



**PUBLIC ART AND CULTURAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 23rd, 2015**

Board Members in Attendance: Jaan Ferree, Jay Fields, Jay Miller, Constance Richards, Guillermo Rodriguez, Gwynne Rukenbrod Smith

Board Members Absent: Jenn Bowen, Robert Todd, Sharon Trammel

Staff in Attendance: Caroline Long, Brenda Mills

Guests in Attendance: Tony Mazza and Gabriel Setwright, Warren Wilson students writing their theses on Public Art

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no additions or deletions from agenda.

Ms. Rukenbrod Smith made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Ferree seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. PRESENTATION – WARREN WILSON STUDENT RESEARCH (ART & PUBLIC POLICY)

Mr. Miller noted that the students will pose questions related to their research. Mr. Mazza stated he believed there to be a gap between how a public artist represents himself and how he represents the City. He asked if there were ways in which artists negate their own personal views in order to be successful as public contractors. Chair Rodriguez stated that the PACC is aware of the artists' medium and general style before the art is chosen, which generally helps the PACC to be aware of what the resulting art will look like. Ms. Ferree added that the call for artists process is very specific and delineates what the City is looking for in public art.

Mr. Mazza asked how many citizens were involved throughout the art acquisition process. Chair Rodriguez noted that the preliminary steps are not open to the public, because that would create an extremely lengthy process. He noted that the PACC is comprised of individuals who represent areas of expertise in various forms of artistry. Mr. Mazza asked if there was a policy for the process, and Ms. Mills stated that there is a City process. Mr. Mazza asked about ownership, and whether the City has a process for who has ownership of the piece. Chair Rodriguez noted that the art is either funded by or donated to the City. Mr. Mazza asked if there

were time constraints on how long a piece can be in place, and Ms. Mills noted that the pieces are intended to be permanent.

Mr. Setwright stated he is contrasting the traditional view of public art and a new view, in which public art is not intended to provide benefits to economic development or tourism. He gave the examples of artwork which might highlight critical social issues such as homelessness, or gentrification within the City. Ms. Rukenbrod Smith noted that there is not a policy in place to address this; however the City does have the Easel Rider, a mobile art lab which encourages art in place and temporary artwork. Ms. Richards noted that the murals under 240 and the wall outside Hannah Flannagan's are examples of art in public (rather than public art) which addressed issues such as graffiti and homelessness.

3. STAFF'S REPORT

Ms. Mills noted that she updated the contact list for the Commission. She also added all the Commission members to the guest list for the Creative Sector Summit and asked them all to attend.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Nominating Committee Members were absent, and Ms. Mills noted that she will ask the Committee to put together a written report and to send it out via e-mail.

The Advocacy Committee was not present—Ms. Bowen was out sick.

Urban Trail: Ms. Ferree noted that the Market Place installation will be reinstalled on Market Street, and that the Committee is considering a rededication ceremony in June. Mr. Fields noted that Grace Pless has been working with the Committee, and that they recorded a video of her discussing the Urban Trail. The committee is working on pulling together some of the original collaborators in order to record their discussion of the process. Ms. Ferree noted that the anecdotal stories about the process are also very interesting and could be incorporated into the process.

Community Engagement & Partnerships: Ms. Rukenbrod Smith stated there will be a panel during the Creative Sector Summit in which the PACC will discuss the move from Parks and Recreation to Economic Development.

5. OLD BUSINESS

PACC Visioning Follow-Up

Ms. Rukenbrod Smith passed out a handout which identified why Visioning is important for strategic planning. The Commission discussed the language that they want to incorporate into the statement, including discussion of the future, new areas, attractiveness to people of all ages and walks of life. They also discussed creating goals for each strategy point that is listed in the vision. Ms. Rukenbrod Smith asked the Commissioners to edit the Google document to incorporate the items which they discussed. They will vote on the Vision statement in June.

The Commissioners also discussed whether to have another strategic planning session with Ms. Anderson. Ms. Mills suggested that the Commissioners choose a date by which to have the Vision completed. She will forward the information to Ms. Anderson

6. ADJOURN

Chair Rodriguez closed the meeting at 5:35 pm.