

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 9, 2019
450 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor
Richmond Conference Room
Richmond, CA 94804

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Jenny Balisle, Tom Herriman, Linda Kalin, Phillip Mehas, and Jessica Parker

Absent: Michelle Baker, and Gretchen Borg-Hillstead

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

Guests: Winifred Day, Cordell Hindler, and Ernst Valery

I. Chair Jenny Balisle called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

II. Roll Call

III. Agenda Review and Acceptance

On motion by Committee Member Kalin, seconded by Committee Member Mehas and carried unanimously to extend the time for the presentation of the 12th/ Macdonald Private Development Project by ten minutes to allow five minutes for the developer to speak and five minutes for questions.

IV. Minutes from the June 11, 2019 Meeting

Committee Member Kalin requested amendments to the minutes in the second to last paragraph on Page 3 to clarify that the subcommittee had already crafted a Public Art Board Ordinance, which had been presented at the work plan workshop, and she had requested that ordinance be reviewed prior to considering any other draft of the document. She also referred to the comment from Rosalie Barnes that she would contact Ben Choi, although nothing had been provided as to whether or not that had occurred. With respect to the last paragraph on Page 5, she requested the record reflect the desire of all Committee Members that all personal information be removed from the meeting packets.

On motion by Committee Member Mehas, seconded by Committee Member Parker and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2019 meeting, as corrected.

V. Public Comment

WINIFRED DAY also noted with respect to the minutes that the panel list was not accurate, although Ms. Seville explained that while an updated summary of the panel list had not been available at that time, it would be included.

VI. Report on Public Art Selection Panel Meeting of June 26, 2019 for 12th/ Macdonald Private Development Project

ERNST VALERY, with SAA/EVI Development, described his planning and real estate development background and his desire to change the development paradigm to create an ecosystem with community connections from the past and into the future. In the pursuit of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 12th/ Macdonald private development project, he had involved as many people as possible and had worked with Winifred Day to ensure that the art associated with the project would include local artists and represent the community. He stated the initial proposal was phase one of a multi-phase development and the development would be ongoing for the next 15 to 20 years. Noting the concern with respect to gentrification and displacement, he had worked with the East Bay Center and others in an inclusive approach, and intended to create a development for people of all economic means. He also commented that the development would exceed the one percent for art requirement.

WINIFRED DAY, SAA/EVI Public Art Program Director, described the panel discussion that had occurred on June 26, 2019 when four or five different locations had been considered and when four artists had been selected as finalists for the public art. She identified the cultural diversity of the panel and of the artists considered, presented sample images of the art that had been considered, and reported that a final design had been selected. She described the project as a private project with the Mayor and explained that the artist would produce a monument to the “Dormitory O” tragedy for \$400,000. She clarified that the developer’s requirement for the site was to provide a location for the monument with placement, pedestal, and lighting.

Several members of the PAAC expressed concern for the proposal’s process that had not followed the protocol that was being established and which could set a precedent for future proposals.

Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager, explained how the procedure, which had not followed protocol, had been changed by Ms. Day and Mr. Valery, in agreement with the Mayor’s office and the Arts & Culture Manager to create a more level playing field.

Mr. Valery reiterated that they had committed to exceed the one percent requirement and would be working with local artists, and that other parts of the project would produce opportunities for different phases for different levels of artists. He clarified that not all the artists would be from Richmond.

Committee Member Kalin expressed disappointment that more topics had not been included, although Ms. Day explained that once the current process had been completed the four artists would work with the developer to expand the concept.

Chair Balisle emphasized the importance of the Artists Roster in the process.

Ms. Day responded to questions, some of which related to funding, and stated it was important for the conversation to continue, and to include the Mayor.

VII. Report on Meeting with Planning Department on June 20, 2019

Ms. Seville reported on the meeting with the Planning Department that she characterized as very productive, and advised that Joshua Horn had been present from the Richmond Arts & Culture Commission (RACC) since he had multiple interactions with the Planning Department, with the goal of requesting the insertion of updated language into the Planning Department's Multi-Family Residential, Commercial Mixed-Use, Commercial or Industrial Projects application submittal checklist, determine whether there was a need to create an additional Public Art Application Form (Palo Alto's form had been submitted as an example), and discuss an ongoing list of new private development projects and a point person.

Ms. Seville reported that the requested language had been inserted into the Planning Department's application form, and the Planning Department had supported the creation of a Public Art Application Form. She added that after the preparation of the packet an updated list of projects had been submitted. She expected updates to the list on a regular basis.

VIII. PAAC Officer Election

On motion by Committee Member Kalin, seconded by Committee Member Parker, and carried unanimously to elect **Phillip Mehas** as Chair and **Jenny Balisle** as Vice Chair of the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC).

IX. Final Changes on Work Plan

Chair Balisle reported that she and Rosalie Barnes from the RACC had made changes to the Executive Summary of the Work Plan, which had been reviewed by the RACC and which had offered clarifying suggestions. She and Ms. Barnes would provide additional refinements to the document.

Committee Member Kalin noted that some of her recommended changes had not been included before the RACC had received the document for approval, and Ms. Seville noted that the next RACC meeting would be held on July 23 when an up-to-date iteration of the document could be provided.

Ms. Seville suggested the RACC could finalize the Work Plan at that time and the document could be submitted to the City Manager the last week in July. She noted that the City Manager would be on vacation from August 10 to August 23.

Given the required lead time, Chair Balisle commented that she would make an appointment with the City Manager now and that meeting would likely include Rosalie Barnes and Ms. Seville.

On the review of the document, Committee Member Kalin suggested that Goals 3 and 7 were similar, although the differences were later clarified. She expressed her disappointment with the tone of the document which had been intended to identify the urgent need to solve problems. She also expressed concern with the language in Goal 7 and recommended direct statements. She referred to the incorrect Capital Improvement Program (CIP) percentages in the last paragraph in the Executive Summary, stated that incorrect language continued to be repeated, and requested that the source of that error be corrected.

Chair Balisle also urged the elimination of the term “volunteer management” in the last sentence of No. 7 given that the PAAC, a volunteer committee, had been maxed out.

Ms. Seville recommended that the last paragraph of the Executive Summary be more clear and concise. She commended the PAAC for a job well done.

On the discussion of how and when to proceed, Ms. Seville suggested that Chair Balisle reach out to the City Manager to advise that the RACC/PAAC had formed a subcommittee, had been diligently working on the request for a work plan that was being finalized and was expected to be finished by the end of July, acknowledge his vacation in August, and express a desire to meet with him as soon as possible upon his return.

On motion by Committee Member Kalin, seconded by Committee Member Mehas, and carried unanimously to conditionally approve the updated work plan pending the insertion of feedback from the PAAC at this meeting and submittal to the RACC for approval.

X. Report on Website Update

Committee Member Baker was not present to provide a report on the website.

XI. Report on Existing/Future CIP and Private Development Projects

Ms. Seville referred to the list of private development projects in the meeting packet, reported that the expansion of the RYSE Youth Center had already been presented to the PAAC, and advised that she would contact the other three

projects on the list to request a meeting with the PAAC.
XII. Report and Vote on Changes to Public Art Brochure

Committee Member Kalin pointed out the intended colors of the brochure which had been shown as black and white in the staff report.

On motion by Committee Member Mehas, seconded by Committee Member Parker, and carried unanimously to approve the changes to the Public Art Brochure, which would now be printed.

XIII. Staff Report

Ms. Seville referred to her staff report in the meeting packet and reported that everything was moving forward.

XIV. Next Steps Discussion

Chair Balisle reported that she would work on the work plan; Committee Member Kalin would send Ms. Seville the in-design version of the Public Art Brochure; Committee Member Parker would help with the work plan; and Committee Member Mehas would check the agendas for the Design Review Board (DRB) and work with city staff to get PAAC activities in the weekly newsletter.

Ms. Seville would communicate in writing to Mr. Valery and Ms. Day that the PAAC had received their recommendations from the selection panel to be used by the DRB at its meeting on July 23; and would request the total building development cost for the RYSE extension.

Committee Member Kalin raised the question of whether or not the PAAC would have to approve the proposal for the 12th and Macdonald project, and after clarifications by Ms. Seville, the PAAC determined that it should not make a recommendation in this case given the lack of protocol.

When asked for her feedback from the meeting on the project on June 26, Committee Member Parker explained that she had disagreed with the selection pane. She emphasized the need for policies and procedures.

XV. Announcements

Ms. Seville announced that the Richmond Museum of History, which had recently found the Arnautoff Mural, would be holding a fundraiser for it on September 12.

Cordell Hindler invited PAAC members to a performance of "Once on this Island."

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 P.M. to the next meeting on August 13, 2019.