

**Clark County Public Art Committee Meeting
January 23, 2018 at 3:30 pm
Winchester Cultural Center**

I. MEETING OPENING: Rebecca Holden opened the meeting.

In attendance: committee members – Vicki Richardson, Harold Bradford, Louisa McDonald, Keith Conley and Robert Fielden. Excused: Eric Strain. Staff: Mickey Sprott, Julie Navis, Patty Dominguez, Ed Fuentes, Brian Paco Alvarez, and Cliff Fields.

Public Presentations: Wayne Littlejohn and Steve Maloney.

II. MINUTES - **Robert moved to approve November 28, 2017 minutes, Keith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Robert moved to approve agenda, Keith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

IV. Introduction of Committee Members

-Robert Fielden is an architect and urban planner. He has been in Las Vegas since 1964.

-Keith Conley is a professor at CSN in the Department of Fine Arts.

-Vicki Richardson is a Las Vegas long-time resident, of 35 years. She owns and operates a local art gallery, is an artist and art teacher. She has also served, in the past, on the (Las Vegas?) public arts commission.

-Louisa McDonald is a native to Las Vegas and is a professor of Art History at UNLV. She has served on the public arts commission for the city, as well as the county's art committee.

-Harold Bradford has been in Las Vegas 32 years and is a practicing artist, retired as a designer, with YESCO signs.

-Rebecca Holden has been in Las Vegas since 1998. She is an artist as well as an arts administrator working for the City of Las Vegas, running the public art program.

V. Status Report: Public Art Staff

a. Communication & Website:

Ed Fuentes said the outreach is ongoing and he's reaching out to other media outlets outside of Nevada.

b. Galleries:

Paco Alvarez said the exhibit is installed from Gail Gilbert at the Rotunda Gallery. Her reception is next week on February 1. Lisa Stamanis' exhibit is also installed in the Winchester Gallery; over 80 people came to her reception.

c. Maintenance:

Mickey reported that Brett is doing his regular artwork monthly maintenance, on-going. Mickey went on to said we're looking into acquiring Purchasing, Inventory

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and Maintenance software called “Past Perfect”, which the City of Las Vegas and the Clark County Museum uses, to catalogue all of our public artwork; it should tie into the website as well.

d. Other:

Mickey mentioned two other points. One is that under our new membership in Americans’ for the Arts, board and staff memberships are included, as a municipality or non-profit. She reminded any of the committee members interested in taking advantage, to please forward their names to her. The second item revealed was that she has been asked by the commission and department management to move forward on absorbing performance art into the public art program, beginning with the recently created Clark County Poet Laureate program. Moving forward, this will apply most specifically to performance art done outside of the county’s established regular performance venues, and allow for better tracking, coordination, implementation and county documentation of this fledging community ambassador-driven program. This expansion to our programming, in the field, will take some of the Public Art budget, beginning with the upcoming fiscal year. Based on the first couple of years of the Poet Laureate program, she anticipates, and wants no more than 6% of the budget to be set aside for the operation of this part of our program.

VI. Projects Status Reports

- a. Current Projects In-Progress – James Regional Sports Park, Moapa Valley Part 1 (Mural), Mountain’s Edge Park, Ratpack Crossroads, Zap 9 and Zap 10
Current Projects On-Hold – Moapa Valley Part 2 (Gateway), Sunset Park Litter Awareness Projects (2), UMC Design Competition, Welcome to Las Vegas Sign Experience
– *For discussion and possible action*

The committee got a status report in their packet. Patty said to email her if they have any further questions.

Zap 10 - Committee member for the jury is Keith. Patty said the last day for the artists to apply is 3 pm on February 9, 2018.

- b. Projects to Start – Moapa Valley Part 2, Sunset Park Art and Litter Awareness UMC Healing Garden Competition, James Regional Sports Complex, and Nellis’ Absolute Ceiling – *For discussion and possible action*

Mickey asked for some direction on the Sunset Park projects. She said with the sculpture is a \$10,000-\$15,000 cost to remove the sign, which will be taken off the \$300,000 budget for this project. She said the County is seeing if it can be taken to the Neon Boneyard (if they want it). Rebecca asked if the sign can go away and it can all go to litter awareness. Mickey said she would have to go back

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to management because it was presented as two different projects. The committee tabled it until next meeting.

VII. New Business:

New Public Art Proposals for FY19 for discussion:

a. Steve Maloney –

A contemporary artist from Southern California, Steve presented a proposal for a public art installation in the County to memorialize the 10-1-17 shooting. He would like to do a sculpture dedicated to the victims of the shooting. He believes it would be an honor to have a significant memorial, to address grief, and be a symbol of hope. He has been creating art for the past 18 years and has participated in public art projects. He works in a variety of disciplines including painting, sculpting, collage, etc. and frequently works with repurposed materials. He pointed out that his public art projects are ‘touchable’ and meant for interaction from the public. He talked about past projects he has done including, “Take Me Home Huey”.

