



CHATTANOOGA PUBLIC ART COMMISSION APRIL 2021 | MINUTES

Thursday, April 15, 2021, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ZOOM Video Conference

PRESENT: John Brown, Charlotte Caldwell, Aaron Cole, Tim Goldsmith, Megan Ledbetter, Miriam Manda, Justin McBath, John Petrey, Rachel Reese, Virginia Anne Sharber and Lindsey Willke

ABSENT: Vernisha Savoy (Chair), Ric Morris

STAFF: Kat Wright, Public Art Director

CITY ADVISORY: Justin Steinmann (Capital Planning) and Harolda Bryson (Legal)

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Welcome & Introductions for New Commissioners
- B. Approval of February 2021 Meeting Minutes

II. ITEM FOR VOTE

- A. FY22 Proposed Public Art Capital Fund Allocations
 - 1. Staff reminded the Commission of PAC's 2 % Art In Capital (AIC) Budget policy in which the budget calculation is determined by all above-ground capital improvement projects, and allocated by City Council for public art inclusion.
 - 2. Eligible funds that contribute to the calculation include general, bond and federal funds. Federal funds, however, may not be used towards AIC public art projects.
 - 3. Public art projects must be integrated into the overall capital construction projects and priority is given to public service buildings, parks, greenways and major transportation corridors.
 - 4. Staff noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the loss of City revenue results in loss of available funding for AIC projects as the budget target for FY22 appears to be approximately \$260K, which is half of what it has been in previous years.
 - 5. Staff mentioned that the number is not final and subject to change

depending on when the City passes FY22 budget, which is normally by July 1. However, there could be a delay in passing the budget with the new Administration's arrival.

6. Staff recapped the five public art projects shared at the February Commission meeting demonstrating a wide variety of potential public art inclusion, which were also likely to receive Capital funding through their initial budgeting for outcomes proposal. These projects included: St. Elmo Playground, Alton Park Connector, Trail Branding, Transit Stop Accessibility and Fire Station 15.
7. Staff noted that they have received more information on each of these projects since February, and some are either not as conducive for an AIC allocation or won't be receiving as much capital funding due to the loss of revenue which makes the public art inclusion a much smaller opportunity.
8. Staff noted that allocations for FY22 carry over throughout the multiple fiscal years it takes to realize a project, which is why allocating funds at the beginning of a capital project is necessary.
9. Staff reminded the Commission that the 5 capital projects presented in February were not all going to be AIC FY22 allocations due to the lack of revenue and PAC's capacity to take on a number of new projects with the backlog of projects from FY20 moving forward, and the Artists Work Grants (AWG) Program Grant recipient projects from FY21.
10. The AWG Program was in lieu of taking on any City AIC projects for FY 21. The program was developed in response to infusing the local economy with arts funding in a more immediate fashion than an AIC project would, as all public art grant projects must be completed within a year.
11. With the recommendation of Capital Planning, Staff shared they would like to allocate \$120K of the projected AIC budget to Fire Station 15, and allocate up to \$140K to administration and maintenance/conservation which does not need to be spent all in one fiscal year.
12. Staff noted that the maintenance and conservation fund has approximately \$41K in funds after encumbrances, and believes that diverting funds into maintenance for FY22 is strategically sound as the budget policy does allow for this; and as there are less viable capital projects for public art inclusion this coming fiscal year..
13. Staff provided an overview of Fire Station 15 as located within the Shallowford/East Brainerd area, which does not have very many City public art projects in that direction.
14. Though the project has selected an architect, the City is still working on acquiring property. As such, Fire Station 15 should enter the construction design phase in December 2021.
15. Capital planning stressed the importance of appropriating AIC public art project funds into the capital budget at this time, so that the funds are included within the capital budget when the budget is passed July 1. The budget funding without allocations to specific projects at the time the budget is passed is not recommended as it would require a budget.

amendment.

16. Commissioner Brown mentioned that the Alton Park Connector project is currently in design and that the inclusion of a Creative Strategist at this time would be ideal. Staff mentioned they will work with Capital Planning to see what is possible.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS TO APPROVE the inclusion of Fire Station 15 as a Art In Capital Public Art Allocation for an up to \$120K of a projected \$260K AIC budget for FY22 with an up to \$140K towards administration and maintenance/ conservation reserve.

B. “High Four” resite

1. Staff received permission at February’s Commission meeting to look at potential siting locations within Renaissance Park.
2. Staff prefaced that they have approval from Parks to pursue any of the options they are about to share, which may change slightly once a site survey is conducted.
3. Option 1 has one walking down the path from the parking lot by the green pavilion on the Northshore, going under the pedestrian bridge on the corner adjacent from the steps.
4. Option 2 has one walking past those steps all the way down to the river and taking a left to walk along the walkway to the area on the left before the first bench.
5. Option 3 is slightly beyond option 2 in that it is tucked up into the brush right before the artwork installation “A Place in the Woods”. The Commission had expressed in a previous meeting that they liked that “High Four” was somewhat tucked away when it was in its former location by Walnut Street Bridge.
6. A few Commissioners felt that the work was too remote along the river with these options, and closer in to Cardboard Hill was suggested.
7. Commissioner Brown shared some Google Earth options where some paths converge on the backside of the hill.
8. Staff shared estimates for the excavating and pouring of the concrete pad and reinstalling the work for an amount of \$4,350.00 for the options that were along the river.
9. It was suggested that Staff move to confirm the new location at Cardboard Hill and proceed with reinstalling “High Four” so long as the expense does not go over \$5,000.00.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS TO APPROVE the resite location at the base of Cardboard Hill in Renaissance Park so long as it meets with Parks approval and the expense to resite the work at said location does not exceed \$5,000.00.

III. REVIEW AND DISCUSS

A. 2021 / 2022 Work Plan

1. “Radiance” and Ed Johnson Memorial are projected for completion in

June 2021.

2. Martin Amphitheater Mural projected for completion in August 2021. The final design will be a June Commission agenda item.
3. "Moonrise" at Wheland Foundry Trailhead will have a presubmittal for plans review on April 22 and proceed into fabrication thereafter with a Fall 2021 completion.
4. East Lake Public Art Projects: East Lake YFD Center is headed into construction next month with an estimated completion date of February 2022. Staff will be contracting with a company who specializes in artistic interventions on basketball courts who will employ an artist to design, and then they will take that design license and implement it. The court must maintain all its regulatory games lines. The artistic seating for East Lake Park Call has been drafted and Staff will submit an RFP determination to the Purchasing department to proceed. ELLA Library will be contracted again to conduct community engagement for both projects.
5. MLK Corridor Projects: The Bessie Smith and Blue Goose Hollow Artistic Marker project is still awaiting Rondell Crier to enter into an agreement with the Bessie Smith Cultural Center, who is the project's fiscal agent. Target completion should be Fall 2021, but may be Spring now due to this contract delay.
6. The MLK Underpass Activation project is underway after much delay in coordination with Norfolk Southern Railroad Company.
7. Lynnbrook Park begins construction in September 2021 with a 8 month build schedule. Creative Strategist Josiah Golson will begin his engagement specific to the public art project next month. PAC anticipates issuing the Artist Call mid-Summer.
8. Chattown Skatepark is still in the planning phase due to property acquisition delays. Katie Hargrave is the Creative Strategist.
9. East Chattanooga Early Learning facility will also be a replacement for the Youth and Family Development Administration Offices currently on 12th Street. The project is still in the planning phase due to property acquisition delays, but it is projected to be located in the West Side.
10. Washington Hills YFD Center is also still in the planning phase due to property acquisition delays. A Creative Strategist is not yet assigned and under contract.
11. Staff also noted that administering the Artist Work Grant program is also a part of the current work plan.