

Public Arts Board

Minutes – March 15, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:46 PM

A) Roll Call –

Members Present: Rabbi Baruch Cohen, Barbara Heller, Monica Neville, Cecilia Trella (Student Representative), Linda Wells,

Members Absent: Celeste Demps-Simons (Student Representative), Jason Eddleston, Sarah Evans (Student Representative) Anne Ritchie, Mary Roberts

Administration: Sean Campbell, Assistant City Planner, Jana Ecker, Planning Director

Other Audience Member(s) Present: Cindy Rose (Community for Barnum Park)

B) Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2017

Motion by Linda Wells, seconded by Rabbi Cohen to approve the February 15, 2017 minutes with the following changes:

Strike out the extra “e” after “Anne” to read as “Anne” in the first sentence of the first paragraph under item B) Approval of Minutes – January 18, 2016

Strike out “Dealer” and replace it with “Donor” in the first sentence of the fifth paragraph under item D) New Business; Updated Procedure and Application for Public Art

Insert “(dealer)” after agent in the first sentence of the fifth paragraph under item D) New Business; Updated Procedure and Application for Public Art

Yeas: 4 Nays: 0

The motion carried

C) Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was discussed at this meeting.

D) New Business

Site and Placement Guidelines for Public Art

Sean Campbell presented a report summarizing his research on site and placement guidelines for the public art pieces. He remarked that the Board had discussed creating a list of possible locations for future sculptures which could be included in press releases about the Art in Public Spaces program. He recommended that, in accordance with Objective 3 of the Rules of Procedure, the Public Arts Board adopt formal guidelines for site selection for and placement of public sculptures before approving a list of sites.

Mr. Campbell referenced the desire for public art expressed in the Alleys and Passageways Plan and Triangle District Urban Design Plan and the specific locations they recommended for such installations. He also presented a set of model guidelines taken from the Project for Public Spaces as a possible list that the Board could modify, amend, or approve as is.

Barbara Heller suggested moving the last guideline of the list up to first as it is most important. She also suggested removing the fifth guideline about public art enhancing its surroundings and not creating blind spots and further adding that it is unnecessary. Jana Ecker advised that illicit activities have occurred in or near play structures and that the Board may want to have that in mind when selecting sites for sculptures.

Ms. Heller questioned whether the guidelines would be an amendment to the rules of procedure or be adopted separately. Ms. Ecker clarified that they would be adopted as a standalone document. Ms. Heller remarked that the rules of procedure should, however, be amended to reflect the new procedure and application process for approving public art.

Mr. Campbell asked the Board if they would like to create a list of specific sites for future sculptures or have a map highlighting broader areas based on the guidelines. The consensus of the Board was to approve a list of specific sites based on the guidelines. Rabbi Cohen remarked that it would be helpful for the applicant or prospective applicant to have access to a map of the pre-approved sites.

The discussion shifted to the placement of sculptures and whether it would be necessary to have minimum and/or maximum setbacks. Monica Neville commented that it would

be nice to have the sculpture situated close to the sidewalk or pathway to better allow for public interaction, but it should also be clear that the art is not to be touched.

Motion by Monica Neville, seconded by Rabbi Cohen to approve the site and placement guidelines with the noted changes and to direct Planning Staff to draft a map and list of potential sites for art installations.

Yeas: 4 Nays: 0

The motion carried.

E) Committee Reports

No committee reports were given.

F) Communication

Ms. Ecker informed the Board that the Engineering Department is in the process of ordering the necessary soil borings for the Barnum Park sculpture pad. The foundation has been included in the sidewalk program for spring 2017.

A recess was called at 7:26 and the Board reconvened at 7:30.

Ms. Ecker recommended that the Board nominate a Vice Chair in the event that the Chair is not present to call meetings to order in the future.

Motion by Rabbi Cohen, seconded by Monica Neville to nominate Linda Wells as Vice Chair.

Yeas: 4 Nays: 0

Ms. Ecker further recommended that the Board update the Rules of Procedure and become more active in subcommittees moving forward.

G) Public Comments

No public comment.

H) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM