

The City of Knoxville: Public Arts Committee

Public Arts Committee Meeting: May 3, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM at the Knoxville Museum of Art.

Attendees Present:

Beauvais Lyons – Guest (SGC Conference)
Chuck Morris – Committee Member
Duane Grieve – Committee Member, City Council Representative
Jeffrey Lockett – Committee Member
Judith Foltz – City of Knoxville, Special Events Director
Liza Zenni – Staff Liaison
Megan Boehnke – Guest (Knoxville News Sentinel)
Mike Fowler – Committee Member
Rachel Perkins – Committee Administrator
Rick Emmett – City of Knoxville, Downtown Coordinator
Susana Esrequis – Committee Member
Wanda Sobieski – Guest (Burn Memorial)

Approval of the Agenda: Duane moved to approve the adjusted agenda. Mike seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Approval of March Minutes: Duane moved to approve the minutes. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Beauvais Lyons: Post SGC International Conference Report

Beauvais Lyons shared images of temporary public art from Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI) 2015, including the Prints in Peculiar Places exhibition that the Public Arts Committee approved in 2014. The exhibit was inspired by Greenville, South Carolina's Art in Odd Places program. Local, national, and international artists were represented in the SGC exhibition. Over 1,600 people attended the conference in Knoxville, representing 12 countries and 49 states. Beauvais encouraged the committee to think about exhibiting permanent and temporary public art in unexpected places throughout the city, and he thanked the committee for their support of SGCI. The committee thanked Beauvais for his work on the SGCI Conference and for his excellent presentation.

Wanda Sobieski: Harry T. Burn Memorial

Representatives from Knoxville Women's Suffrage Coalition, a nonprofit special project of the East Tennessee Foundation, presented information about the proposed Burn Memorial Statue that may be located on Market Street outside the East Tennessee History Center. Led by Wanda Sobieski, the Suffrage Coalition funded the Tennessee Woman's Suffrage Memorial that was installed in Market Square in 2006. The Suffrage Coalition is currently fundraising for the proposed Burn Memorial Statue, which will also be designed by sculptor Alan LeQuire. Before the project can be approved by City Council, the design and location must first be approved by the Public Arts Committee. Rick Emmett stated that the project has the full support of Mayor Rogero's office. After reviewing the proposed design and proposed site, the committee voted unanimously to approve the proposal. Should the site be altered slightly, the committee's approval will still stand.

Keep Knoxville Beautiful Mural

Liza shared that Keep Knoxville Beautiful (KKB) is making adjustments to their initial mural design that was presented at the April Public Arts Committee meeting based on feedback from the committee. KKB will submit a new design for approval at a later date.

Murals on Private Property

Liza updated the committee about the Knoxville Music History mural, which was controversially painted over by the building owner in late April. The Knoxville community and Mayor Rogero have expressed concern about protecting publicly funded murals on private property. Duane Grieve made a motion to hold on the Lerner Lofts mural project and all privately owned buildings until the committee has a policy and a document in place to secure the safety of all public art. Mike Fowler seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Vol Landing

Liza stated the Purchasing Department will begin negotiations with Eduardo Mendieta this week for the proposed mural at Vol Landing, and a contract should be issued soon.

Next Project

The Committee's next project will be to issue an RFP or RFQ for the steps at Cumberland Avenue/World's Fair Park. Based on feedback about the mural RFP, Liza and Rachel will work

with the Purchasing Department to draft an artist-friendly document that will emphasize the application and limit the lengthy legal section that goes into most non-arts purchasing requests. Chuck suggested that an online application and review process might be beneficial to the artists and to the review panel. Liza will check with Janice McClelland (Purchasing Department) to see if an online application is feasible.

Future Meetings:

- A. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 4:00 PM
 - a. The meeting will be held at the Knoxville Museum of Art boardroom.
- B. Future meetings:
 - a. August 2, 2016
 - b. September 6, 2016

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM

Absent Members:

Bart Watkins
Elizabeth Wright
Erin Donovan
John Powers
Mark Heinz
Sara Pinnell