

PUBLIC ART AND DESIGN BOARD

October 27, 2015

4:30 PM, RMB Room 303

Present: Susan Cannon, Adam Cave, Laurent de Comarmond (Chair), Scott Hazard, Bob Rankin (Vice-Chair), Kathleen Rieder

Absent: Linda Noble

Staff: Jerry Bolas, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts
Cassie Schumacher-Georgopoulos, Senior Planner, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Candace Almond, Plan Coordinator, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
TJ McCourt, Planner, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

Guests: Linda Dallas

Call to Order

Chair Laurent de Comarmond welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

Approval of Minutes from September 29, 2015

Kathleen Rieder made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Bob Rankin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

HPA Funds Allocation-Transportation Projects

Laurent reviewed key points from last meeting's discussion.

FY 16 allocations are coming from three projects:

- New Bern Avenue - \$11,500
- Oberlin Road - \$7,585
- Mitchell Mill Road - \$47,742 (left over from FY 15)

At the meeting on September 29, PADB considered three potential projects:

- New Bern Avenue - This is a multi-phase/multi-year project and there was concern about investing in public art during the first phase, only to have it potentially disrupted or undone in latter phases.
- Oberlin Road - There was much interest in this project, especially due to the rich history of the area, but ongoing development in the corridor and changing streetscapes were similarly a cause for concern.
- Hillsborough Street, Phase II - This project is currently underway, but contained design elements that were not previously funded. It is a corridor with high visibility and heavy traffic. PADB discussed the idea of adding a transit shelter at the Brooks St. intersection; using an existing design would incorporate use of the old trolley rails.

Ultimately the Board voted to fund option number three, but Laurent suggested they re-visit the decision and re-open the matter for discussion. Hillsborough Street already has a substantial amount of public art and \$126,250 has already been allocated to that project for public art. New Bern Avenue is a gateway to the city, a high traffic area, and desperately needs work.

Linda Dallas expressed concern that if allocations for New Bern Avenue are small in each phase of the project and get bundled elsewhere, public art may never happen in that corridor. She added that there is a tremendous need in that location and she would like to know that there is a strategic plan in place to allocate money for public art to that project in the future.

She indicated there is much excitement among the students at St. Augustine's and she anticipated equal enthusiasm among students at Enloe for potentially working on a public art project. Laurent added that a transit shelter or other public art piece on New Bern could be relocated if necessary in future phases.

Laurent also said that it would be possible to carry the money forward into next fiscal year in order to fund a larger project. Jerry confirmed that it would indeed be possible and the funds would not be lost.

Linda added that if a public art plan were implemented for New Bern Avenue, there would be an opportunity for the community to contribute and it would open the door for private/public partnerships, an idea discussed at length in the Raleigh Arts Plan.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to gather more information about the following:

- With regard to Hillsborough Street, how much will the shelter cost and how much funding can the City add to it?
- With regard to Oberlin Road, what do future streetscape designs look like?
- With regard to New Bern Avenue, what is the scope of the current project and what does phase two look like?

Scott Hazard suggested we get someone from the Planning Department to come in and provide more details regarding long-range planning for Oberlin and New Bern.

Susan Cannon made a motion that PADB gather more information on the Hillsborough Street transit shelter costs, the status of Oberlin Road master planning, and the status of New Bern Avenue master planning. Bob Rankin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Raleigh Arts Plan (RAP) Draft

Jerry Bolas introduced RAP team members Cassie Schumacher-Georgopoulos, Candace Almond and TJ McCourt, and asked if everyone had a chance to review the RAP. He recapped that the RAP process was designed to engage as many community members as possible. He reported that over 4,000 citizens have participated in the RAP through a range of entry points. The consultants indicated this was the greatest level of public engagement they had seen. The public comment period is open through November 2. Jerry also reported that what shocked the consultants most was how Raleigh residents responded to the following question: "Do you feel the City should be the lead in supporting arts and culture, should play a major role, a small role, or not at all?" An astounding 92% of participants said the City should either take the lead or play a major role. Jerry stressed that an essential requirement for growth of arts in the community is going to be increased private/public partnerships and private philanthropy. He invited feedback on the RAP recommendation for forming an arts and culture foundation to chair fundraising and work with the City on supporting the arts. Laurent encouraged everyone to provide input and feedback on the RAP. Cassie reported that the Steering Committee will meet on November 17 to review the revised draft and will prepare to recommend the plan to PADB and CORAC at the joint meeting on December 8.

Updates

Current CIP Public Art Projects

Postponed until the next meeting. Scott reported that Andy Dufford will be in town the week of November 9 to install the sculpture at Critical Public Safety.

CORAC Report

Jerry Bolas reported that the Commission addressed the following:

- RAP
- FY 16 Budget
- Plan of Work
- Technical Assistance Grants

Public Comments

None

Other Business

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.