

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8TH, 2017
City Hall, Point Molate Conference Room
450 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
RICHMOND, CA 94804

Present: Jenny Balisle, Gretchen Borg, Linda Kalin and Jessica Parker.

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager; Katy Curl, Director, Library & cultural Services

Guests: Robert "Bob" Soskin

I. Meeting Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Balisle; Balisle to chair meeting.

II. Action: Agenda Review and Acceptance

- Upon motion of Borg, seconded by Kalin, the agenda is approved.

III. Action: Minutes Review and Acceptance (5/11017)

- Upon motion of Kalin seconded by Borg, the July 2017 minutes are conditionally approved with the following corrections:
 - Remove editorial comment re Port.
 - We received grant funding for one neighborhood, but not two.

IV. Discuss Sample Documents for Percent for Art in Private Development Brochures and Developer Guides (all):

- Seville included a number of brochures for us to review. The printed collection of brochures and applications vary in their specificity. Emeryville has a fantastic package which includes recommendations/ideas for public art installations like benches, tree grates and stands, bike racks, lighting, sconces, etc. Projects can be utilitarian in nature but must have artistic fundamentals and be designed by artists.

- The Philadelphia sample was also highlighted by PAAC members because this is where the percent for art program was first initiated; the “heart of percent for art.”
- PAAC members must help create documents that can communicate clearly what the expectations are and how to work on public art projects. We need to make things as easy as possible and as clear as possible for developers and potential collaborators.
- Next steps:
 1. Seville would like PAAC members to create guidelines for developers.
 2. We have to come up with a list of documents and include web/mobile accessibility.
 3. Staff should meet with the City Planning Department sooner than later.
 4. Seville suggests that we read the material send notes. Include the whole list and send feedback before August 22. We should also plan to look at Santa Cruz and Santa Monica to see what their public art guidelines are like.
 5. We also need to include policies and procedures; Seville will contact Dayna and see her updates.

V. Update on Unity Park/Greenway Art Finalists (Staff/Parker):

- Seville reported on the seven members of the Selection Panel; most did not have a background in art. Friends of the Richmond Greenway and other business and non-profit representatives participated and reported having a great experience.
- Both sculpture proposals were selected because there were two applicants: Richard Muro and Archie Held. Richard is working at Scientific Art Studio and has experience with POGO Park totem installations and fencing. Archie has his own sculpture studio off of the greenway, and was the designer of the fountain and sculpture in Civic Center Plaza. Michele showed the sculpture concepts and described some of the details. At Unity Park on the Greenway there will be a cafe, benches, bathrooms, plaza and basketball court. Marcia Vallier Design Associates will come and do a presentation on Unity Park in the future so we can see what’s in the works.
- Seville walked us through the four mural project submissions. The artists were Lauren Ari, Rebeca Garcia-Gonzalez, Seren Moran, and Ross Holzman of Create Peace Projects. Each artist had very different concepts. Of these four artists, the two that were selected by the panel were Rebeca Garcia-Gonzalez and Seren Moran.
- Kalin mentioned that having two different mural concepts would be interesting; Parker agreed.

VI. Review of Moody Underpass Public Art Ideas (All):

- An RFP needs to be created and submitted for the public art opportunity at the overpass site. Seville will contact the developer to see about “leftover” art ideas. Balisle visited the

Denver airport and did not recognize the propeller project but will look up the concept online and send links. Kalin mentioned that she saw a “for sale” sign nearby so it is probably not an area that should be included in the RFP. Also there is the issue of a shellmound.

- Kalin spent some time thinking about an environmental concept; instead of adding ornamentation to the existing project perhaps we could add a sound element. There was a sound piece submission for another project which would have been a challenge to residents nearby. Maybe take some nature sounds or fog horn sounds; maybe wind sounds. A tribal sound piece could be cool. Borg will talk to the tribal representative and Staff will connect with the nearby developer and arrange for a visit. There is Native American public art in Emeryville that is worth checking out. PAAC members should also email artist ideas and theme ideas to Seville by the 22nd of August.

VII. Update on Art Sanctuary (Kalin/Balisle)

- Next steps include researching guidelines and requirements of the proposed Art Sanctuary idea being hatched by Kalin and Balisle. The key concept is that neighborhoods adopt artwork without homes. Reported feedback so far has been unequivocally positive. Curl wants the PAAC piece and/or the City piece articulated. With NPA, the percent for public art and art sanctuary, we are redefining what art means to the City of Richmond. The PAAC subcommittee members who are working on this project, plan to create guidelines and requirements first before creating contracts.

VIII. Staff Report (Seville)

- Arts and Libation tourist map project hit a couple of snags: a) there will be no city money allocated to creating this project, and b) another organization already has a website that is doing something similar. Since there is no city funding, interested businesses were asked to kick in for the project and to manage it and no one seems to have resources to accomplish this.
- Eel grass sculpture photo with Michele—so cute! The Pt. Sheridan public art project is moving forward quickly; working with an LED expert from China who is one of the most brilliant LED artists in the world and he lives in Oakland. Will be working in green, beige and a little orange— camouflage inspired. The artists purchased LED panels today because in two years the cost of LED lights is supposed to increase exponentially. The lights will be programmed to reflect the movement of the tides: warm colors for low tide, and cool colors for high tide. WETA will assist the artists by doing the grading on the public art site as well as elsewhere. Everyone is excited about the sculpture; WETA is being very cooperative. There will also be a plaque describing the local eel grass habitat.

- Donte Clark, former poet Laureate of Richmond, is big in the news; also a former NPA mini-grant recipient.

IX. Announcements (All):

- Point Richmond Music is Friday
- Rosie the Riveter gathering is on Saturday.
- Kalin will be absent from the next meeting.
- Some artists have repeatedly mentioned to Seville that the cost of a business license for artists is too high for an emerging artist. Curl will follow up on the waiving of business license fees at the City level.

X. Adjourn

- Meeting is adjourned at 9:00pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 2017.