



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

STAFF

Ellen Martin, Visual Arts Administrator
Ted Hewitt, Legal

SUBJECT

Resolution 2022-083 Approving the Acceptance of the Proposed Donation of a Sculpture to be Placed at Veterans Plaza in Spring Canyon Community Park.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution accepts the donation from Diggs Brown for a bronze sculpture entitled, *Arthur-My Hero, My Friend*, that will be placed at the Veterans Plaza located in Spring Canyon Community Park.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Section 23-309 of the City Code states works of art with a value of \$300 or more donated to the City and placed in a public area may be accepted only with approval of the Art in Public Places (APP) Board. For all such works with a value of \$10,000 or more, the City may only accept them with approval of the City Council, upon review of such proposed donation and the recommendation of the APP Board.

Established in November 2011, the Veterans Plaza serves as a remembrance of the valor and the sacrifices willingly made by our veterans, whether in times of war or times of peace.

A partnership between the City of Fort Collins and Veterans Plaza of Northern Colorado, the 3-acre park is located at 2626 W. Horsetooth Road, in the scenic Spring Canyon Community Park in southwest Fort Collins.

The concept of a public plaza to honor Northern Colorado veterans began in 2008 with a group of residents who formed the Veterans Plaza Committee to raise funds to design and build the Plaza. In addition to the donation of land, the City of Fort Collins contributed \$350,000 to the community fundraising campaign to underwrite the construction of the Plaza. The Veterans Plaza Committee incorporated in 2012 as an independent not-for-profit 501c(3) corporation whose mission is to honor the service and sacrifice of the nation's military veterans.

The enduring partnership leverages the work and scope of both organizations through stewardship, passion, volunteerism and programming in service to a deeply valued community: U.S. military veterans.

The proposed life-sized sculpture by artist Susan Norris expresses the loyalty and devotion of a military service dog for his fallen master. The sculpture is intended to honor the many canine service animals that

have demonstrated brave dedication and loyalty to their human partners, both in times of war and in times of healing.

The sculpture was temporarily placed on a stone pedestal at the entrance to Veterans Plaza in Spring Canyon Community Park. If approved, the sculpture will remain in the same location, but will include the required APP plaque. This location also places the sculpture near the existing dog park.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

This item does not impact the City's general fund account. The value of the sculpture donation is \$32,000. The annual cleaning of the bronze sculpture will be conducted by Veterans Plaza of Northern Colorado, at no charge to the City.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The donation was reviewed and recommended for City Council approval by the APP Board at the June 15, 2022, regular board meeting.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The APP Program will promote the gift of art to the City of Fort Collins.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution for Consideration
2. Written Description and Images of Proposed Art Donation
3. Art in Public Places Board Minutes, June 15, 2022