



CHATTANOOGA PUBLIC ART COMMISSION OCTOBER 18, 2018 | MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 18, 2018, 1:15 - 3:15PM
City Council Conference Room

PRESENT: Ellen Simak (Chair), Matthew Dutton, Roger Halligan, John Brown, Heidi Hefferlin, Dionne Jennings, Dan Bowers, Virginia Anne Sharber, Charlotte Caldwell, Rondell Crier

STAFF: Katelyn Kirnie (Director), Kat Wright (Program Coordinator), Shelby Glover (PAC Temp Position)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and Call to Order: Ellen Simak

- A. New Team Member, *Public Art Program Coordinator*, Kathryn "Kat" Wright was introduced by Director, Katelyn Kirnie and welcomed by Commission members.

II. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- A. Harolda Bryson (City Legal Dept.) conducted Ethics Training for the Commission which is a requirement for all City Boards..

III. DISCUSSION & VOTE:

- A. Motion made to approve August minutes, passed

- B. **Public Art Strategic Plan**

A final draft of the Public Art consultant's Guiding Principles Document was presented by staff. There was discussion of specific revisions to be made to the Vision statement. The Commission was in agreement on the following revised Vision statement: *"Public art helps define Chattanooga by enhancing the public realm, stimulating dialogue, and building community."*

All were in support of the proposed Guiding Principles:

Public art in Chattanooga has the power to:

1. *Express Chattanooga's identity through the built environment.*

2. *Elevate the role the artist and the creative process plays in connecting people and place.*
3. *Provide equitable access for visitors and residents to a diversity of artists and artistic experiences.*
4. *Encourage multi-disciplinary collaboration in the public and private sector to create vibrant public spaces.*
5. *Celebrate our communities' cultural assets, highlighting the unique character of our neighborhoods, honoring their histories, and preserving quality of place.*

There was discussion regarding the Key Objectives of the plan and specific questions about how developers can be more strongly encouraged and incentivized to incorporate art into building projects. It is expected that specific options will be presented in the consultant's draft recommendations. The consultants will present the DRAFT Strategic Plan and specific recommendations to the Commission in December.

C. FY19 - 20 Draft Work Plan

Public Art staff presented the following FY19 Capital projects for the Commission to consider allocating Public Art Capital Funds to and to be included in the FY19-20 work plan.

1. East Lake

There are a number of potential public art opportunities with City Capital projects and partner agencies planned for the East Lake neighborhood including:

- a. East Lake Park Renovations: City of Chattanooga: Water Quality; Open Spaces
- b. East Lake YFD Renovation: City of Chattanooga: YFD
- c. East Lake Connections Projects: Trust for Public Land; City of Chattanooga: CDOT

It was suggested by staff that this could be a possible area for an artist in residence to work specifically with this community on identifying potential projects. One Commission member suggested the potential of working with an existing community organization that has strong relationships with residents in the area who could help guide engagement efforts and assist with making inroads with the neighborhood for future artists and public art projects. The Commission was in favor of this approach.

2. Southside Gardens Projects

There are multiple projects identified in and arising from the South Broad District Study that are currently in progress or are scheduled to start in the next year, including:

- a. Improvements to 26th St. connecting US Pipe and the Howard campus
- b. Construction of the new football stadium and track at Howard
- c. The Howard Campus Master Plan

- d. Reconstruction of the I-24 interchanges and construction of a new frontage road
 - e. Planning process and improvements to Harris Johnson Park
 - f. Future improvements to S. Market St.
 - g. Development of the US Pipe and Wheland Foundry properties
- Staff recommended this area be targeted as a zone for artist led engagement and that the Southside Gardens area could be the focus of the City Artist partnership with CDOT to pilot the program. The Commission felt a local artist working in this area would need a significant amount of guidance and support as it is not a densely populated area and integrating with multiple agencies on sizable planning initiatives may be a challenge for many artists. Staff suggested submitting a grant proposal to assist with engaging a mentor for the City Artist with significant experience in artist led engagement, social practice and/or creative placemaking. The Commission was in favor of this approach.

3. 3rd & 4th Street

CDOT in partnership with River City Company has kicked off Public input on 3rd street and how to improve connections with downtown and make it more pedestrian friendly and improve placemaking along the corridor. This is a long term project in the early phases of master planning.

