

# Public Art Commission Meeting

## Minutes

Wednesday October 11, 2023

In attendance: Jon Fuime, Larissa Brown, Roberta Rogers, Megan Delong, Andy Hillier, Jessica Travis, Katie Beck, Stephanie Leonardi, and Summer Hall

1. Call Meeting to Order
  - a. Meeting was Called to order at 4:05pm
2. Approval of minutes from September 12,2023
  - a. Katie motioned to approve the minutes and Andy Seconds the motion. Vote is take all yays no opposed the minutes were approved.
3. Update on Glendale Mural
  - a. Summer updates the commission on the mural has now been completed and is on full display for the public to see. It is discussed how the mural looks good and shows different parts of the community.
4. Review of Website and Updates
  - a. Andy discuss how some of the white text is hard to read on a the light backgrounds and some changes may need to be made to make it more accessible to everyone. Summer then mentions needing to update bios for all commission members and any feedback need be email to her by next Thursday.
  - b. John discusses that any major website updates should be done with resources that the city used to update there own website. All major changes should be done by the city and using their resources they used when updating their own website.
5. Vote on Budget
  - a. John asks for update on the budget while Jessica joins the meeting via the phone. Summer says she needs to have time to push the budget out and approval by the city council as it can take 1-2 weeks to get on their schedule and they may act for a continuance to review and approve the budget. Katie asks about the seeing the budget in spread sheet form in order to see it easier.
  - b. John askes when the budget up must be approved. Summer answer saying all budgets must be approved by December, so they are in place for next fiscal year. It is then decided that the final review and vote for the budge needs to be next meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup> in order to give the commission time to present it to council.
  - c. Andy the discusses how the amount allocated towards each area is more of a goal then an actual amount need to spend. And mentions this can be goals for the next year or two years. Katie then asks about future funding for the Commission and summer says there is a plans to ask for 50,000 dollars in new funding. She also says they will do more research into the TIF funds and see if there are changes we can make to not only get funding from new business but existing business as well.
  - d. Andy Says we do not want to lock ourselves into any certain number or areas. Stephanie asks if we are determining specific buckets and if those amounts are locked into those buckets only. Andy asks for feed back in general and specific areas of the budget. **BLANK**

asks if there is a specific timeline, Summer says no but would need approval by the end of the fiscal year.

- e. John then asks if having 1 project and devoting the resources toward this project is better than having multiple projects. Mac love was then Brought up and how currently there is not a clear answer if the commission will be paying this now under new administration. The price for that project which would leave the commission with about 50,000 left to use towards other projects.

## 6. New Business

### a. Traffic signal Boxes

- i. John says plan of the other 50,000 being used for the traffic signal boxes since this is a project already in the works. Andy says we need to know specifically how many boxes we want to do. Summer says we have already started to look at areas that were suggested last meeting and we should start to right up an RFP for potential contractors to do the work. Andy asks if the RFP can be done with pricing per box. **BLANK** Says we should do one per ward. Summer then presents the city map with the different routes which were planned out by her office and explains how this connects to the excel sheet. **BLANK LEFT** asks if the goal is to do all of the wards in Akron. Summer says Stows project was initially 16 boxes and cost around 9,000 dollars to complete
- ii. John says we should pay the artist around 500 dollars for their art work if it is selected, Stehanie suggests using the Thornton road area from Arlington up to Vernon Odom as an area that could use some art. Summer says some of the Streets are the Akron Great streets and there could be partnership and funding opportunities with them as well. Katie Asks about the RFP for the traffic signal boxes and the call for artists. John says we should pay the artists as well as the wrapping company. Summer says they paid the artists \$250 for the art done on the 12 nights of Christmas. John suggests doing 45 boxes and they can be extended over a 2-3 year period.
- iii. Andy asks if we can float this idea to council, Summer says if we go in with a plan it will look better and they are more likely to approve it. John asks how much funding we want to go towards the project. Andy asks if council tends to ask questions, summer says yes. John says there will also be admin and maintenance costs associated with the projects.
- iv. Summer says we may want to hit areas that are not so radially being talked about and redone. Summit lake is brought up and then is confirmed the summit projects are being done at the lake not in the actual neighborhood surrounding the lake. **BLANK NAME** says would it be more cost effective to hire a few artist and have them do multiple designs for multiple boxes. In different sections of the city. Summer says you can reuse the same artwork at multiple boxes. Larissa says the art may be for specific ward and neighborhood and this would need to be specified in the application. John suggests the commission should ask for 3-5 boxes from each ward to the council member of that ward and let the ward residents vote on the locations at their ward meetings. The commission could do the first round of vetting of the artwork to cut out any which do not meet basic

starts required of any public art project and for an general estimate would say 1100 dollars per box. If the ward would like more boxes then we would ask for each money from that ward in order to provide this service.

- v. Summer says the first phase would be to put out an RFP for wrapping companies in order to get an idea of pricing. Andy asks how the RFP for artist would be wondered written up and the determined rate per hour john then says the Artist would get a flat commission rate for any artwork the commission decides to use not a variable per hour rate. RFP is for the contractors to do be able the physical work required to set up the boxes for the vinyl wrap to be applied. Roberta suggests doing a contest and the wards residents selecting the winners and Their artwork be the ones put on the boxes. Summer says the call for artists is for anyone to submit to and we need to consider the area where the boxes are and the area where artist are from. As we want the communities to treat the boxes with respect, we should consider having local artists artwork on the boxes to create a sense of community pride.
- vi. BLANK NAME said is there a specific time frame these boxes need to be done. Summer mentions that Stow initial 10-15 boxes took about 6 months from start to finish. Next steps would be to format a call for artist and the RFP for having on for Artwork itself and one for the print and wrapping of the boxes.
- vii. Andy says blowing up of the part work can cause it to become distorted or not looking as the artis originally intended it to look. Also, the call to artist needs to state this and include a plan on how the commission plans on maintaining the artwork. John says the commission should have the RFP by the time they go to meet with council. While also double checking to see the 100,000 donation needs to be approved by council on a budget before being spent. John says the RFP and Call for Artists should be prepared by the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and will be voted on at that meeting.

**7. Upcoming Public Art events**

- a. Katie mentions there will be the Summit County land Bank's art event
- b. Summer mentions there will be a webinar on insuring public art.
- c. Summer also mentions the public art commission has laid out good plan of maintaining public art and how it is the artist responsibility to maintain ensure the art they put out in public space.

**8. Reading of public comments.**

- a. No comments

**9. Meeting Adjournment**

- a. Andy motions to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 pm Larissa seconded no one opposed.