

## Public Art and Cultural Commission

January 23, 2014

### Members Present:

Robert Todd, Chair

Guillermo Rodriguez, Vice-Chair

Julie Calhoun-Roepnack

Sharon Trammel

Constance Richards

Jaan Ferree

### Staff Present:

Brenda Mills, Office of Economic Development

Basil Punsalan, Event Specialist

Caroline Long, Office of Economic Development

Sam Powers, Director of Economic  
Development

Debbie Ivester, PRCA Assistant Director

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Chair Todd called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

#### 1. Approval of October Minutes

Guillermo motioned to approve the October minutes. Sharon seconded the motion and all approved.

#### 2. PACC 2013 Annual Report to City Council

Robert mentioned that the Easel Rider was an entirely new feature in the Annual Report. Brenda noted that she had culled the information from the previous year's minutes and compiled them into the Report, with the assistance of Debbie Ivester. Guillermo motioned to approve the Annual Report, Julie seconded the motion and all approved.

#### 3. Public Art Update

Robert requested that Brenda delineate which projects fell under the 1% acquisition for Public Art policy, so that Council can see how far each project has progressed. Brenda agreed to make the edit.

Debbie noted that the funding allocated for Maintenance & Repair beginning in July 2013 has been frozen and none of the maintenance has yet begun. Staff are waiting to see when the funds are released and will begin the work once that occurs.

Debbie stated that the North Carolina 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment has begun a fundraising campaign to restore the Vance Monument, and that they are hoping to receive a \$50,000 challenge grant. The City has committed \$11,000 and the 26<sup>th</sup> have an additional \$10,000 in hand as of today.

The Nature Center, Beaucatcher, Town Branch, and Clingman Forest Greenway projects are all in the design stage.

#### 4. Update on the Buncombe Cultural Alliance and Creative Sector Summit

Kitty Love gave a history of the Buncombe Cultural Alliance and the Creative Sector Summit and how they developed from the Downtown Master Plan. For the past 6 months, the CRA has been looking at the breadth of Arts and Culture in Buncombe County. Kitty stated they have created a draft version of a cultural plan with 5 sections including arts education, creative placemaking, quality of life, arts and economic development, and advocacy.

Kitty also extended an invitation to the Creative Sector Summit to the commission members on March 20 through March 22. The Summit will provide a forum for key stakeholders to collaborate and vet ideas presented in the cultural plan.

#### 5. Update: Destination Development Forum

The Forum brought together community members from tourism, entertainment, small business, and art backgrounds and discussed 10 projects which are currently developing. Robert stated that it was a very productive meeting, and that connections were made between groups that may not normally interact, noting that it gave PACC the opportunity to partner with support groups.

#### 6. Staff's Report and Information

Cecil Bothwell is PACC's new City Council liaison. He is not expected to attend monthly meetings. Brenda suggested that the commissioners consider changing meeting times in order to guarantee quorum each month. Brenda also noted that holding a November meeting might be very beneficial this year if the Public Art Maintenance/Repair funds are unfrozen. Stephanie Monson from the Office of Economic Development will attend a PACC meeting as soon as there is an opportunity for public art in the River Arts District.

#### 7. Old Business

Debbie noted there was a piece in the Asheville Citizen Times about the percent for art program. She asked that commissioners attend the 51 Biltmore public forum tomorrow night. The purpose of the forum is for the public to meet and interact with the artists, and Debbie asked the commissioners come to help facilitate the conversations.

#### 8. New Business

There was no new business.

#### Additional public comment

Chair Todd adjourned the meeting at 5:08 pm.