

WEST DES MOINES PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, August 27, 2020

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, August 27, 2020, at 5:31 p.m. by Chair Phillips

Commission	Jeff Phillips <i>Chair</i>	Brenda Sedlacek <i>Secretary</i>	Tamara Kenworthy	Ryan Crane	Rita Luther <i>Vice Chair</i>
Present	X	X	X	X	X
Commission	Diane Boyd	Jed Gammell			
Present	X	X			

Staff	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	Allison Ullestad <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor</i>	Miranda Kurtt <i>Administrative Secretary</i>	Marnie Strate <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Coord.</i>	Matt McKinney <i>Council Liaison</i>
Present	X	X	X	X	X

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Boyd moved to approve the agenda as presented. Crane seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No report.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of June 25, 2020, Meeting

Luther moved to approve the minutes with the change to 6A as presented and removal of electronic meeting information. Gammell seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes.

On Item 4. Old Business

No report.

New Business

On Item 5A. Motion – Approval of Call for Artists – 2021 Art on the Campus Exhibit

Luther moved to approve the Call for Artists – 2021 Art on the Campus Exhibit as presented. Crane seconded. Phillips asked for any discussion.

Boyd questioned if the call would be distributed to new outlets such as colleges and universities. Ullestad stated these outlets are included, however, any new outlets identified by the Commission can be added. Kenworthy questioned if the call required artists to take part in Otocast. Phillips stated that including this in the call ensures that artists know about participation in Otocast upfront. Kenworthy questioned the layout of art pieces around the pond. Ullestad stated the spots with Xs were removed because of the Amphitheater. The spots marked with question marks on the map are proposed new locations. Phillips questioned the bullet point stating, “A selection panel will choose 12 original works of art for installation”. Ullestad agreed the wording could be changed to say “...up to 12...”.

Luther amended her motion to include the change in wording from “...choose 12 original...” to “...choose up to 12 original...”. Motion carried, 7 yes.

On Item 5B. Motion – Approval of 2021 Art on the Campus Selection Committee

Sedlacek moved to approve the 2021 Art on the Campus Exhibit Selection Committee as presented. Boyd seconded. Phillips asked for any discussion. No discussion took place. Motion carried, 7 yes.

On Item 5C. Motion – Approval of Call for Artists – LIGHT Valley Junction Public Art

Luther moved to approve the Call for Artists – LIGHT Valley Junction Public Art as presented. Gammell seconded. Phillips asked for any discussion.

Crane questioned if this will still be a part of a larger project as originally presented. Ortgies stated that the Historic Valley Junction Foundation will be doing fundraising to complete the additional walkways in the future. He also questioned the electrical component. Ortgies stated that the City is doing a renovation project in Valley Junction, and the electric infrastructure is included in that project. Kenworthy questioned if the budget of \$50,000 will be adequate. Ortgies stated the artist will not have to run electrical service to the project, which could have been a substantial cost.

Motion carried, 7 yes.

On Item 5D. Motion – Approval of Standing Committee Appointments

Sedlacek moved to approve the Standing Committee Appointments as presented. Boyd seconded. Phillips asked for any discussion. No discussion took place. Motion carried, 7 yes.

Committee Reports

On Item 6A. Events Committee

Sedlacek shared that the Committee met and discussed events related to Blossoms on the Water, Aqua Strata, and the 2021 Art on the Campus exhibit, as well as, the 10 Year Anniversary of the Public Arts Advisory Commission event. Ullestad had previously sent an updated timeline of the installation of Blossoms on the Water and Aqua Strata to the Commission. The 2021 Art on the Campus and 10 Year Anniversary events are proposed to take place on July 30, 2021, or August 6, 2021. The idea is to make this a weeklong event including a bus tour of the art pieces in West Des Moines. Sedlacek asked Commission members to share ideas for these events with the Committee. Crane questioned the date of the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater Dedication and Blossoms on the Water reveal. Ullestad stated the actual date and time will be determined and sent to the Commission soon.

On Item 6B. Communications Committee

The Communications Committee has not met. Ullestad stated a portfolio of all the City’s permanent pieces is being crafted. Strate is working with photographer Brian Abeling to collect images of each piece. This document will live on the Parks and Recreation webpage. Phillips questioned if the Art Route will continue to be maintained. Ortgies stated this will need to be brought to the Exhibition Committee for a recommendation.

On Item 6C. Exhibition Committee

Ullestad stated that a plaque has been installed for Folded Flags on Veteran’s Parkway. Intern Delaney Johnson was tasked with inventorying the condition of all the Public Art collection and Strate is consolidating the information. One item that needs addressed is the Art on the Campus pads which will need to be cleaned or replaced. Phillips stated that there was preliminary discussion recommending the purchase of “Three Pods” from the 2020 Art on the Campus exhibit with the thought of locating it near the Raccoon River Park Boathouse. A formal recommendation will be brought to the Commission at a future meeting.

Project Work Group Reports

On Item 7A. Water Quality Community Service Public Art Projects/Event

Ortgies stated that the project will be wrapping up in September with the installation of Aqua Strata and reveal of Blossoms on the Water.

On Item 7B. Amphitheater Public Art

Ullestad stated the workgroup met. With approximately 500 responses to a survey, Crane stated the artist was pleased with the community engagement. Phillips commented that the artist will not start conceptualizing until the community feedback is complete. The Work Group agreed that feedback was substantial enough for the artist to move on to conceptual design. Ullestad is continuing to send updated pictures of the Amphitheater to the artist. Ullestad stated that the goal would be to reveal the artwork at the 10-year Anniversary event.

On Item 7C. LIGHT Valley Junction Public Art

Discussed above.

Staff Reports

On Item 8A. Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor

No report.

On Item 8B. Director of Parks and Recreation

No report.

On Item 10. Other Matters

The Iowa Art Summit was attended by Sedlacek and Strate. One concept that came out of the event was how to make public art available to everyone by being inclusive and not exclusive. Boyd questioned if sessions could be viewed by others. Strate will send the Commission links to the presentations. Boyd questioned if the Commission could get Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training. Ortgies stated that the Human Right Commission meetings can be attended by the Public Arts Advisory Commission members. McKinney stated that would be a great cross over. Ortgies will share the Human Rights Commission’s recently released strategic plan with the Commission members.

Receive, File and/or Refer

July 20, 2020: Public Hearing – Veteran’s Parkway Enhancements Phase 1, Gateway & Median Features

1. Resolution – Approval of Plans and Specifications
2. Motion – Receive and File Report of Bids
3. Resolution – Approve Contract

Luther moved to adjourn the meeting. Crane seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

A Workshop involving a presentation by Liz Lidgett on Trends in Public Art followed immediately following the Commission meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


 _____ 5-27-21
 Miranda Kurtt
 Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:



 Brenda Sedlacek
 Public Arts Advisory Commission Secretary