

WEST DES MOINES PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, February 22, 2018

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5:34 p.m. by Chair Kenworthy.

Commission	TJ Lechtenberg	Brenda Sedlacek <i>Secretary</i>	Tamara Kenworthy <i>Chair</i>	Ryan Crane <i>Vice Chair</i>	Rita Luther
Present	X	X	X	X	X
Commission	Diane Boyd	Jed Gammell			
Present	X	X at 5:42			

Staff	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	Miranda Kurtt <i>Secretary</i>	John Mickelson <i>Council Liaison</i>
Present	X	X	

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Kenworthy requested to add an item, Other Matters, to the agenda. Luther moved to approve the agenda as presented with that addition. Crane seconded. Motion carried, 6 yes.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No report.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of November 30, 2017, Meeting

Lechtenberg moved to approve the minutes as presented. Boyd seconded. Motion carried, 6 yes.

On Item 4. Old Business

No report.

New Business

On Item 5A. Motion – Approval of Water Quality Xylophone Public Sculpture Project

The Exhibition Committee met on February 15, 2018, to discuss the installation of the Water Quality Xylophone Public Sculpture along the Jordan Creek Trail. Parks and Recreation staff were approached by Teva Dawson from Group Creative Services with the proposal for this project. The project is being sponsored by Bravo Greater Des Moines. There were several questions identified by the group. Ortgies provided the questions and answers she received from Group Creative Services.

- How will the sculpture be installed? Are footings required? How will we ensure that it is stable? Answer: There would be small footings. It will be professionally installed and it is constructed of steel pipes and wood.
- Who is responsible for the installation and cost of installation? Answer: Installation and cost of installation are both included in the costs presented and are handled by the artist and Group Creative Services.
- Will there be descriptive signage provided? Answer: Yes. The artist, Alex Braidwood, is also a professor of graphic design and has significant experience in creation of didactics, so we can expect this to be a strong point in the work.
- What are the dimensions of the sculpture? Answer: The length will be about 8–10 feet and the height will be variable (as the higher the graph data, the taller the pipe), but will be less than 8

feet. It will be between 28-36 inches wide. The fixed mallets are positioned so they can be activated by a cyclist riding by with an outstretched hand.

Luther asked about the type of sound it would make. Ortgies stated that the tones will vary. The height of the bars would be determined by the level of nitrates in Jordan Creek with each bar representing each month. Crane questioned where they would get the data. Ortgies stated that Barker Lemar had been collecting water samples for a year so the data is already available. The installation could potentially take place in April and the artwork would be in place for two months. Boyd questioned the short amount of time. Lechtenberg stated that it would be considered pop-up art. Boyd questioned how this would be promoted. Ortgies stated we would promote it through City means in conjunction with Bravo.

Boyd moved to approve the installation of the Water Quality Xylophone Public Sculpture Project. Luther seconded. Motioned carried, 7 yes.

Committee Reports

On Item 6A. Events Committee

No report. Ortgies stated that the group should meet soon to discuss the Art on the Campus event. Staff will contact Committee members to set a meeting date.

On Item 6B. Communications Committee

No report. Ortgies stated that Otocast has completed all of the artist interviews. The last piece needed is an introduction by a Commission member. Kenworthy will work with Allison Ullestad to record an introduction.

On Item 6C. Exhibition Committee

Ortgies stated that in addition to the Water Quality Xylophone project, a proposal had been brought to the Committee for a mural proposed to be placed in three different locations in the Des Moines metro. The title of the artwork is "United" with the word "United" represented in different languages. Although the Committee felt the project was worthwhile, Ortgies stated that the recommendation was to not pursue it at this time due to the current number of projects requiring the staff and Commission's focus.

Project Work Group Reports

On Item 7A. Water Quality Community Service Art Project

Ortgies stated that artist Cliff Garten will be in West Des Moines on March 19 to present his proposal. Kenworthy informed the group that the mentee is no longer part of the project and will not be replaced.

On Item 7B. Historic West Des Moines Public Art

Ortgies stated that Gayle Chavenelle will be here on March 7 to present the 30" painted maquettes to the workgroup. Kenworthy questioned if this will be the final mockup. Ortgies stated that only very minor changes could be made at this stage in the process. Kenworthy questioned if an unveiling event could be planned for the sculptures. Ortgies stated that the Events Committee could discuss this.

Staff Reports

On Item 8A. Director of Parks & Recreation

The past location of the City Sounds piano in Valley Junction has been identified as one of the locations for Gayle Chavenelle's sculpture. Kenworthy stated that when the sculpture locations were determined, a conscious decision was made to replace the piano. Ortgies asked the Commission to share feedback on the City Sounds piano project. Ortgies stated that the piano requires Parks and Recreation Staff to cover and uncover each day. Also, the \$3,500 cost is not budgeted. Luther questioned how long the program

has been in place. Ortgies stated that West Des Moines has sponsored a piano for two years. Kenworthy stated that these funds could be used elsewhere. Gammell asked about the level of use. Ortgies stated that it does get some use however it is difficult to calculate the amount. The Commission determined to not sponsor a piano this year, but to re-evaluate next year.

Ortgies stated that Sally Dix with Bravo is setting up a meeting with Public Art Advisory Commission chairs and staff from the Des Moines metro area. The date is set for March 21, 2018 in the evening. Ortgies will provide the exact time for the meeting as soon as it is available.

Ortgies provided an update on the Five Waters Project. Numerous presentations have been given to various groups in advance of the March 6th special election on the one-cent local option sales and service tax. Ortgies offered to share the presentation to members of the Commission at the conclusion of the Commission meeting.

Other Matters

Kenworthy stated that Luther has agreed to another term on the Commission. Lechtenberg will be ending his term on March 31, 2018. Jeff Phillips has been appointed by the Mayor to replace Lechtenberg. Ortgies shared that Phillips has served on the Art on the Campus Selection Work Group. He works for Barker Lemar, a West Des Moines environmental engineering firm.

Gammell and Luther are considering attending the Americans for the Arts Convention in Denver, CO, on June 13-15.

Receive, File and/or Refer

Motion – Approval of Grant Agreement-Bravo Greater Des Moines - Water Quality Community Art Event

Motion – Approval of Grant Agreement-Bravo Greater Des Moines - “Art on the Campus” Temporary Art Exhibit

Crane moved to adjourn the meeting. Sedlacek seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Kurtt
Parks & Recreation Secretary

ATTEST:

Brenda Sedlacek
Advisory Commission Secretary