

City of Akron
Public Art Commission
Tuesday, August 23, 2021
3:00 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Kat Wentz, Dara Harper, Katie Beck, Lauren Butterworth, Jon Fiume, and Dannika Stevenson.

City Staff: Vonsheay Brown & Summer Hall

Guests: Rick Rogers

- I. Welcome: Kat Wentz - Chair
 - A. The meeting was called to order by Kat Wentz at 3:00 pm

- II. Approval of Minutes from July 15, 2021
 - A. Kat Wentz then asked for an approval of the July 15, 2021 minutes provided prior to the meeting. No changes or additions, approval of minutes; **approved.**

- III. Approval of PAC Rules
 - A. Kat clarifies amendment of Pac Rules on remote meeting vs. in person and make changes from 7 day notice to 24 hour notice, vote approved for 24 hour notice can be given if changes occur with meeting or agenda. Vonsheay reviews the staffing of the city and I.T., with regards to having remote meetings vs. in person, that necessary training needs to be given for remote meetings. The commission conducts their own meetings if they are remote. There will not be a hybrid of meetings, either in person or remote. Will follow up with I.T. about remote.

- IV. Old Business
 - A. Know Covid did not need APAC's approval
 - B. Pictures of Sunset Gap application
 - C. World of Wonders Rocket Ship application
 1. Both Curated Storefront's applications were tabled from the last meeting for review at this meeting. Rick Rogers is on the way to the meeting. New Business

- V. New Business
 - A. Curiosity's application point of contact did not show or respond to Summer's communications.
 - B. Removal of Artwork not approved by the Commission
 1. Kat reviewed unauthorized placement of art. Devo tires were not submitted through commission, and the time passed for Rock n Roll hall of fame vote. Summer suggested contacting Downtown Akron Partnership. Dannika suggested there should be a time frame; 30 days for removal and suggestion on applying through the commission if DAP wants to extend the public art pieces.
 2. Summer reached out to Michael Wilson, artwork in North Hill (motivational pieces). Artwork has to be removed and will be delivered to him. He will not submit an application to find an approved public space.
 3. John suggested the City Council update and remind people of the Commission and communicate about the public art requirements. Summer to reach out after they come from recess, will meet to address

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no longer approving public art through the ward but through the commission. It would need to go through proper channels for approval

4. Kat motioned a vote for the removal of art with the option to submit application move to vote of 30 day removal process; **approved.**

VI. Old Business

- A. Rick Rogers provided updates on Rocket Ship Proposal and Sunset Gap Proposal. Sunset Gap is a 2 to 3 year work in progress working through levels of approval, electrical considerations also with the city approval. Raised so far \$400,000 in cash to pay for initial project, fundraising for other expenses as permanent fixture of public art. Established a curatorial committee for revolving artwork. Is it possible to get approval and not come back every time the artists change? Vonsheay clarified that there are still other channels to get approved that will still need to come through the law dept, with the licensing agreements. Summer explained that she will make sure all permits go to the right departments, Chris Little in the city's engineering department and he does all permits according to the initial proposal. Kat moved to vote on a provisional approval of Sunset Gap; **approved.**
- B. World of Wonders exhibit is to be vacated from current location. The rocket ship was to draw in traffic and now we're moving. Decided to move the rocket ship by our shipping containers in Northside.

VII. New Business

- A. Public Art Projects - Summer explained that the mayor wants to do a project, wrapping utility boxes with the artwork from local artists. It's a total of 396 boxes throughout the city of Akron. The mayor wants it to be Akron led, unlike stow using different companies from different cities to do the project. This project will give the commission an opportunity to create call for artists. Kat reached out to Puzzle Creation the cost to wrap each box is \$489.00. Jon to research Akron Art Museum uses a co. with a set rate. Dannika stated that for the artists it should be all city, represent the neighborhood. Kat to create a document, lets get quotes, proposal process, implementation process of boxes, start this process by the end of the year.
 - B. Review of Budget - Katie did not agree with Design local fee. What is Design Local doing for 30,000 dollars? Jon suggested using them a la Carte. Summer explained that the city didn't use the services starting in April, that was the services ideally for a fiscal year Jon suggested keeping it on budget as \$2,500 need to know basis for Design local. I don't agree or we need closer examination to \$100 for commission members, a vote for public to change that based on the protocol to change this at least \$50.00 meeting
- Kat motioned to table remaining items on Agenda next meeting; **approved.**
 - Kat motioned to adjourn the meeting; **approved.**