

The City of Knoxville: Public Arts Committee

Public Arts Committee Meeting: May 2, 2017

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

Attendees Present:

Duane Grieve – Committee Member
Erin Donovan – Committee Member
James Taylor – Committee Member
Jeffrey Lockett – Committee Member
Liza Zenni – Staff Liaison
Rachel Perkins Haverkamp – Committee Administrator
Rick Emmett – City of Knoxville, Downtown Coordinator
Sara Pinnell – Committee Member
Susana Esrequis – Committee Member
Tanisha Baker – Committee Member

Absent Members:

Bart Watkins
Chuck Morris
John Powers
Mark Heinz
Mike Fowler
Terry Mosley
Tommie Rush

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

Liza informed the committee that Eddie Mendieta recently completed the committee's first commissioned mural, located at Vol Landing. She invited the committee to visit the mural and to share their feedback about the completed design.

State Street Garage project: Following the presentations from the three finalists for the State Street Garage project, the committee selected John Medwedeff's design as the winning proposal. Due to the planned construction on State Street Garage that was recently approved by City Council, Liza suggested, and Medwedeff agreed, that installation of the sculpture should be delayed until after construction is complete. Rick added that construction is scheduled to begin this winter and should take approximately one year to complete. Liza also added that with the new Farragut Hotel scheduled to open later this year, State Street Garage will be used by many more visitors and the sculpture will be a prominent welcome.

Suttree Landing Park and Cradle of Country Music Park: Liza invited the committee to discuss which future projects should be prioritized by the committee. Liza reminded the committee that at the

October 2016 planning session, the committee had originally planned to issue RFQs/RFPs in the following order: Steps, Gay Street, State Street Garage, Suttree Landing Park, and Cradle of Country Music Park. The committee discussed both parks. Duane reminded the committee that the initial funding from the city was designated for public art at Cradle of Country Music Park. Rick stated that \$300,000 is currently designated for park landscaping. After a discussion about the budget for the landscaping and public art, Duane suggested that a sub-committee be formed to develop a realistic budget for the landscaping portion of the park. Rachel will send out a doodle poll to the proposed sub-committee: Sara, Mike, Duane, and Liza. The committee agreed that the committee's focus should be on developing an RFQ and RFP for artwork at Cradle of Country Music Park.

RB Morris project: Liza shared that Knoxville's Poet Laureate, RB Morris proposed installing a "wordscape" on the retaining walls on World's Fair Park Drive near the Foundry and L&N STEM Academy. The permanent installation would be painted on the wall and would beautify an area that frequently attracts graffiti.

Everly Brothers Park update: Duane informed the committee that Knoxville City Council passed a resolution on March 28 to allow bidding on the infrastructure of the park, including the walkway into the park, the stage, benches, educational markers, and electrical. The bidding process is now underway and they hope to begin work on the project soon. Duane also shared that the Bearden Council has contacted Gibson Guitar and other companies to solicit financial support for landscaping and artwork.

Future Meetings:

- A. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 4:00 PM.
 - a. The meeting will be held at the Knoxville Museum of Art.
- B. Future meetings:
 - a. June 6, 2017
 - b. July 11, 2017
 - c. August 1, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM