

MINUTES

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

MAY 4, 2021

2:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xaivJxqvqE>

MEMBERS PRESENT: Betsy Towns, Jason Thiel, Cliff Dossel, David Finn, Endia Beal, Jane Doub, Elizabeth Repetti, Dara Silver, Jennifer Finkel, Owens Daniels
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Kelly Bennett
PRESIDING: David Finn

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY MINUTES

➤ April 6, 2021

MOTION Elizabeth Repetti moved to approve the April 6 meeting minutes.

SECOND Jane Doub

VOTE Unanimous

III. HASANI MITCHELL – NEWSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLIC ART

Hasani Mitchell, the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative Project Manager for the City's Community Development Department, spoke to the Commission about the redevelopment of the Cleveland Avenue Homes complex using federal funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. In addition to housing for the area, the grant will fund critical community improvements, including public art. Mitchell said any public art projects would need to be resident-led and incorporate the history and culture of the neighborhood. There is a five-year timeline to complete the project.

Endia Beal suggested the Commission go on a walking tour of the area. David Finn suggested holding a community charette to collect ideas. Mitchell would like to submit a plan for community improvements to HUD in September. Kelly Bennett said he will work with Mitchell to schedule a walking tour.

IV. SALEM PARKWAY BRIDGE ART

Kelly Bennett updated the Commission on the Salem Parkway Bridge Art project. The City has set aside \$1,512,000 from the 2018 bonds to pay for artwork on the seven bridges over Salem Parkway: Church, Liberty, Main, Marshall, Cherry, Broad, and Peters Creek. This breaks down to approximately \$200,000 per bridge for artwork and \$16,000 per bridge for sculpture bases. Stimmel and Associates will be charged with designing the bases and having them installed. The Public Art Commission is expected to be running the artist searches with stakeholders of Creative Corridors members and reps from WSDOT and Stimmel.

The project is going to be limited to what was discussed with City Council during the 2018 bond hearings, namely artwork directly on the seven bridges over the highway, with four pieces of artwork (one for each corner) for each bridge. There will be weight and dimensional limitations and the bases will be installed to account for wind, etc. NCDOT may need to be included for the Cherry/Marshall bridges, as those are state maintained. Creative Corridors already had a plan for the Peters Creek Pkwy bridge, so that may be something DOT and Stimmel handles on their own.

David Finn emphasized that he felt electric power in the sculpture bases was crucial. He suggested Commission members go on walking tours of the bridges as well. Kelly Bennett said he would get updated drawings of the bridges and the project timeline when they are available.

V. PROJECT REPORTS

- Winston-Salem Portrait Project
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the project is complete and encouraged all Commission members to view the artwork in person in its nine locations.
- Bloomberg Asphalt Grant
 - Kelly Bennett reported that he submitted a grant application with partners from the Arts Council, Creative Corridors, and WSDOT for artistic crosswalks for the Strollway at the Salem Avenue, Brookstown Avenue, and First Street crossings.
- Public Art Plan
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the Public Art Plan will go before the County Commissioners on May 20, May 27, and June 3.
- Downtown Sculpture
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the artist, fabricators, and developer of the Link Fourth Street building have been discussing artwork placement and he expects some design revisions after the fabricators and artist discuss pricing of materials.
- Covid Memorial
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the project committee met and discussed a vision for the project that included a temporary art element that would represent the number of people lost to Covid in Forsyth County. The project would also include an event element, such as a walk, where participants could mourn who and what they've lost in the pandemic.
- Juke Box Therapy
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the artist was now investigating placing her artwork on the Long Branch Trail, which is privately owned. David Finn said that the Innovation Quarter, which owns the trail did not ultimately decide to host the artwork.
- Artistic Bus Shelters
 - Kelly Bennett reported that he and historic resources staff had compiled histories of areas around several bus shelters and hoped to have locations chosen for the project soon.
- Merschel Park
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the City has decided not to involve the Public Art Commission in the Merschel Park project.

- Memory Wall of Peace and Love
 - Kelly Bennett reported that the project is expected to move forward in the spring or early summer.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Milton Rhodes, Winston-Salem: Expressed his appreciation for the Commission and the City for funding public art.

Greg Errett, Winston-Salem: Discussed opportunities to partner with Creative Corridors along the MLK Jr. Drive corridor.

VII. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

*Next Full Commission Meeting:
June 1, 2021 2:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting*