

Clark County Public Art Committee Meeting
April 16, 2019 at 3:30 pm
Sunset Parks & Recreation Admin Building, Conference Room

I. MEETING OPENING: Rebecca opened the meeting. In attendance: Committee Members – Rebecca Holden, Harold Bradford, Vicki Richardson, Robert Fielden and Keith Conley
Staff – Mickey Sprott, Patty Dominguez, Arturo Cecena, Miranda Lopez & Cliff Fields.
Public: Denise Moore (representing Hans Van de Bovenkamp).
Absent: Eric Strain and Louisa McDonald.

Meeting Focus: 2020 Budget Review & Voting

Meeting Started: 3:48 pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

III. MINUTES: **Conley moved to approve February 26, 2019 minutes, Bradford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Holden moved to approve agenda, Conley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

V. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS (*for possible action*):

a. Review Proposals

- i. South West Ridge Park & Trailhead – Proposal is for a 6' in diameter sculpture at the front of the park and various other artwork(s) on the trails of South West Ridge. Proposed Project Budget of \$100,000 (from previous meeting discussions).

Before the committee formally discussed the project budget, Mickey updated them on the status of the Sunset Park budget request from RPM, for \$100,000; she has asked RPM to submit a budget request, with the actual price, of removing the sign. After we receive that information, she will follow up with the committee.

Discussion & Q/A: Mickey then went over a quick project proposal review from the February meeting (in light of the fact that March's meeting did not have a quorum), including a review of the proposal PowerPoint slides (originally presented by Michael Shannon of Commissioner Jones' office – those slides are available to view upon request.), the location of the park and the architect's park layout, as well as important project dates (park to break ground in November 2019, with an initial completion date of October 2020), to consider. The budget listed in the agenda is from the February meeting and is open to change (which can be voted on today). The areas for consideration includes a small sculpture at the entrance to the park from the parking area, which the committee has discussed expanding (in previous meetings) to also support some kind of artwork at the trailhead or along the trail, as well. After reviewing the slides, Mickey stated that her recommendation would be to support a smaller artwork at the entrance to the park, as asked for in the original proposal, which will help to open the project application process to new artists not qualified to apply for most large projects. Before opening this project up for discussion, Mickey also asked the committee to keep in mind the UMC project budget (which has already launched and the design competition is expected to be finished in August). Due to the

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nature of the UMC Healing Garden design project, and the fact that we really don't know where this design project might lead, or if other organizations or funding streams might be brought together to select and implement a selected design, sometime in the future, Mickey just wanted to put the UMC budget into context with the other projects that we are focused on, in relationship with the total funds that are being discussed today, before this year's budget is finalized. Fielden was asked to help review UMC budgeting. Mickey then reminded the committee that while they could not allocate more funding for a UMC project now, that the numbers show that minus the potential \$250,000 for a future UMC build project, there is still up to \$328,000 open, in this year's funds that could be approved for the South West Ridge project.

Q: Holden asked if there was a preference of allocating the entire \$100,000 to the project in general (and leaving the specific amounts of the project funds, to be spent on which parts of the project -- the artwork at the front of the park and the artwork along the trail), up to the public arts management & staff, or is there a desire from the committee, to clearly identify which part of the funding should go to which parts of the proposed public art project? In the discussion of this question, Fielden suggested that in March, he thought that the \$100,000 budget was a starting point, for further discussion, particularly after Mike Shannon shared his insight and enthusiasm for the trail system and the area's future potential was briefly explored. Mickey also reviewed the discussion, in March, about the program's desire to also find a balance between supporting the creation of new artworks and supporting the expansion and skills of the artist community, through the variety of potential opportunities. ...further discussion and review of the February minutes, and various budgets of current and future projects, as well as materials and size. Holden reminded the group that park project requests and dynamics often evolve and there are some changes to what is an option for the artworks in a park, from the time of the initial ask to the park construction. She also reminded them that budgets can be updated and that unspent funds, after the close of a project, revert back to the fund, for use the next fiscal year.

Q: Fielden asked about park vandalism levels. Discussion on park & trail vandalism and weathering impacts and risks. Bradford suggested signage by installed artwork, asking patrons to be considerate and respectful of the art and the park.

Q: Richardson asked about focusing more and investing more on the proposed artwork at the front of the park, and thinking about supporting art along the trail, at a future date. The problem with wanting to enhance the project at the front of the park is that, while it is located very nicely, the area set up for a piece of art is limited to a 6 x 6 foot square; there really is not much room to expand. Discussion on the trail and the gateway to the wilderness area; the park will be installing markers.

Q: Conley talked about doing some art along the trails as more interpretive art pieces, using materials that already exist in the desert, and using them to re-interpret the environment – addressing the area history, wildlife, mining, geology, etc. Discussion followed, of doing something like that, in stages and over years.

