

**Raleigh Arts Commission**  
**September 8, 2015**  
**5:30 PM, RMB 305**

Present: Chanda Branch, Joe Cebina, Jason Craighead, Linda Dallas, Gene Davis (Vice-Chair), Laurent de Comarmond, Andy Martin, Nancy Novell (Chair), Gail Perry (by conference call), Joanne Sullivan, Stan Williams

Absent: Sarah Powers

Staff: Jerry Bolas, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts  
Scott Payne, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department (PRCR)

**Call to Order**

Chair Nancy Novell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:41 PM.

**Approval of August 11 Minutes**

Linda Dallas made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Stan Williams seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion Items**

**Raleigh Arts Plan (RAP)**

Jerry Bolas reported the following:

- Over 4,000 people have participated in the process thus far.
- CPG sent a complete revised draft of the plan over Labor Day weekend which Jerry will review with staff.
- The RAP will go public the first week in October and there will be a thirty-day public comment period.
- CPG will be in town October 20-22.
- The City Manager recommends a work session with City Council on October 20. Two other meetings will be held during this time period, a Town Hall Meeting on October 21 and a Steering Committee Meeting on October 22. Jerry hopes that Commissioners will each be able to attend at least one of these meetings.
- The Steering Committee will convene in mid-November. The plan is for them to recommend the RAP to CORAC at the joint meeting with PADB on December 8.
- Then PADB and CORAC will make a recommendation for adoption of the RAP to City Council in January or February.

**FY16 Per Capita Program Budget**

Jerry Bolas reported the following:

- Total available funds are a record \$290,501.
- An additional budget line has been added for Block II which was previously budgeted with Block Gallery. The Block II project has become more complex and requires its own budget line.
- Budget line 4, Art on City Plaza, was deliberately left at \$0 due to the unexpected passing of artist, Pat McDonald. Kim Curry-Evans has been in contact with his widow who has expressed interest in renewing the loan contract for one more year. The renewal will remain unofficial until the Arts Office receives legal documentation from the estate confirming executor status.
- Budget line 5, Public Art TBD, is currently at \$0 because a project has yet to be identified. Bland Hoke's *Banjo Stand* enhancements and reinstall was budgeted as the public art project in FY 15.
- \$32,000 is budgeted in line 28, Special Projects (to be allocated), in order to cover potential expenses in the previous three lines.

Joe Cebina inquired about the human resources fund shifts and Jerry reminded him that the new Curator position is being funded from money previously allocated to two contract positions, now closed. Joe also asked about \$0 being allocated to maintenance and conservation. Jerry explained that Scott Payne and Diane Sauer have established a funding line in CIP, \$25K bi-annually for preservation of public art.

## **Action Items**

### **Block Gallery Finalists**

Gene Davis reported that 53 artists and 4 curatorial projects applied for the Block Gallery 2016-2017 exhibition series. The selection committee met and selected a group of 16 finalists and 1 curatorial project. It will be the new curator's responsibility to match up the artists for exhibitions. There will be no solo artists/exhibitions. This slate is intended to take us through the next two years. AEC recommended the following slate of artists for Block Gallery exhibitions in 2016-2017:

- Tedd Anderson, Mixed Media
- Adam Bellefeuil, Photography
- Rachel Campbell, Painting
- Caitlin Cary, Mixed Media with Fiber
- Kiki Farish, Drawing
- Harriet Hoover, Mixed Media
- Amy Hoppe, Mixed Media and Installation
- Eric Hunter, Painting
- Leatha Koefler, Mixed Media
- Peter Marin, Painting
- Chieko Murasugi, Painting
- Frank Myers, Photography
- Erin Oliver, Painting and Installation
- Mary Starke, Mixed Media
- Anthony Ulinski, Painting
- Ely Urbanski, Printmaking
- Curatorial Project: Mixed media exhibition of Bonded Llama Studios (Raleigh) artists Sherry de Fillipop, David Eichenberger, Cayce Lee, Ann Marie Kennedy, and Derek Toomes

Andy Martin made a motion to approve the artists as presented. Stan Williams seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Purchase Considerations**

Gene Davis reported that AEC looked at the Block Gallery exhibition, *Beautiful Alchemy*, and selected two Brandon Cordrey pieces they recommend for purchase, *Reality Doesn't Care* and *Lie to Me*. Images of the pieces were included in the meeting packet.

Linda Dallas made a motion to acquire the two pieces for the Municipal Art Collection. Chanda Branch seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Linda also added that Brandon is a member of the ADA Learning Community. He is very active in the arts community as well, and works at both Visual Art Exchange and Arts Access.

### **Technical Assistance Grant Program Guidelines**

Linda Dallas reported the following:

- Technical Assistance Grants guidelines and application forms were distributed in the meeting packet.
- Grants will be available in three categories
  - Professional Development
  - Universal Access
  - Organizational Development
- All non-profit arts organizations headquartered in Raleigh with the proper 501c3 designation are eligible to apply, not only current arts partners.
- These grants may only be used for the direct cost of the project in the application. They may not be used for salaries, overhead, capital improvements, or large equipment purchases.
- There will be two grant cycles. Application deadlines for the fall cycle will be October 15 and March 15 for the spring cycle. These deadlines are deliberately offset from the main grants cycle.

- Notification of grant award or denial will be made by November 16 and April 18 respectively.
- Organizations may apply for up to four grants, not totaling more than \$3500.
- Application process for each grant includes: a completed application, a one-page budget, and a narrative which will differ depending on the type of grant being applied for.
- No funding match will be required by the organizations.
- These grants may be more accessible to smaller organizations that do not have the capacity to apply for the larger grants. The application is shorter and less complicated than that for traditional grants.
- The Grants Committee will review the applications rather than selecting a panel, since this is a pilot program.
- The Grants Committee will evaluate the process at the conclusion to assess how it worked and also to determine what organizations need for future capacity building.

Gene Davis made a motion to adopt the Technical Assistance Grant Program guidelines as presented. Joanne Sullivan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee/Board Reports**

#### **Executive Committee**

Nancy Novell reported that the draft plan of work would be sent out to committee members soon, so they can provide input at the next meeting. The plan will be aligned with the Raleigh Arts Plan.

#### **Art, Education & Collections**

Gene Davis reported the following:

- The NC Arts Council needs to relocate Thomas Spleth's mural, *Green*, due to construction in the Ablemarle building. The large porcelain piece is 8' x 20'. They are interested in a long term loan to the City. Potential sites at the Raleigh Convention Center are being considered.
- The Office of Raleigh Arts came to a mutual decision with artist David McConnell to terminate his contract for work on the Block II project at Market and Exchange Plaza, due to technical considerations that were outside the artist's capability. Kim Curry-Evans is researching and seeking bids from audio-visual companies to continue working on the design and installation of the project, which will include both daytime and nighttime projections.
- Kim has been in contact with artist Patrick McDonald's widow regarding an extension on the loan for the sculptures in Market and Exchange Plaza and the possible purchase of one of the pieces.
- The Downtown Raleigh Alliance is securing insurance for the crosswalks project. The proposed installation date for the Crosswalks on Glenwood South project is October 18.
- The Art Along Blount Street project is still on display. Unfortunately, one of the artists, Debbie Crawford, suffered a stroke and passed away.

#### **Grants Committee**

Linda Dallas reported the following:

- The ADA Learning Community is back from the LEAD Conference and they are excited about setting goals and getting underway.
- The final phase of participation statistics capacity building projects is underway. Six of our arts partners are undertaking statistics gathering projects.
- The Web Accessibility 101 Webinar is scheduled for October 19. There will be a screening of the Webinar in a location TBD.
- Each year the Committee reviews the previous year's grant process. They will present a few minor changes to the process to CORAC next month.
- Linda received a copy of the guidelines for the Houston, TX innovation grants. They used Raleigh as a role model for their program.

#### **Public Art & Design Board**

Laurent de Comarmond reported the following:

- Matt McConnell presented the final designs for the railings and planter surrounds in Market and Exchange Plaza. They will be constructed of laser cut steel.

- The Board is working on their work plan, which they will be aligning with the Raleigh Arts Plan.
- Jann Rosen-Querault, artist for the Sandy Forks Widening project, made a site visit and met with the project team. She will begin work on the concept design.

**Executive Director Report**

Jerry Bolas reported that he, Kim, and Eliza Kiser interviewed candidates for the new curator of exhibitions and collections position. They ranked the candidates and are waiting for the city to complete their pre-hire process. Jerry hopes to complete the process within the next 10 days.

**Public Comments**

None

**New/Other Business**

Joanne Sullivan reported that she served on the Sir Walter Raleigh Awards selection committee. They will be announced tomorrow night at CAM.

Nancy suggested that at the end of each meeting, Commissioners share information and feedback on any arts events or festivals they attended.

Nancy announced that Jason Craighead has an upcoming solo show in New York at a very well respected gallery in Tribeca. The show runs through October 24.

Joe Cebina announced that he has been involved on a national level with the Urban Land Institute and a few weeks ago he had the opportunity to visit the Millennium Park in Chicago. It was gorgeous and offered an excellent example of how art can be integrated into public spaces.

**Adjournment**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 PM

Submitted by Sandi Sullivan