have to figure out how to match.

**9. Discussion and possible approval of an artist for the inaugural Winter Lights Festival (Creation Award) for a temporary display of light art December 7 – 14.**

Hill summarizes. The Architects of Air has been canceled but there is still a call for local artists to draw people downtown.

Miller states something to consider is what art pieces proposed will go thematically with all of the events already planned for the holiday season by other groups.

Hill states there will also be pole enhancers, donated decorations for the holiday tree, the Riverwalk Merchants Association are making their businesses look more festive, and the Aces is contributing by bringing presents for children for the tree lighting.

There will be a map for all the locations for people to explore.

Miller suggests bringing Jacobs Entertainment onboard with the festival.

(Paul Quade leaves at 12:55 pm)

Top Five Voted Artists:

- Bland Hoke
- George Sabra
- Hugh Livingston
- Kristen Pobatsching
- Matthieu Tercieux

McIver asks that they also consider the 'breathing tree' as it is interactive.

Top three pieces/artists:

- Matthieu Tercieux map to the projection at the Plaza
- Bland Hoke fish on the river at Wingfield Park
- Huge Livingston reeds on ReTRAC

Oliverio states she strongly recommends researching/asking the projection artist about materials and if it will work on the Plaza.

Hill replies they can give him the option of projecting on ReTRAC if the Plaza doesn't work.

Chisholm states this might change the location of the reed sculpture. The reeds could start at City Plaza and lead the way to the fish sculpture.

Miller states she has concerns about people destroying or damaging the reed sculpture.

Albright states they can be put on the railing, off the footpath.

Chisholm adds that this is something the artist should be made aware of – that there is a high probability of people trying to damage the sculpture.

Bryce Chisholm makes a motion to approve Bland Hoke, Hugh Livingston and Matthieu Tercieux as the artists for the Light Festival, seconded by Cynthia Albright. All in favor, motion passes.

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

Miller summarizes.

November 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting with the Parks Department to discuss the City Plaza and plans for the river path.

**11. Discussion and possible recommendation on repair, maintenance, or deaccession of mosaic public art piece “Raven & Rabbits Continuous” by Ali Sullivan at Pat Baker Park I an amount not to exceed \$5,000.**

Geralda Miller makes a motion for the deaccession of “Raven & Rabbits Continuous” by Ali Sullivan located at Pat Baker Park, seconded by Cynthia Albright. All in favor, motion passes.

**12. Discussion and possible recommendation of a new Chair to the Public Art Committee.**

Geralda Miller makes a motion to recommend Bryce Chisholm as Chair for the Public Art Committee, seconded by Cynthia Albright. All in favor, motion passes.

**13. Update on ongoing projects.**

**a. Bicentennial**

Install will be at the end of the month or October.

**b. Art Belongs Here**

No updates, but there is a written article about Art Belongs Here.

**c. Signal Boxes**

There have been complaints about the signal box next to the freeway downtown Reno. Due to misspelling and poor execution the signal box will be up for deaccession.

Miller adds there is another signal box with a cherry blossom that is in bad shape as well.

**d. Monument of Legacy**

The original artist has left the community and the mural is in poor shape. There is the thought of moving it to a park.

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

None.

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

October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

**16. General Public Comment.**

Miller states that there are some vacancies that will need to be filled.

Art Spot is putting on the Elko Mural Expo September 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>.

**17. Adjournment.**

Meeting ends at 1:40 pm.

DRAFT