

# Public Arts Board

## Minutes – July 16, 2014

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Meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m.

**A) Roll Call –**

**Members Present:** Barbara Heller, Phyllis Klinger, Diane Kowaleski, Linda Wells

**Members Absent:** Emily Abbott, Sally Parsons, Meredith Sherbin

**Guests:** Calvin Lauritsen, Paul Reagan, Cindy Rose, Annie VanGeldereren

**Administration:** Marianne Gamboa, Laura Pierce

**B) Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2014**

Motion by Wells, seconded by Kowaleski to approve the April 16, 2014 minutes.

Yeas: 4      Nays: 0

**C) Unfinished Business**

**1. Gary Kulak “Pride” Sculpture**

Heller provided an overview of Gary Kulak’s application to place the Pride sculpture in Barnum Park. She presented documentation with signatures of support from the Community for Barnum Park fundraising group. Rose and Reagan commented on behalf of the group, saying they gratefully accept the sculpture and are completely in favor of it. Reagan said Barnum Park is defining itself and the community is finding its way to it; he’s delighted that Kulak’s sculpture will be the first piece of art in Barnum Park. The committee discussed the location of the sculpture and they’re pleased with the proposed area identified in Kulak’s application. Approval to recommend the sculpture to the City Commission was moved by Wells and seconded by Klinger. City staff to follow up on next steps and let the Board know when the sculpture will go before the Commission.

Yeas: 4      Nays: 0

**2. Birmingham in Stitches**

The committee discussed plans for another Birmingham in Stitches event. They discussed the possibility of having it in the spring of 2015. The event will kick off on Saturday, May 16, 2015. Volunteers will install the yarn from Wednesday, May 13 through Friday, May 15. The potential location of the project could be specific areas near Shain Park,

with the potential to expand the area if there are enough volunteers. City staff will look for the spreadsheet containing the names of volunteers from the 2012 event, in addition to charts and maps used for the 2012 event. Approval to move forward with plans to have the 2015 Birmingham in Stitches event begin the weekend after Mother's Day was moved by Kowaleski and seconded by Wells.

Yeas: 4          Nays: 0

**D) New Business**

**1) Sculpted Abstracts Wood Designs by Calvin Lauritsen**

Mr. Lauritsen presented his artwork to the Board. He showed examples of his art and explained he envisions them in parks and/or sidewalks in the City. Heller explained that at this time there isn't funding to purchase art.

**E) Committee Reports**

**1) Spring 2014 Public Lecture – Scott Slocum Follow-Up**

Heller talked about Scott Slocum's lecture that took place on June 9 at the Baldwin Public Library. She said the lecture was well attended and there was a lively discussion. Slocum demonstrated bronze-casting and attendees stayed until 9 p.m. Heller talked about possibly facilitating another lecture at the library in December. She will report back to the Board regarding specific dates and the topic.

**2) Birmingham CityScapes Charity Poker Party Fundraiser Event: 7/18-7/21**

Heller talked about the upcoming Charity Poker Event and the need for more volunteers. VanGelderren offered to send an e-mail out to solicit more help for the event. The fall Charity Poker event will be held October 18 through 21.

**3) LaRue Johnson Sculpture Dedication**

Heller talked about the dedication of the LaRue Johnson sculpture on May 1. She said the Mayor gave a nice speech and several Public Arts Board members were in attendance, in addition to the donor's daughter and grandson.

**F. Communication**

**1. Honorarium Funding Update**

The Public Arts Board had inquired about a potential Honorarium for a new round of CityScape installations. Heller read a response letter from Birmingham City Manager Joe Valentine, stating funding is not available at this time.

## **2. Richard Rollins Letter**

Heller read a letter submitted by a Birmingham resident, Richard Rollins. Mr. Rollins had expressed interest in bringing high-end artwork into the City, such as Richard Serra works. Heller and the board members agreed that funding for such works of art is not available at this time.

### **G. Public Comments**

None

### **H. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.