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Q: Holden asked about the possibility of allocating a dollar amount for the park today but leaving the specifics of how part of those funds will be spent (aside from being attached to this park & trail location), and then working with the park creators and maintenance teams to make recommendations to them on how those funds are spent, as the park and trails are developed. Perhaps the parks guys could also look at their budgets too, and see if there are some projects that they could assist with by helping to create the artwork foundations or something like that, down the road. Keeping in mind that the committee wants to be updated on what the plan evolves into and that they are allowed to offer recommendations on what evolves. This was an idea that was given general consensus by the group.

Fielden motioned to approve the budget for the South West Ridge RFQ in two parts - South West Ridge Park – Part I, to cover the art work(s) within the park at 1 or 2 locations (which would include the 6 x 6 foot artwork, at the front of the park), for \$100,000; and South West Ridge Trails – Park II, for Environmental Art to be created out on the trail system, for \$100,000. Conley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- ii. Pearson Community Center Pillar Mural Project – Proposal is for each of the 21 pillars to be painted. Pillars are located inside the Community Center. Proposed Budget of \$53,100.

Mickey also reviewed this project and the proposal PowerPoint slides, before the committee began discussions on either of the first two proposed projects up for a vote today. At this point, she pointed out the floor plan facility map and the budgeting break-down (with 4 different possible price ranges) attachments to the committee's packets, for reference.

Discussion & Q/A: Richardson asked if the pillars are functional or decorative; and also if they could be wrapped. They are part of the weigh-barring structure of the building and while most are free-standing from the walls, several are so close to walls or glass that we did not consider asking the artist(s) to have to paint the entire circumferences of those pillars, and one is actually build into the wall and only $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pillar is exposed to paint. The budget break-down sheet reflects these measurements.

Q: Holden asked if the intent of the project was to hire one artist for all of the pillars, or if we wanted to open the project area up to several different artists and creative designs? Mickey answered that this was really up to the committee to decide and that in March the members who were in attendance, were in favor of utilizing several different artists. Fielden pointed out that they had also favored selecting a project coordinating chairman for the designs and painting of the pillars, to help coordinate the theme and content of the art in this enclosed lobby area; Conley concurred.

Q: Holden asked if the call would be an RFP or an RFQ; Mickey confirmed that it would probably be an RFQ, with finalists given a stipend to present their proposals to the jury, as with all other county art projects over \$50,000. She also reminded the committee that the possibility of recording and documenting the process was discussed previously, and if the committee wanted to include this aspect to capture both the creative process and the community engagement or

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historical significance of the project (including the creation of QR codes within the artwork adding to patron interactive participation after the art is complete), that they would need to flesh-out the budget to encompass that additional process.

Q: Fielden asked about the tentative budget, which included these aspects. At this point, Mickey explained about our mural budgeting thought process, in coming up with these break-downs. While we want to encourage support for local mural artists, we need to be sensitive to how our selected budget will impact other organizations and mural project funding-streams in Clark County, and be careful about erroneously inflating what we are offering to local artists to create murals for us, so as not to price-out other funding organizations from being able to support high quality, creative artists in their own art projects. We want to set and be able to maintain a fair and accessible standard for mural creation in our region. To this end, we have done some research nationally, which reflects a \$35 - \$45 per square foot price range for murals. Including an educational outreach component was also brought up. Discussion on setting the budget and encouraging, through the wording of the RFQ, for certain focuses and possibilities, without micromanaging too much, the final designs and teams' make-up, from the project call, but the idea of allowing the project details and team dynamics to evolve depending who submits applications. (RPM has certain minimum standards and materials usage that would need to be adhered to, whoever is selected for the project, including low-odor materials.) Mickey also clarified that the proposed budget connected to this project is only for the pillars artwork creation process, and doesn't include funding for a proposed community outreach documentation process, mentioned above; those funds would need to be added as a separate resource.

Q: Discussion on what it might cost for project documentation. Mickey shared a recently completed project that the artist hired a documenter to film video and take process photos, for about \$5,000. Fielden then suggested that if they add \$7,500 to the project specifically for the documentation process, that this should be sufficient to cover that aspect, with some built-in contingency funding. Mickey agreed.

Discussion on Specific Project Budget: After a quick project budget sheet review, Bradford suggested that the budget be set just above the middle of the \$35 - \$45 range, to be set at the \$40 per foot (or \$60,000+) price range. He also suggested, when asked, that the \$7,500 for the documentation, be added on top of this \$40 per foot budget. The committee agreed. Conley suggested that they bump up the overall project budget to an even \$70,000 (to include both the pillar mural creations and the project documentation); consensus. He also suggested that the call be for one project artist (or artist team), who could use those funds to hire additional artists to create specific pillar(s) art, within the overall project, to build-in project content, quality oversight consistency.

