



PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Parks & Recreation Conference Room, 33 East Broadway Avenue Ste 206 Meridian, Idaho

Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 4:30 PM

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

To join the meeting online: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZDRmOWUzNjMtZGMwNS00MjViLWI1MGUtZTkxNDRiMzdmNmUz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22b844df29-8272-41a9-9862-5a8e63e5f93a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2241e2fc1d-e723-4cd9-9cd3-c847775577fe%22%7d

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

Lizzie Taylor Raeya Wardle arrived at 4:42pm
 Jessica Peters, Chair Thomas Vannucci
 Bobby Gaytan

A. Belnap introduced Keith Watts and Sandra Ramirez from the Purchasing Department and welcomed Steve Siddoway and Emily Kane to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting on June 15, 2021

L. Taylor made motion to approve minutes, seconded by T. Vannucci
All ayes

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Provide Feedback and Discuss Preferences for Public Art Selection Process

A. Belnap explained that this discussion is to gather feedback from the Subcommittee on the most recent public art selection process in order to improve the process for the future. K. Watts described the typical process of issuing, scoring, and selection a vendor through the RFP process, noting that usually the team prefers to have an in person kick off meeting before releasing the RFP and an in person discussion following the scoring, but was not done this time. E. Kane elaborated that the RFP process is a common process in the City to select services and products of large and small scale. In the process, it is also common to include all stakeholders which is why representatives from the Parks Department were included in the selection panel. E. Kane stated that there was no defect in the

process for selecting the Ten Mile Trailhead project, however there was a lack of education or communication with the Subcommittee on the process and its scope. K. Watts confirmed that in place of an in person meeting after the scoring, an email was sent out asking if the selection panel would like to discuss.

L. Taylor expressed her frustration in working with the Bonfire program and its technicalities. She also expressed that she felt the scoring criteria and verbiage was too objective for evaluating the subjective nature of artwork. A. Belnap informed the Subcommittee that the scoring criteria verbiage was taken from the RFP, which was approved by the Subcommittee and Commission. E. Kane confirmed that the Arts Commission approved the RFP in March 2021. T. Vannucci stated that he felt the highest scoring artist was not the most suitable for this project. He expressed that when using a combination of objective and subjective criteria, the objective criteria will win. K. Watts assured the Subcommittee that the criteria for selection and its verbiage can be supplied by the Subcommittee and the Subcommittee's expertise during the RFP process. J. Peters summarized that the scoring criteria will be worked on in moving forward with future projects.

J. Peters stated her concerns regarding the lack of in person discussion following the evaluations and the notice of the final scores. She indicated that she expected the selection panel would have the opportunity to discuss the final scores as was the case in selection processes in the past and was surprised to see the approval on the Arts Commission agenda. Because of this, she would like to see if the final decision could be revisited. E. Kane informed the Subcommittee that we have passed the point of no return on the Ten Mile Trailhead project, but suggestions can be included in future processes. J. Peters stated that unlike past selection meetings, she felt that this selection process was a Parks project that the Arts Commission was invited to instead of an Arts Commission project in partnership with the Parks Department. T. Vannucci asked if adjustments be made to the current selection if it is a done deal. K. Watts confirmed that the Subcommittee can work with the vendor to make adjustments to the proposal.

S. Siddoway expressed his gratitude in working with the Arts Commission and his hope that we can make this an awesome marriage instead of an us vs. them situation. He also stated that he has been involved in past selection processes and the two points that he felt that made this process different was the use of the Bonfire system and the lack of conversation after the evaluations. He suggested that the meeting after evaluations be made a rule for all future selection processes. The Subcommittee agreed.

K. Watts reaffirmed that Bonfire was not the cause of any failings in the process, but rather the Subcommittee can be involved in adjusting the scoring criteria and formatting of Bonfire to work best for them. J. Peters mentioned that she had trouble with the dropdown menu of comments in the scoring because she felt some of the dropdown comments didn't fit her reasoning and recommended adding an "Other" option to make personal notes instead of being required to chose one of the pre-selected options. L. Taylor stated that she felt the technology of Bonfire led to a bias towards more technologically inclined persons who were

able to navigate the system. J. Peters suggested that the in person meeting before the release of the RFP that K. Watts had mentioned before would help for cases like L. Taylor's. K. Watts also mentioned that they would be able to submit scores for L. Taylor and accommodate her.

L. Taylor also cautioned the team to be careful when suggesting adjustments to artwork. She stated from personal experience that sometimes suggestions doesn't go well and the suggestions should be made dispassionately and sensitively. S. Siddoway confirmed with K. Watts that minor adjustments can be made (ex: the color of the Ten Mile Trailhead project) but large changes cannot (ex: changing the flower to an elephant). K. Watts stated that the adjustments can be negotiated in the agreement process and if the artist is unwilling or unable to make the requested adjustments, the Subcommittee can then move to the second highest scoring artist. The Subcommittee agreed to meet together next month to discuss the changes to request for the Ten Mile Trailhead project and S. Siddoway asked that he be involved in that discussion as well. Following the next Public Art Subcommittee meeting, S. Siddoway, A. Belnap, K. Watts, and S. Ramirez will negotiate the agreement and adjustments with Stephanie Inman, the artist. E. Kane also mentioned that since these adjustments will be minor, it will not need to go to the Arts Commission for re-approval but should be included in the Subcommittee report.

Lastly, A. Belnap informed the Subcommittee that the City staff will get together in the next couple of weeks, create a formal step by step procedure for selecting public art and present it to the Arts Commission in the coming months. The Subcommittee agreed.

S. Siddoway, E. Kane, K. Watts, and S. Ramirez took their leave and the Subcommittee took a 5 minute break.

3. Discuss and Develop Public Art Planning Tools

A. Belnap suggested that the Subcommittee start with goal #3 on the agenda memo in order to first establish a vision for the public art program. J. Peters stated that the Subcommittee has much of the information needed for this, it is just split between several reports and documents that need to be compiled and organized together. The Subcommittee discussed the benefits of establishing the vision and getting to the action items. B. Gaytan suggested that an education piece be included in the plan in order to reach the public. J. Peters will send out Fargo, North Dakota's Public Art Plan as an example. The Subcommittee agreed to set up a Saturday workshop to do this compilation in October. A. Belnap will send out dates.

REPORTS

4. Update: Ten Mile Trailhead Installation

A. Belnap recapped what was previously agreed upon in Agenda Item #2: the Subcommittee will discuss adjustments to request from Stephanie Inman for the final design and structure, then S. Siddoway and A. Belnap will work with the

Purchasing and Legal departments to negotiate and create an agreement with S. Inman. T. Vannucci requested that we obtain S. Inman's maquette for our discussion next month.

5. Update: Meridian Mural Series Status

A. Belnap informed the Subcommittee that the easement for the Meridian Cycles mural will be issued this week. Centercal, the corporate property owner of the Boise Co op, is still resisting pieces of the easement agreement and in the negotiation process with the Legal department. The Meridian Library District has given a soft commitment to becoming the third mural property and E. Kane is drafting an up front agreement in order to avoid getting into snags later on, like what happened with Centercal and SagePoint Financial.

6. Inclusivity Highlight: Art and Accessibility

J. Peters explained to the Subcommittee that these memos are for the Subcommittee to review and to discuss if requested. J. Peters also said that she plans on including a memo for each meeting and if anyone would like to produce their own memo, they are welcome to do so.

NEXT MEETING - August 17, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

L. Taylor made motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by T. Vannucci

All ayes

Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm