

## **The City of Knoxville: Public Arts Committee**

### **Public Arts Committee Meeting: March 7, 2017**

Meeting was called to order at 4:10 PM at the Knoxville Museum of Art.

#### **Attendees Present:**

James Taylor – Committee Member  
Jeffrey Lockett – Committee Member  
John Powers – Committee Member  
Liza Zenni – Staff Liaison  
Mike Fowler – Committee Member  
Rachel Perkins Haverkamp – Committee Administrator  
Rick Emmett – City of Knoxville, Downtown Coordinator  
Susana Esrequis – Committee Member  
Tanisha Baker – Committee Member  
Terry Mosley – Committee Member

#### **Absent Members:**

Bart Watkins  
Chuck Morris  
Duane Grieve  
Erin Donovan  
Mark Heinz  
Sara Pinnell  
Tommie Rush

**Approval of the Agenda:** Terry moved to approve the agenda. Susana seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Approval of February Minutes:** Mike moved to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Vol Landing Mural update:** Liza shared that Eddie Mendieta, the artist selected for the Vol Landing Mural, is scheduled to start work on the mural on April 5. The budget has increased to \$20,000 for the project, due to unforeseen insurance and road closure costs.

**Gay Street update:** Liza explained that the city's Law Department and Purchasing Department are currently preparing a contract for Robert Barnum, the artist selected for the Gay Street art installation. In the interim, the artist has been informed that his proposal was selected and he intends to begin work on the project, with an installation goal of September 15. The artist also suggested repainting the site, with input from the committee regarding the color choice. The committee will work with Robert to select a color and will recommend specific primers and acrylic paints.

**Steps update:** The Law Department and Purchasing Department are also preparing a contract for Jessie Unterhalter and Katey Truhn, the artists selected for the steps project on Cumberland Avenue. The artists have been informed that their proposal was selected and they plan to arrive in Knoxville in mid-June to begin work on the project.

**Women's Basketball Hall of Fame mural:** Women's Basketball Hall of Fame received a Challenge Grant from the City of Knoxville's Parks and Recreation Department to support a mural on the retaining wall between the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame (WBHOF) and the Marriot Hotel. While the project does not require approval from the committee, Dana Hart, President of WBHOF, asked for feedback from the committee about the proposed design.

Shane Sandberg, a Knoxville artist, was selected to create the mural. Sandberg's design features the Knoxville riverfront with the Henley Street Bridge and Knoxvillians participating in a variety of activities along Vol Landing Park. The two far ends of the wall will be painted with chalk paint to allow visitors to create their own artwork. Baskets of chalk will be stored in the WBHOF gift shop.

The committee expressed their appreciation for WBHOF's efforts to beautify the area with a mural. The committee expressed concern that the figures might appear distorted due to their small size. Liza will share the committee's feedback with WBHOF.

**Chilhowee Park update:** Liza reported that Greg Mackay, Director of Chilhowee Park, is securing funding to support a mural in the tunnel at Chilhowee Park, which connects to the mural completed in August 2016. The park will hire an artist to work with local high school students on the design and painting process. The park will provide lunches for the students and will assist with transportation for the students to the site. The project budget is \$10,000. The project is scheduled to take place in June, and the Public Arts Committee will review the design at the June 6 meeting.

**State Street Garage project:** One of the artists selected to submit a proposal for the State Street Garage project has expressed some concerns about the overabundant and unnecessary legal language in the RFP and the paucity of the proposed honorarium of \$750. Liza is working with the city's legal department to address the concerns about the language in the RFP. All three artists have expressed interest in presenting their proposals in person, and Liza asked for feedback from the committee. After some discussion, Mike motioned to increase the honorarium to \$2,000 per artist. James seconded the motion. The motion passed. The committee asked Liza to investigate the cost and logistics for the artists to travel to Knoxville to present their designs at the April 4 meeting with a cap of \$1,000/each in

travel, lodging, etc. Liza will inform the committee if the artists will be available to present their designs.

**Future Meetings:**

- A. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 4:00 PM.
  - a. The meeting will be held at the Knoxville Museum of Art.
- B. Future meetings:
  - a. May 2, 2017
  - b. June 6, 2017

**Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM**