

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 11, 2018
450 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor
Richmond Conference Room
Richmond, CA 94804

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Michelle Baker, Jenny Balisle, Tom Herriman, Gretchen Borg-Hillstead, Linda Kalin, and Jessica Parker

Absent: Phillip Mehas

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager

Guests: None

I. Chair Balisle called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

II. Roll Call

III. Agenda Review and Acceptance

Motion by Committee Member Baker, second by Committee Member Kalin, and carried unanimously to accept the agenda, as modified, to add a *Next Steps* item to each agenda after Announcements to identify items to be pursued before the next meeting.

IV. Minutes from the November 13, 2018 Meeting

Motion by Committee Member Baker, second by Committee Member Kalin, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting, as submitted.

V. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

VI. Presentation by Rotary Club re Public Art

The presentation by the Rotary Club scheduled at this time was continued to 8:00 P.M.

VII. Report on Status of Proposed Public Art Board Ordinance and Public Art Policies & Procedures

Michele Seville advised there was nothing new to report on the Public Art Board Ordinance since it was on hold pending the advancement of the Public Art Policies & Procedures (P&P) document. She explained that one of the complexities involved was that the PAAC had never formally been created by an ordinance and had existed only within the P&P document. The Public Art Board Ordinance had been proposed to change the name of the PAAC to the Public Art Board and create a body similar to that of the Design Review Board. Everett Jenkins of the City Attorney's office was currently reviewing the P&P, and because the P&P was so outdated a different model would have to be used.

Ms. Seville referenced the suggestion by Lina Velasco of the Planning Department to hold a study session in which public art director(s) from other cities might be invited to participate, which would happen after the first of the year.

VIII. Discussion on Adding New Artists to the Artists Roster

Chair Balisle referenced the informal meeting with staff and Committee Member Parker with respect to the implementation of the Artists Roster.

Committee Member Parker advised that she had intended to handle the Artists Roster by herself for a while unless the response was much greater than expected. In any event, an automated response email had been proposed to allow time for her or someone else to respond.

Committee Member Baker volunteered to serve as backup when needed.

By consensus, the PAAC decided to launch the Artists Roster on January 4, 2019; there would be a test run prior to the launch; the loss of the Google document on the website would be investigated; and a marketing campaign email would be created.

IX. Report on New Developer Handout Materials Including Brochure Update

Ms. Seville explained that most of the original contents of the last iteration of the Public Art Information for Developers Brochure had been retained, and she highlighted what had been changed. She also noted the question of what development projects were subject to the ordinance and whether the \$500,000 cutoff pertained to residential improvements, or to all private developments, which she would have to verify with the City Attorney. Once the City Attorney's opinion had been received, the brochure would be ready to go.

Committee Member Kalin advised that she had submitted by email an updated version of the brochure just presented by Ms. Seville. She expressed a preference to use the version in the email pending the City Attorney's opinion.

Committee Member Kalin advised that with final approval, all modifications would be made, the document would be reformatted, and the brochure would return to the PAAC for approval and be ready for printing in 2019.

X. Discussion of Percent for Art in Private Development Planning Department Presentation

With no date set at this point for a presentation and with the impending retirement of the head of the Planning Department, Ms. Seville suggested the PAAC should get the Artist Roster up and running, finish the brochure, and then meet with the Planning Department.

Chair Balisle agreed and noted that she had envisioned the meeting with the Planning Department to include an introduction, mission, purpose, public art definitions, percent per art overview including the process, art examples and visuals, and the public Artists Roster overview, to be followed by a bi-monthly meeting.

VI. Presentation by Rotary Club re Public Art

Ms. Seville introduced Jan Brown, a Richmond resident and graphic artist who had done the brochure for the Civic Center and the Plaza, and who was also a member of the Rotary Club.

Jan Brown, the incoming President of the Rotary Club, a volunteer organization, reported that the Rotary would be celebrating its 100th Anniversary on April 1, 2019. She highlighted the history of Rotary Clubs and advised that in honor of Richmond Rotary's 100th Anniversary, a major project had been proposed in the area of youth, education, and peace. The Rotary wanted to be involved in something at Harbor Eight. The Rotary sought feedback from the PAAC on a project it could pursue.

Committee Member Borg-Hillstead described the components at the Harbor Eight and liked the idea of a nicer gate around the trees to protect them.

Committee Member Kalin noted there were local metal artists in the Artists Roster who would likely be interested in such a project. She also noted there was a mural in the original Downtown Post Office that would be restored, which could be a project for the Rotary.

Ms. Brown stated the desire was for a permanent piece where a Rotary plaque could be placed. The Rotary would also be interested in a place for performance art.

Committee Member Parker suggested that if the art could somehow be tied into STEM programming elements, LB&L had some funds that had to be used in Richmond before the end of the current fiscal year.

Ms. Brown was thanked for her presentation, and the Rotary was thanked for its interest in art in Richmond.

XI. Status Report of Existing/Future CIP Projects and Private Development Projects

Ms. Seville had nothing to report at this time although she described a meeting on December 12 that could produce some information that could be reported. At this point, none of the projects had reached the point of finalization and no public art had been discussed beyond the requirement for public art.

Ms. Seville was asked to provide a status report on the Planning Department's letter informing developers of the percent for art requirement.

The PAAC asked for a status report on the John Toki project.

XII. Staff Report

Ms. Seville reported that she and Sasha Curl from the City Manager's Office would be taking a tour of the sculptures at the Port. While the sculptures were expected to be completed by the Opening Day on January 10, 2019, a Plan B had been proposed to mimic the sculptures until they could be completed.

Ms. Seville also reported that the Richmond Arts Salons, a meet and greet for artists, had been scheduled for the second Sunday of each month at various locations; the John Wehrle mural at the Richmond Plunge Swimming Pool was in the process of renovation given the cracks and other problems with the mural wall; a meeting at the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council had been scheduled in January, date to be determined, when Yuki Nagase would present his concept for public art at the Moody Underpass, and the Native American community had requested that some of the plants be removed and be replaced with medicinal Native American plants and the native community have access to harvest those plants; and the "Community Conversations" grant, which was to have ended on December 31, had been extended by the University of California Berkeley.

Ms. Seville also advised that the Neighborhood Public Art Mini-Grants were coming along and there were sufficient members on the Richmond Art & Culture Commission (RAAC) to shepherd those projects. She added there were three new applicants for the RAAC.

XIII. Announcements

Committee Member Herriman stated that the Sharp Five Jazz Band would perform at his home on December 22; and Sophia Barker, a Ugandan bark cloth artist, would offer a demonstration/lecture at Abrams Claghorn Galley in El Cerrito on December 16 from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M.

XIV. Next Steps

Committee Member Baker advised that she would review all the outdated City websites related to the RACC and the PAAC, and the Google document regarding the Drop Box emails that was no longer available on line.

Committee Member Kalin reported that she had created something that set up the Percent Per Art requirements in phases to create a more orderly arrangement to be able to accomplish what the PAAC wanted to accomplish.

Chair Balisle stated that she would organize the To Do list for the Artists Roster; email, testing link, checking for the Google document and getting that organized, and would send the PowerPoints from the RACC meeting and think of artists for the Rotary project, foster that relationship, and move forward.

Committee Member Parker reiterated the need and desire to work together to complete the Artists Roster, to test emails, the checklist with communications for artists, send out a test email to Richard Muro and to Stephen Bruce, and a rough draft for a marketing campaign email after the roll out date on January 4, 2019.

Committee Member Borg-Hillstead reported that she had already reached out to Richard Muro on Facebook.

It was also recommended that the next agenda include an artist's rights line for copyright and other issues.

Ms. Seville added that her to do list was to contact John Toki, ask Lina Velasco about the letter to developers, find out about the Peace sculpture, and work with the language for the Artists Roster email with Committee Member Parker.

XV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 P.M. to the next meeting on January 8, 2019.