4. Sculpture Biennial

The Commission raised the discussion of the Biennial Sculpture exhibition and whether it would be continued in future years. Staff advised that this program was being considered by the consultants in their recommendations which will consider the number of free standing sculptures in our current collection and the availability of spaces for rotating sculptures. Staff capacity is also a concern with the number of artists and artworks needing to be contracted with and installations coordinated. Staff suggested a potential partnership with MSA. The Commission discussed potentially moving the exhibition to other areas of town and whether other artforms could be incorporated. The Biennial could be an effective way to animate neglected neighborhoods. It was suggested that the Biennial could be a nice way to balance CPAC's Capital investments with something vibrant people can be part of. It was decided a sub-committee would be formed to lead efforts to explore new iterations, potential partnerships and a restructuring of the traditional Sculpture Biennial.

5. Potential collaboration with Public Library

Staff gave a brief overview of recent meetings with the Chattanooga Public Library to explore a potential partnership program for Chattanooga artists to make and display work in the downtown public library. The Artist would receive funding to do workshops with community and install a site specific installation or exhibition. Staff recommended this

as a desirable partnership because the library has adequate staff to manage the program and would only rely on PAC and CPAC to be involved with the selection process and vetting of artist applications. Claire Vassort has made a proposal to the library that will be considered by the Lyndhurst Foundation. By the time her work is up the goal is to have a program in place by which other artists can be considered. If the grant is funded by Lyndhurst, staff will present Claire's full proposal at the next CPAC meeting in December.

Vote: The Commission voted unanimously to approve the following designation of Public Art Capital Funds for projects to be included in the FY19-20 work plan:

East Lake: \$150,000

Southside Gardens, City Artist: \$25,000

Biennial Exhibition (TBD New Format): \$25,000

D. Next CPAC Meeting Date/Time Change

Staff recommended a change in the standing meeting time due to the Holidays and timing with the consultants next visit. Proposed meeting change from Thursday, December, 29th, 1:15 - 3:15PM to **December 6th 8:30AM -10:00AM**. The Commission voted in favor of rescheduling the December meeting.

IV. PROPOSALS

A. None

V. UPDATES

As time was limited due to special presentations, updates were provided in written format and handed out at the end of the meeting.

CPAC Vacancies & Term Renewals

At August's meeting the need to fill vacant appointments was discussed. However, there are a few one year terms ending in February, so the Mayor will need to determine new appointments in January for City Council confirmation in February. According to our Ordinance: "Except for practicing visual artist members whose terms shall be limited to one year, members shall serve a three-year term (initially staggered one, two and three years) and can be reappointed for one consecutive three-year term with each member serving no more than six consecutive years." Practicing visual artists can be reappointed for another one year term should they elect to continue their ineligibility for City public art projects. The following CPAC members need to determine if they would

like to be considered for reappointment as their terms will end as of 2/14/19: **Dan Bowers, Rondell Crier, Roger Halligan, Heidi Hefferlin, Matt Dutton**. Once I hear from everyone, we can determine how many vacancies we need to fill.

Fallen Five Memorial: "Wreath of Honor"

A ground-breaking ceremony took place at the memorial site on the Riverwalk on July 19. The team has provided an updated project schedule which is still on track for project completion by June 2019. The Engineering is nearly complete by the local civic / structural engineer (Thompson), and will be submitted for permit next week. The Lyndhurst Foundation has provided a match grant of \$100,000 to close out the fundraising. The Erlanger Heros Run raised \$13,000 this year, so the Mayor's office needs to raise \$87,000 to close the gap.

Tatum Park Project

Randy Walker made his initial site visit Sept. 16 - 18 and met with Highland Park neighbors at the Spot coffee shop on Main St. Emerson Burch, Highland Park Neighborhood Association President gave him a bike tour of the area and City parks staff met with him on site at Tatum Park to answer questions. Randy will return for a concept design presentation November 19.

Patten Parkway + ID Artistic Plan

Jason Johnson of Future Cities lab returned for a site visit to gather input from the design team and the community on an initial concept design. He will present the final concept design to the Selection Panel in early November and return for a final design presentation in December.

Wheland Foundry Project

Public works has received estimates on a Geotech survey and foundation design and will move forward with the work in the coming weeks. Once we review the report and asses cost of foundation work, we will enter a contract with Marc Fornes for artwork creation and installation. If there are any changes to the design, it will be presented to the selection panel and CPAC for review and acceptance.

Ed Johnson Project

Jerome Meadows and his team have revised the entrance title wall design and the selection panel will reconvene to review proposed changes and make a recommendation to CPAC.

CHA Creates | A Public Art Vision 2019 - 2029

The consultants will deliver their draft recommendations in late November. They will return to present final recommendations December 4 - 6.

Upcoming Events

Save the date for City Thread opening block party with River City Company on November 10, 4 - 10PM