



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

Date: October 21, 2019

Time: 11:00 a.m.

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

Committee Members
Bryce Chisholm, Chair
Cynthia Albright
Eric Brooks
Erik Fong
Ahren Hertel
Matthew McIver
Geralda Miller
Paul Quade
Tamara Scronce
Vacant
Vacant

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Called to order by Bryce Chisholm at 11:01 am.

Present: Bryce Chisholm, Chair; Cynthia Albright, Erik Fong, Matthew McIver, Geralda Miller, Paul Quade, Tamara Scronce.

Absent: Eric Brooks, Ahren Hertel.

Also present: Megan Berner, Public Art Program Coordinator.

2. Public Comment on Agenda Items or Other Matters.

None.

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes - September 16, 2019

Geralda Miller makes a motion to approve, seconded by Cynthia Albright. Tamara Scronce abstains, Erik Fong abstains. All in favor, motion passes.

4. Approval of the Agenda - October 21, 2019.

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

5. Presentation from Kathleen Taylor on Dream Wall project and possible approval of artwork for the City of Reno – owned retaining wall on Mayberry Drive at Keele Drive.

Kathleen Taylor presents. The idea is to create a 'Dream Wall' on the retaining wall to not only beautify the area, but also bring awareness to traffic safety, as there are many pedestrians and young drivers in the area.

There is support from the Mayor and Councilmember Brekhus. The timeline for completion is within the next year.

Alita Tull, Reno High School senior is also present as the artist for the Dream Wall. Her idea is to paint a base with room for young people to write down their dreams for the future.

The size of the mural will be about 10 – 20 feet but it could be bigger.

Albright suggests partnering with a professional artist within the community.

Miller states that including a professional artist can help educate young people who want to learn how to do murals on a professional level.

Fong states that in order for the project to have a large impact the scale would have to be larger.

Scronce states they should keep in mind it isn't only traffic that will be looking at the mural but pedestrians will want to be up close to read the text as well.

There is the concern that doing a partial mural on the wall may invite graffiti.

Paul Quade makes a motion to approve, seconded by Matthew McIver. Geralda Miller opposes. All in favor, motion passes.

6. Presentation from Priyasha Landry on the Be Safe Be Seen project and possible approval of sidewalk artwork around Huffaker Elementary School.

Priyasha Landry presents.

Previously, Landry came to the Public Art Committee seeking approval for a flag program to help bring awareness for student pedestrians. She is now seeking approval for the next step in pedestrian safety, which is sidewalk graphics for pedestrian awareness.

There will also be banner art encouraging drivers to slow down.

Local artist Nathaniel Benjamin will be helping Priyasha Landry with artistic concepts.

Tamara Scronce makes a motion to approve, seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor, motion passes.

7. Presentation from Jennifer Charboneau on Damonte Ranch signal box design and possible approval of artwork to be painted at Veterans Parkway.

Absent. Tabled to next meeting.

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

Justin Buonanoma is present to discuss the artistic pod benches. Using concrete will create a slight cost increase, but will help with the issue of heated metal.

The artist is agreeable to doing concrete instead of metal, but it may be a little challenging. He is in discussion with a company that is willing to do casting but is uncertain of what the cost will be just yet.

The top will be about two inches thick with an overhanging lid. There is also the possibility of staining the concrete different colors.

There will be about a \$600 increase, so there may be a less pods in total.

Scronce states that the benches will have to stand up to not just the elements but human contact like skateboarders. There should also be caution in using powder coating as some colors fade faster than others.

Miller states there should be a stipulation that the colors should be similar to the Midtown color pallet.

Tamara Scronce makes a motion for the benches to be accepted and integrated into the overall design provided by the design firm, seconded by Geralda Miller. All in favor, motion passes.

Bike rack discussion – Paul Reimer bike rack sculpture.

After reaching out to the Reno bike community 32” is an agreeable size for attachment.

The sculpture will not be anchored into the ground but will be bolted. This will make it easier to install and can be moved if need be.

Berner states she can ask if the artist is willing to change the dimensions.

Scronce states she would like the scale of the center sculptural piece be larger and they maintain the other pieces at 32 inches.

Paul Quade makes a motion to approve the design conditioned on scale, seconded by Tamara Scronce. All in favor, motion passes.

9. Review, discussion, and possible recommendation on Third Quarter Public Art Proposals.

Berner summarizes. The Third Quarter Public Art Proposals was in response to random art proposal requests.

Tom Weimer

Proposal for entire children’s sculpture garden at \$900,000. Committee expresses no interest.

Arteclettica

A Burning Man sculpture that was also at Sculpture Fest. The proposal is for temporary installation.

Chisholm states there are already a lot of Burning Man sculpture and this is a piece they didn't ask for, and will only be temporary.

Scronce states there really isn't a budget for these proposals.

Albright suggests making a formalized response for the art proposals that are reviewed but the Committee has no current interest in.

Quade agrees with the idea of a general response letter and adds they can encourage the artists to apply towards something like the Bicentennial Sculpture Park in the future.

Mischell Riley

The sculpture was previously located at the Playa Park on Virginia Street. She is looking to sell for \$84,000. Committee expresses no interest based on space to display the piece and no plan for City Plaza which is being discussed by various entities.

Tom Drakulich and Konah Zebert

'Desert trash' sculpture proposal. Filling a container with trash from the desert, to be placed in a rural area as close to the desert as possible. To be placed for one year or purchased.

Miller states this could be a good project for the Truckee River Trail project. This could also be combined with the Artown plastic store project.

Scronce states the direction is to tell the artists that the Committee recommends a collaboration with Artown and they pursue that path, being the site location does not work for the Committee.

10. Discussion and possible approval of deaccession of the signal box on N. Virginia and 8th street.

Berner summarizes. The signal box has several issues, including misspelling and has been recommended for deaccession.

Tamara Scronce makes a motion to approve, seconded by Bryce Chisholm. All in favor, motion passes.

11. Discussion and possible approval of signal box designs by Vaka for signal boxes at Neil Rd. and Airway Dr., Neil Rd. and Peckham, and Neil Rd. and McCarran.

Berner summarizes. Vaka has expressed interest in painting more signal boxes but has not asked for money and has asked to paint the signal boxes outside of the signal box program.

Scronce states that really isn't fair to all the artists who managed to apply in time and making this one allowance can open the flood gates of having many artists apply outside the signal box call.

While there is interest in Vaka painting signal boxes, it is recommended he apply to next round of signal box art.

12. Update on ongoing projects.

a. Bicentennial

Berner summarizes. This remains a difficult process; the contractor has been busy and the concrete strength tests took a lot of time. This item will be updated in November.

b. Art Belongs Here

The Custom Ink mural is nearly complete.

The 395 & Wedekind mural with Asa Kennedy will be finished at the end of the month.

The downtown dog park bike racks are installed.

Erik Burke will be starting his mural November 1st.

(Erik Fong leaves at 12:42 pm)

c. Signal Boxes

The signal boxes have been well received and there are photos up on the face book page.

d. Winter Light Festival

Three artists have been chosen and the project is moving forward.

13. Announcements not anticipated at notice date.

Matthew McIver states his firm was featured in the EDawn innovators deck with interactive augmented reality, with one of the cards being the RACC and a public art element.

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

November 18th, 2019 with the possibility of discussing changing the time and date at a future meeting.

15. General Public Comment.

None.

16. Adjournment.

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

Meeting ends at 1:08 pm.