



MEETING MINUTES

Public Art Commission

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Members Present: Scott Mumma – C, Nancy Neely, Margo Pemmaraju, Ingrid Hooks, Melissa Jackson, April Dunn

Members Absent: John Foster - VC

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Scott Mumma at 6:32pm with a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from 8/14/19 motion: Ingrid 1st by April 2nd and all present approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe Sailors – graduated from North Meck. Bank of America building had a piece of Joe’s art in the lobby. Was a concrete and chicken wire piece. In the town limits for over 40 years. President of American Society of Safety Engineers. LT Governor for Optimist International for the state. Stays involves with North Meck youth sporting and town events. Hobby is to sing southern gospel music at different churches.

CALL TO ARTIST – GRANT ELECTRICITIES

Went out and took pictures of the old Ice House bricks. We need to figure out what to do with them. Will go through the steps of the call to artist. 3 slides of what the old Ice House was and has pictures of the front/back/sides for the call. Look to get dates of when it was built and taken down. The location of the original Ice House was located around where the new stage is now at the Veterans Park venue. There are a few hundred bricks and there is a sealant that can harden the bricks to protect the crumbling. We can seal them and then they can be worked into a piece. We will provide a vision to the artist. Going to need to write the call up for next meeting for approval. We will go with the regular criteria as we have done in the past calls. Keep it to local artist. What can our vision be? We have a \$5,000 amount to pay the artist including installation, labor, materials, etc. We have the location which is next to the stage.

Are most of the bricks reusable? Most are falling apart but the sealant should solidify them a bit. The artist can use other materials. Would like to see the piece bring the Ice House to modern times. Blocks of ice as a sculpture piece. Put the bricks lower and for people to climb on. The proposed area might not be big enough. Is the piece going to be a distraction being to the side of the stage? Can we place it

further from the stage? Depending on what the piece will be dictated by the amount of space in the location.

The simplest is to build a small replicated piece of the Ice House. It could look like a child's play house with a play area. Have a plaque to tell about the history embedded into the sidewalk. There is water that you can tap into to make the bricks into a fountain. This would not be the best idea since the bricks are already fragile from the water they took on all the years being an Ice House.

Let's do a call to artist and give them the history and let's see the ideas that are brought to the table. How involved are we in the bricks? The last vote was to use the bricks and use the ElectriCities grant to form a piece. We can use the bricks to make a fire pit. Want to stay with the theme that the bricks are meant to be used for.

Let's bring it back to the reason we are looking at doing this. Connecting OHHS and becoming partners to bring history and public art together. This will be the start of the walking tour for OHHS. Taking the bricks and forming them into a piece of art for install to then have a plaque in the ground giving the history of the bricks used in the art piece at the location those bricks originally were dating all the way back to the 1800's.

The bricks can be flat pieces and not a risen piece if we are worried about the delicate parts of the bricks. In the call we have to make it known that the piece needs to be sturdy so it doesn't come apart because of how delicate the bricks are. Call needs to come in the next two weeks with a special meeting to approve the call. October 7th at 6:30pm quorum is needed.

CALL TO ARTIST – TOWN CENTER PIECE JANUARY 2020

\$2,500 to spend on the call to artist for the Town Center Piece. Sometime in January we will be looking to have that piece installed depending on weather. The money is from the ASC grant and will be a featured piece for Hello Huntersville. Leave the call to artist open for any piece proposal to come through. We would look at relocating this piece to another location in town at the end of 2020. Send it out to the schools in the area and art departments. Minimum 4ft pole height to prevent climbing. Stanchions will be out with no climb signs around these pieces due to the last piece being climbed on with no stanchions and signs. To be approved on October 7th special meeting.

UPDATES/COMMENTS – CHAIR

Matt is taking over for the point of contact for the Atrium piece as Anna accepted a new role in Charlotte within Atrium.

LOCATIONS FOR FUTURE ART PIECES

Talked about in previous meetings coming up with sponsorships for art pieces. Want to look at moving forward and giving guidance to where we can look at placing pieces for potential sponsors. Specifically for Hello Huntersville when we give the option for sponsoring a public art piece. Where are our location priorities?

Mural on the side of the bathroom would be a great idea at Veterans Park. No more pieces to Veterans Park since we are looking at doing the Ice House bricks there. Let's focus on the downtown locations instead of moving outside the downtown area first. The new parking lot can have murals to the parking spaces. Either every other or every third space to spread it out and add a pop of color. How many

parking spaces are in the parking lot? Will approve those murals before anything is painted. Go to local schools and art departments to come out to do the spots. Local scout troops would be willing to as well. We might have to put a coating over the top to protect the paint. Let the spaces and colors change out every 5 years or so to keep it looking fresh. The parking spaces may allow for a mural wall like Salisbury has off to the side where murals can be changed out and not permanently to the side of a building.

Use Town Hall and sidewalks for murals. Intersections might be harder due to distractions for drivers but would be doable. Other towns have figured out how. We can concentrate on putting awnings over the bus benches for a structure to have some shade. Have some more benches done at Hello Huntersville in 2020 and spread those out to the immediate downtown area. We can look at 3D crosswalks on the side roads that is town owned compared to NCDOT owned. Sidewalks are also a great option with mosaics and murals. On the side of the parking garage for murals has been an area we have looked at before. The only hold up on that would be the price it would cost. Maybe doing a smaller area would work better.

Is there a way to have interactive chalk art? Lee Baumgarten did interactive chalk art but recently passed in April. His sons still run the studio and may have interest in doing it. Have a space for the kids to come do chalk art.

We can look at moving the 2020 piece at Town Center to Holbrook Park for its permanent location to start expanding that way.

ATRIUM INSTALL UPDATE

Waiting on the contract with the town attorney. It is a fairly extensive document. It's moving. The artists are waiting for us to get the contract taken care of. No ETA on the contract. Once it comes through it goes to Atrium and then back to us. It is the first contract to be done so the first one will be the template for future contracts. We will need this contract every time we do an installation. For it being the first time this should help alleviate the time it takes for future contracts to be turned around.

MOSAIC BENCH UPDATE

The bench mosaics are completed and expected to be installed this week.

Since next meeting is October 9 there is no reason to call a special meeting October 7. We will approve the call to artist at October 9 meeting.

There being no other business to discuss – motion to adjourn: Melissa 1st, April: 2nd and unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 9 at 6:30 p.m.