

Raleigh Arts Commission
November 10, 2015
5:30 PM, RMB 305

Present: Chanda Branch, Jason Craighead, Linda Dallas, Laurent de Comarmond, Gene Davis (Vice-Chair), Nancy Novell (Chair), Sarah Powers, Joanne Sullivan (by conference call), Stan Williams

Absent: Joe Cebina, Andy Martin, Gail Perry

Staff: Jerry Bolas, Executive Director, Office of Raleigh Arts
Sandi Sullivan, Administrative Assistant, Office of Raleigh Arts

Call to Order

Chair, Nancy Novell, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

Approval of October 13 Minutes

Gene Davis made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Stan Williams seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

Raleigh Arts Plan (RAP)

Jerry Bolas thanked everyone for their participation in the recent meetings addressing the RAP and reported the following:

- Thirty-four public comments have been recorded, many of which will be incorporated into the revised draft of the plan.
- The Steering Committee will meet next week on November 17 and are expected to recommend the RAP to both CORAC and PADB.
- CORAC and PADB will hold a joint meeting on December 8 to discuss the plan and hopefully vote to move forward with a recommendation to City Council for adoption of the RAP.
- Staff will begin interviewing designers in the next week. A designer will be hired to work on a publishable document and create a designed PDF for presentation to City Council.
- One definitive challenge will be encouraging City Council to find new resources to allocate.

Action Items

Purchase Considerations

Gene Davis reported that the AEC Committee would like to recommend three pieces for purchase and addition to the Municipal Art Collection: *Doors Measure the Distance* by Scott Hazard; *Karsten* by Shannon Johnstone; and *The Wise Among Us* by Jon Kolkin. All pieces are currently on display in the Block Gallery exhibit, *Sacred Spaces*. A handout with images was distributed in the meeting packet. Gene shared a bit of history about each of the artists, bios, previous credits and awards received.

Jason Craighead made a motion to approve all three purchases. Linda Dallas seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CAM Mural Project in the Warehouse District

Gene reported that CAM is bringing forth a citizen-initiated public art project, a proposal to create a mural on a building in the warehouse district that is scheduled for demolition as part of the Union Station project. Artist Bart Cusick will create the temporary public art piece with spray paint. The proposed mural is entitled, *A Note to Ten-Year-Old Me*. Images of the proposed design and site for the project were included in the meeting packet. CAM will fund the project.

AEC is recommending the project for approval.

Sarah Powers made a motion to accept CAM's proposal for the temporary public art mural: *A Note to Ten-Year-Old Me*. Joanne Sullivan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Deco Raleigh Parklet Sidewalk Mural

Pam Blondin of Deco Raleigh is bringing forth a citizen-initiated public art project, a proposal to create a mural on the sidewalk next to the parklet on Salisbury Street. Artist Jenn Hales has been chosen to create the temporary public art piece. No paint

would be used on brick, only on the concrete areas of the sidewalk. Deco Raleigh is funding the project and is prepared to work with the city regarding safety concerns and appropriate materials. Deco anticipates the mural lasting 1-2 years based on foot traffic, wear and tear. Once the mural has worn significantly, they plan to hire a new artist to start the project over with a new design. The proposed mural design was included in the meeting packet.

AEC is recommending the project for approval.

Linda Dallas made a motion to approve the project. Chanda Branch seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Recommendations

Linda Dallas reported the following:

- The first round of technical assistance grants has been completed and was very successful.
- Eleven organizations submitted applications.
- Two organizations applied that had not applied for grants with the city before.
- The Grant Committee is recommending funding nine of the eleven applicants.
- Two organizations are not being recommended for funding.
 - Raleigh Concert Band was not eligible because they do not meet incorporation requirements.
 - North Carolina Theatre is not being recommended because their application did not propose a new initiative. TAG's are intended to assist organizations with new projects, not ongoing projects.
- TAG's can only be used for direct cost of projects, not overhead, so some of the organizations were not funded at 100%.
- Several organizations have expressed an interest in applying during the next TAG cycle.
- Six applications were for accessibility, four for organizational development, and one for professional development.

Chanda Branch made a motion to accept the Technical Assistance Grants as presented. Laurent de Comarmond seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Committee/Board Reports

Executive Committee

None

Art, Education & Collections

None

Grants Committee

Linda Dallas reported the following:

- Grant workshops for the main grant cycle are underway. Two have been held thus far. Fifty-five participants attended the two workshops. Ten organizations attended the workshop for new applicants, the largest attendance thus far.
- ADA Learning Community members gave presentations on Universal Access at each of the grants workshops.
- The final workshop for Innovation Grants will be held on Friday, November 13 at the Hill Street Community Center and everyone is welcome to attend.
- A packet of grant forms was distributed to Commissioners.
- The Web Accessibility 101webinar was well attended. Participants are currently having their websites individually assessed and will have one on one meetings with the consultant.
- ADA Learning Community is now meeting monthly. Their next meeting is on November 17 and everyone is invited.

Public Art & Design Board

Laurent de Comarmond reported the following:

- The Board discussed the RAP and provided feedback to Jerry. Members were pleased that public art has a high profile in the plan.

- They spent a significant amount of time discussing the HPA transportation allocations and decided to gather more information about two potential projects, Oberlin Road and New Bern Avenue, before making a final decision about how to allocate the funds.
- The possibility of allocating the funds for a bus shelter on Hillsborough Street was also considered, though a considerable amount of money has already been allocated to that project.
- A key consideration was where the money would have the most impact and visibility.

Executive Director Report

Jerry Bolas reported the following:

- PADB and CORAC work plans will be presented to City Council on December 1.
- FY17 budget process has begun for the general fund accounts.
- Arts programs are funded from several revenue streams. The per capita funding formula will stay the same until advocacy works to raise the level of funding.
- The Office of Raleigh Arts has submitted requests for two new projects:
 - Creation of a new position, Community Arts Program Coordinator, to begin delivering arts programs throughout the community as part of implementation of the RAP.
 - An art truck that would be managed by the community arts program coordinator, who would train arts center staff to deliver programs. A towable stage is also included in this request.
- Reminder: Fall Arts Fair is this Saturday from 10-5 at Sertoma Arts Center.
- One volunteer is needed for Tuesday, December 1 at 3:30 for an hour to judge the National Arts Project (NAP) show in the Block Gallery. Joanne Sullivan volunteered and Chanda Branch agreed to serve as alternate. The show includes work from employees and their families both from the city and Wake County. All ages are included.

Public Comments

Randy Fornier, President of Art and Creative Productions, spoke about his ongoing projects.

New/Other Business

Gene reported that Stacy Bloom Rexrode has been hired full time as Curator of Exhibitions and Collections. He expressed thanks to Jerry and Scott for making it happen.

Linda reminded everyone that as we head in to the holiday season, it is a primetime for seasonal performances at many of our arts partner's organizations.

Joanne announced that she has a friend who is an art student at Appalachian State who is looking for an internship in visual arts and to please let her know of any opportunities.

Nancy Novell announced that she will be participating in the Handmade Hanukkah Market at Temple Beth Or, where thirty artists will be showcasing their work. All are invited. It will be held Sunday from 10-3.

Commissioners shared information and feedback on arts and cultural events they had attended in the community.

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM

Submitted by Sandi Sullivan