Bradford motioned to approve \$70,000 for an RFQ (which would strongly encourage artist teams to apply) to paint the Pearson Pillars and within the overall budget, \$7,500 would be devoted to the documentation of the project, Fielden seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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- iii. Zap 12 – on Mount Charleston – Proposal is for up to 12 utility boxes to be painted. Proposed Budget of \$12,000.

During the review of this proposed project, Mickey explained that we are looking to have Zap 12, jump ahead of the already funded Zap 11 project, in terms of the actual painting of the boxes, due to the specific location for Zap 12, which is to be up Kyle Canyon between the Spring Mountains Visitors Center, and just above the town of Mt Charleston, and our need to paint on the mountain in summer and early fall (before snowfall on the mountain). We will look to produce Zap 11, down in the Las Vegas Valley, after the start of school in the fall. The proposed budget above did not take into consideration the extra funds for travel (see Discussion paragraph, below...).

Discussion & Q/A: Fielden asked if the price per box, which we have been using for other Zap! projects, will also apply to Zap 12. Yes the same pricing, which is \$2,500 per artist (box groupings generally includes 3-4 boxes) will be offered, although we have added an extra \$500 for artist travel to the mountain, and a contingency for possible project map design, or unforeseen issues. We are looking to hire 3-4 artists, at \$3,000 total per each. Mickey suggested that with the added travel, the committee may want to add a bit to the project budget.

Q: Richardson asked if the painting of Zap! boxes on the mountain will require any special instructions or materials that are allowed to be used? There is a potential for the need of special materials, due to the cold and snow, in the winter. Mickey will look into this and ask Brett (from Maintenance) if there is a potential problem; she added that she believes that the anti-graffiti coating which we use to seal the finished boxes, would probably be sufficient to deal with this kind of uncertainty (in fact, there may be less artwork damage on the mountain than with the boxes in the full heat of the Valley). Mickey added that on the mountain, the boxes will be subject to some coding requirements to do with color selection or vibrancy. This really should not be any more of a problem on Mt Charleston than it is in any other location, as the selection jury always includes project stakeholders and residents from the local neighborhood. Also, all Zap! artists are given the location and visual ID of the boxes in their assignment and asked to spend time in the area before coming up with their box designs, to get an idea for the character and feel of the area. Plus, after showing their initial designs for local community commentary and questions, then submitting their final designs, those designs still need to be approved by the project stakeholders, who actually own the boxes. The Zap! program has always had several hoops for the artists to jump through, before they can begin to paint their boxes.

Fielden motioned to approve \$15,000 for the support of Zap 12 (on Mt Charleston) which includes a travel stipend of up to \$500 for each of up to 4 artists, Conley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. REPORT BY CLARK COUNTY PARKS & REC. PUBLIC ART OFFICE STAFF –
Regarding Monthly Summary of Current Projects (*not an action item*):

The Public Art Projects Status Report and the Public Art Programming Communication Flyer were included within the committee members' packets.

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Projects Status Report Discussion: Mickey quickly summarized out one change to the monthly report in the packet, regarding Rat Pack Crossroads project. The artist has found a general contractor who is a road specialist to help with the install, which was an issue. The road specialist is currently working on the installation plan; the installation location has shifted slightly because its original location is in-between a water line and a fiber-optic cable line. Because of these changes there has been a 3 delay to the start of the installation, so we are adding 3-6 months to the installation of the artwork. The artwork is currently being built at the fabricator's, in Colorado.

Programming Communication Flyer Discussion: Mickey pointed out the Galleries exhibit and our upcoming Full Scope Artists' workshop, with David Franklin. Finally, the dedication of the Mountain's Edge Park/Desert Diamonds Baseball Complex Artwork ("Organic Study No. 2") is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1st, from 6:30 – 8:30pm, and everyone has an invitation in their packet.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – POSSIBLE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION (*not an action item*):

Discussion: Fielden wants to have a discussion about helping to educate and develop local artists, of different experience levels, for future projects.

Conley wants to explore developing social media opportunities. Mickey updated what we are working on in our social media outlets: FB, Twitter & Instagram accounts. Holden suggested that staff prep and add these two topics to next month's agenda, for discussion.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comments, by Denise Moore, about the nature of specific steel materials for usage in outdoor sculptures, will be discussed further after the meeting adjournment.

IX. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE: 4th Tuesday of each month, beginning at 3:30 p.m. (*for possible action*)

- a. Next scheduled meeting: May 28, 2019.
Fielden motioned to accept the scheduled date of May committee meeting, Holden seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Currently, all regularly scheduled meetings are held at Sunset Parks & Recreation Admin Building, 2601 E. Sunset Rd.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: **Fielden motioned for adjournment, Conley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting Ended: 5:13 pm.