



CHATTANOOGA PUBLIC ART COMMISSION DECEMBER 2018 | MINUTES

Thursday, December 6, 2018, 8:30AM - 11:30AM

@ ArtsBuild

PRESENT: Ellen Simak (Chair), Matthew Dutton, Roger Halligan, Charlotte Caldwell, Dan Bowers, Heidi Hefferlin, Dionne Jennings, Lindsey Willke

STAFF: Katelyn Kirnie (Director), Kat Wright (Program Coordinator)

- I. Welcome and Call to Order: Ellen Simak
- II. Motion made to approve minutes, passed.

PROPOSALS:

I. **Claire Vassort | Silk Shades - Downtown Public Library**

Claire Vassort was in attendance to propose an interior display in the lobby of the Downtown Public Library. She received a grant from Lyndhurst to conduct a workshop series culminating in an installation in the Library's lobby space. Her project, *Silk Shades*, will consist of 4 rows of banners co-created with community workshop participants and an artist-made lantern. This project is the first of its kind with the library. Public Art Chattanooga (PAC) looks to work with the Library to develop a year long artist-in-residency program that would allow future artists to apply and be considered for the opportunity. *Silk Shades* would start in January with three hour classes of no more than 12 students. The classes would be comprised of half adults and half children with the youngest age to participate being 7 years of age. The classes will be free, and Claire will assemble and install the pieces the first week in October 2019. Display maintenance is minimal and the lantern will be on a timer. The library staff will be involved with the project, including coordinating the opening event. Claire was dismissed for the commission's vote. Staff mentioned that the library will sustain the program going forward, and she is working with the library program staff to develop the application process. "Friends of the Library" as a non profit will receive and distribute funds for the project. It was recommended that Claire and the Library try to recruit diverse class participants to reflect the diverse population the library serves.

Vote: The Chattanooga Public Art Commission (CPAC) voted unanimously to approve

the Silk Shades proposal.

II. East Lake Public Art | Creative Engagement Lead

The East Lake area was identified at the previous meeting as a focus area for FY19 Public Art Capital dollars due to the private and public investments being made in the area. Staff requested input on whether East Lake Language & Arts (ELLA) as the only artist led organization in the East Lake neighborhood could be selected or if an RFP be issued. Staff recommended a contract for projects and services in an independent contractor format. Approximate funding breakdown would be \$10K in project funds with another \$10K for services including staff time and coordination. There was a motion made to approve the direct selection of ELLA as the best course of action as the organization already has relationships in the community to make creative engagement successful. A second motion was made, adding that this initiative could also serve as a model for other organizations to replicate. Staff added that for community based projects, the goal is to find an artist or artist-led organization within the neighborhood to facilitate the development of public art. If one is not present, PAC can bring one in. It was asked, if an artist would be excluded from proposing a project if they are creative leads, and it was determined they would not.

Vote: CPAC voted unanimously to approve the direct selection of ELLA Library as the creative engagement lead for the East Lake public art project.

ITEMS FOR VOTE:

I. Future Cities Lab | Patten Parkway-Final Concept

Staff presented Jason Kelly Johnson's final concept design for Patten Parkway, "Radiance". In mid-October 2018, he presented the initial concept for stakeholder input. The artwork is stainless steel and illuminated within to create light and shade patterns. His initial concept has changed quite a bit and relates much better to the overall Patten Parkway design. The new design of Patten Parkway will create a "square" on the Georgia end in function and spirit and will be closed to parking. The intent of the artwork's location in the "square" is to draw people into Patten Parkway. The sidewalk widths will be increased and new trees will be planted. Plans for surrounding development and programming for the area were discussed. Staff reviewed the selection panel recommendation for approval with feedback which included discussion of an additional artwork to create a gateway effect (which would impact the \$300K budget), consideration of the maintenance and trash removal that would be required. One CPAP member raised a question about whether seating would be included. Staff responded that the design team is addressing it and it is likely that it will fall in the overall Innovation District plan that Jason is also working on. An initial ID Artistic Plan is due in January. Construction for Patten Parkway is slated to begin Summer 2019.

Vote: CPAC voted unanimously to approve the final concept design, "Radiance".

II. Re:Site | Fallen Five Memorial - Final Design

The selection panel reconvened recently to review revisions to the landscape design made by WMWA, the local Landscape Architect that was brought on to the team. Staff presented the new site plan which features a reduction in the number of paths leading to the memorial, removal of more trees due to poor trees health. Changes to the landscape plan to not pose any maintenance concerns for County Parks Maintenance or the Landscape Architect on the selection panel. The selection panel recommends approval of the new site plan. Staff provided an overview of memorial fundraising efforts, which included participating in Giving Tuesday, a press release and postcards to publicize Lyndhurst's matching grant challenge, and a few T.V. interviews.

Vote: CPAC voted unanimously to approve the Fallen Five "Wreath of Honor" final design.

III. Jerome Meadows | Ed Johnson Memorial - Final Design

Staff presented the final design for the Ed Johnson Memorial which had been revised to accommodate concerns from the selection panel regarding the entry wall and its interaction with Walnut Plaza. The entry wall has been lowered with the addition of an interpretive panel to encourage a more welcoming interaction with visitors on the plaza side and it has been moved back 6 inches. An acrylic panel in the reading wall on the north side of the memorial has been replaced with a bronze lattice for increased safety and to tie in with the bronze artworks. Seven out of 11 selection panelists approved the final design.

Vote: CPAC voted unanimously to approve the Ed Johnson Memorial final design.

IV. River City Company | Art Spark Final Designs

Staff presented the artists and artworks selected for River City Company's project, Art Spark. Which will apply vinyl reproductions of the artworks around traffic boxes.

Vote: CPAC voted unanimously to approve the Art Spark final designs.

V. FY19 City of Chattanooga Budget Request

Staff presented their initial core offer for operational expenses which includes the current two full time staff positions and the addition of a part time collection specialist and contract project management based on recommendations from the forthcoming strategic plan. The aforementioned does not present a huge increase in costs as there will be no benefits given to the part time employee or contract PMs. \$248K is the amount requested to move forward six capital projects slated for completion within the next fiscal year, facilitate three partner projects, initiate community engagement in East Lake and one new Art in the Neighborhood project. Staff will also move forward with the request for a budget policy that includes 2 percent of the CIP budget for art integrated with above ground capital construction projects as recommended in the forthcoming strategic plan.