His idea is to do a striking design with technology to enable viewers to interface with smart phones, and the artwork would include mixed media (including music and film, possibly) and a water feature. He brought a slide show and printed material to help illustrate his initial proposal (which he allow us to copy for reference and documentation of the proposal).

Mickey said she wants to preference that there are different discussions taking place in Clark County management to do a memorial. Mickey said our funding is for local artists as of right now, so funding this project isn't a possibility through the arts plan funding.

Robert suggested a site south of the Las Vegas sign to give people access to a memorial and commented that an interface is a good idea.

Mickey has reached out to supervisors at other centers to put together proposals, so that's what the committee will see in the next two months. Various facilities or department programs are going to propose to the arts committee, and in April we'll have that special meeting to decide which projects will be included for the FY19 budget, so we can take that budget to the BCC in May.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mickey talked about the potential of a sculpture on Maryland Parkway in front of the Clark County Social Services building. Dimensions for the Social Services sign are 11 feet high and the planter is 40.8 feet by 22 feet deep. She also suggested the wash next to that building (which is also near Cambridge Community Center) and showed an aerial view of the area. She suggested maybe doing a fence mural with recyclables. She also suggested doing art on some of the bus stop benches. She showed the area in front of the new UNLV Gateway. Rebecca asked if the bus stop benches could be a way to partner with RTC. Mickey replied that was a good question and Paco will follow up to get more information to that idea. Keith suggested having projects interact with that specific area. Mickey said we would have to reach out to the private sectors. Keith asked if

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we could have the “Stop and Glow” Maryland Parkway people (at RTC) back to get a project information update. There was brief discussion about the bus stop art program, done about 15 years ago and Vicki asked if we’re focused on a certain area of Maryland or if it’s the whole thing. Mickey said she would like to stay in the Clark County area, but if we want to branch out, she can look into it.

Artist Presentation on Project Lessons Learned:

- a. Wayne Littlejohn spoke about his experiences making Dream Machine – Wayne handed out some documentation to the committee with his process of creating the project. He presented his lessons-learned and suggestions formed by his experiences working, primarily on this project for Clark County, at Siegfried & Roy Park.

Some suggestions include:

- Maps and city sites would be good to put up online for marketing and to get word outside of Nevada.
- Maybe the County can do some documentaries on the process of projects and the artists involved. This could be beneficial for marketing and educational purposes.

In terms of the project itself, he said there were things that were rough to handle.

- One of the biggest barriers for the artist was the ground preparation, for the sculpture on the site, not being done before the project is awarded; for example the electrical on-site. In addition to everything else, it makes preparing an accurate project budget very difficult and insured that budget changes are inevitable, down the road.
- Another thing was the funding model. He said it seems like the artist is behind on pre-funding the materials needed to begin and build the artwork. He confirmed that what held back some of the project production was not having enough money upfront, for materials.
- As far as when the artists is presenting, he liked that it when he presented, the 2 two other finalists were not in the same room, and visa-versa when the others presented, he was not in the room. He thought that each artist presenting to only the panel and public, made it seem fairer, and lessened the chance that one party would have an unfair advantage due to the order of their presentation.
- He suggested that to improve the level of artists and experience for larger funded projects, to go to a regional area to select applications, rather than only Clark County.
- He thinks it would be helpful (on the committee’s side) to provide a list of services, or a directory of vendors and contractors, who are already vetted by the county, for the artists to contact.
- Professional Liability Insurance is difficult for artists to obtain because of the number of different packages available, which don’t cover all of what the needs to adhere to the project contract.

After Wayne’s initial presentation, general discussion followed involving some of the issues he brought up and how we might help provide these resources and provide

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workshops for artists, before they present their project proposals. Keith suggested a resource list to be provided could be a list of past providers that other artists have used. Mickey brought up the monthly artists workshops, which will begin in the new fiscal year (1 person, per month, with travel and hotel, plus \$2000 for artist fee). More discussion followed on budgets and utilities issues. Vicki suggested setting up an artist mentoring program.

a. Policies and Procedures for discussion

Mickey said next month she'll have more information.

VIII. COMMENTS BY GENERAL PUBLIC: None.

IX. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at the Winchester Cultural Center.

X. Adjournment - *For Possible Action*

Keith motioned for adjournment, Vicki seconded. The motion passed unanimously.