

Public Arts Board Minutes

Public Meeting on Zoom – Jul 21st, 2021

A. Roll Call:

Members Present: Barbara Heller, Monica Neville, Annie VanGeldereren, Peggy Daitch, Jason Eddleston, Natalie Bishae

Members Absent: Anne Ritchie, Marla Kaftan, Nora Sherifaj (Student Rep)
Hadley Lovell (Student Rep)

Administration: Brooks Cowan, City Planner

B. Approval of Minutes – June 16th, 2021

Motion to approve minutes made by Annie VanGeldereren, seconded by Monica Neville.

Yeas: 6 Nays: 0

The motion carried.

C. New Business

The Public Arts Board reviewed applications for sculptures on loan. The artist Helen Hierta submitted three meditation pole sculptures for art-on-loan. The Board liked the look of the sculptures, however there was general consensus at the previous meeting that the locations in the Call for Entry were not ideal for these sculptures. The Board believed Hierta's work would be best served near entrances to trails. Staff presented a trail map of Birmingham with 8 possible trail entrance locations for consideration. The Board prioritized Lincoln & Fairway Trail, the History Museum, and the intersection of Eton and Maple as their top 3. The Board also indicated which sculpture they would like to see at each site. Staff indicated they would coordinate these priorities with the artist and obtain feedback. Staff also indicated they would clarify with the artist if the 3 sculptures were a package or if the artist wanted the Board to select one.

The Board then reviewed Laurie Tennent's application for flower prints to be placed on the electrical box at N. Old Woodward and Hamilton Row. The Board liked the application, however they felt that it should be postponed given that the artist currently has an exhibit on display along the Rouge Trail. The Board felt that other artists should be given an opportunity and that the Tennent's application should be considered in 2022 in the next call for entry.

Mig Wire sculptures by Michael O'Reilly were also reviewed, however the Board did not feel they were a great fit for proposed locations in Birmingham, and the Board wished to prioritize other sculpture applications.

The artist Ray Katz submitted 7 possible art-on-loan sculptures for the City to select. The Board felt that the area south of the 555 building in the Call For Entry could work, however the Arts Board wanted to prioritize that space for something larger in years to come. The

intersection of Southfield Road and Southlawn Blvd at Crestview Park was also proposed, given that Southfield is one of the main entryways to the City and the southwest side of town does not have as many sculptures. The Board requested that staff bring photos of Crestview Park and renderings of what some of the sculptures may look like there. Staff indicated that a few examples could be brought to the next meeting.

D. Communications

The Public Arts Board discussed farmers market activities and how it would be a good idea to hand out dog treats to attract people. The Board also concurred on Pinwheels and a fall theme for the next two craft projects.

The meeting concluded at 7:45pm.

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