Public Arts Board Minutes

Public Meeting on Zoom – February 10th, 2021

A. Roll Call:

Members Present: Barbara Heller, Monica Neville, Annie VanGelderen, Jason

Eddleston, Linda Wells, Anne Ritchie, Natalie Bishae, Peggy

Daitch

Members Absent:

Administration: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

B. Approval of Minutes – January 21st, 2021

Motion to approve minutes by Linda Wells, seconded by Annie VanGelderen.

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

The motion carried.

C. Unfinished Business

The first item of unfinished business was the discussion for recommending a public notification process for the Public Arts Board. The Board indicated that notifications for public hearings should be sent once a location and installation process is formalized. An initial discussion regarding the art piece and its context with the City should not require public notifications. The Board agreed that following the general public notification guidelines similar to what site plans reviews have to do is fair for public art. The Board believes that the public should be notified and have the opportunity to be involved in the public engagement process.

A motion was made by Anne Ritchie to recommend the suggested language to require a public notification process for any hearing regarding public art. The motion was seconded by Annie VanGelderen.

Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

The motion carried.

The next agenda item was a study session for ways to recruit more funding to encourage arton-loan and art donations to Birmingham. Financial assistance from the City may be limited due to budget approval and constraints, however the Public Arts Board is in partnership with the Cultural Council of Birmingham Bloomfield (CCBB) which is a non-profit organization. If a donor is interested in providing financial assistance for art in Birmingham, that money could go to the CCBB and then distributed to the artist.

The Public Arts Board reviewed a former donor sheet that was used in the mid to late 2000s to help attract financial donations. This document had a number of different donor levels and

donor appreciations associated with each level. The Public Arts Board discussed creating 3 to 4 levels of sponsor benefits, such as platinum, gold, silver, and bronze. A donor would receive various levels of acknowledgement based upon the amount provided.

Setting up an easy online donation capability was also discussed. The intent is to enable people who may be willing to contribute smaller amounts such as \$20 or \$50 and still give them a level of acknowledgement and appreciation. The Board asked staff to look into how the City could manage donations and handle sponsoring art, if possible.

The Board discussed how the end result of their sponsor program should make all donors feel appreciated, taken care of, and see some type of benefit for participating in the process.

D. New Business

No new business.

F. Communication

Wall art recommendations will be reviewed by the Design Review Board on March 3rd.

G. Comments

E. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.