

## PUBLIC ART AND DESIGN BOARD

April 5, 2016

4:30 PM, RMB Room 303

Present: Susan Cannon, Laurent de Comarmond (Chair), Scott Hazard, Linda Noble, Bob Rankin (Vice-Chair)

Absent: Adam Cave, Kathleen Rieder

Staff: Jerry Bolas, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Kim Curry-Evans, Public Art Coordinator, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Brigitta Mills, Public Art Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Scott Payne, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources  
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts

Guests: Clymer Cease, Former Chair, Public Art and Design Board  
Nancy Novell, Chair, Arts Commission

### Call to Order

Chair Laurent de Comarmond welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM.

Kim Curry-Evans introduced Brigitta Mills, the new public art assistant with the Office of Raleigh Arts.

### Approval of Minutes from February 23, 2016

Laurent asked if there were any changes to the minutes. Bob Rankin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Scott Hazard seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### Action Items

#### **Request for Qualifications, Chavis Memorial Park: Phase 1**

A copy of the RFQ was distributed for review. Kim reported the following:

- Since the project is still early in design development, the idea is to bring an artist on board as a design consultant and member of the project team.
- A national call for artists will be publicized with a \$20K design fee. Raleigh and North Carolina artists will be strongly encouraged to apply.
- The artist call asks that public art for the project provides a focus on the area's history and how it might be interpreted and integrated into the site.
- An artist who knows how to engage with the community will be a key component for ensuring communication with multiple stakeholders.
- Pending PADB approval, the artist call will go live April 6.
- Scott Hazard is the PADB representative on the artist selection panel.

Laurent de Comarmond reminded the Board that the Chavis project is a part of the 2014 City Master Plan. Kim added that phase one of the Chavis Park renovations will tentatively open summer 2018.

Linda Noble made a motion to approve the RFQ for Chavis Memorial Park. Susan Cannon seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## Public Art Complete, Central Communications Center

Kim reported that artist Andy Dufford has completed installation of the sculpture at the Central Communications Center. Kim presented images of the piece and the surrounding plaza. She reported that as of today no official dedication for the facility has been scheduled. Clymer Cease added that while there is no visibility from the street, the public art and building will serve as a backdrop for the television spots that may be filmed at the location, exponentially increasing exposure.

Bob Rankin made a motion to recommend the artwork, *Equilibrium*, to CORAC for acceptance into the Municipal Art Collection. Susan Cannon seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The recommendation will be presented to CORAC at their next meeting.

## Discussion Items

### **Advocacy, Percent for Art**

Laurent reported that members of CORAC, members of PADB, Jerry Bolas and Scott Payne held a meeting to discuss advocacy strategies for funding goals of the Raleigh Arts Plan (RAP), including options to increase the Per Capita and Percent for Art budgets. Jerry added that staff cannot ask City Council for budget increases. The budget office and City manager are well informed regarding the needs of the Arts Office, but advocacy falls under the purview of CORAC and PADB. Both City Council and the mayor have been publicly advocating for increasing the City's arts profile. Laurent added that doubling the public art budget to a one-percent allocation would allow for increased quality in artist selection as well as greater impact for the pieces created.

Laurent invited Clymer Cease to provide input since he was chair of PADB at the inception of the Half-percent for Public Art program. Clymer indicated that he feels the timing is good to ask for the increase. A number of successful projects have been completed in recent years and there is abundant enthusiasm and support from the public for public art. Many comparable cities have budgets as high as two percent, so increasing to one percent seems reasonable. Nancy Novell added that a public art master plan is incorporated as a goal of the RAP. The RAP calls for an "incremental" growth of public art funding.

Bob Rankin asked Clymer to comment on what the most effective ways to lobby City Council have been over the last several years. Clymer identified a couple of strategies:

- Looking at peer cities: Austin, Portland, Nashville, Indianapolis
- Stressing that additional funding makes a huge difference regarding impact and scale, especially with smaller projects

Kim added that Brigitta is working on fact sheets for each of the completed public art projects so that the Board will be able to familiarize themselves with the works. She is also working on a list of talking points for public art advocacy and projects currently underway. Nancy and Laurent will be meeting with Councilwoman Crowder, CORAC's liaison to City Council, in order to keep her well informed.

Scott Payne briefly reviewed the City's budget timeline. The City manager will present a balanced budget to City Council in May. Council will begin work sessions the first Monday of June on both operating and capital budgets. They will work on subsequent Mondays until a budget is adopted. Their deadline, according to the state charter, is the end of June.

## Updates

### **Current CIP Public Art Projects**

Kim reported the following:

- Market and Exchange Plazas are close to completion. The railings have been installed and the planters will arrive this week. The dedication will be held April 27 at 2pm.

- The Block2 video projection project is underway, but will not be completed in time for the dedication. Frank Yarborough of Avcon, who is an expert in exterior large-scale projections, has conducted two trial runs directly on the building surface at night. A proposal should be finalized this month and will be reviewed by AEC at the end of the month. First Citizens Bank continues to be engaged and supportive throughout the process.
- At the next PADB meeting final designs for the Sandy Forks and Moore Square projects will be presented and reviewed.

### **CORAC Report**

Jerry reported that the Commission approved the \$1.8 million arts grant allocations, the Contingency Plan, and FY16 Capacity Building initiatives. The recommendations will be brought to City Council.

### **Public Comments**

Clymer thanked PADB for their great work and congratulated them on winning public confidence.

### **Other Business**

The next meeting on April 26 will start at 5:15 instead of 4:30.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:44 PM.

SS/kce