

City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers
100 N. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33755*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 14, 2024

2:00 PM

Main Library - 2nd Floor Board Room

Public Art and Design Board

Roll Call

Present 6 - Chair Eric Seiler, Board Member Jonathan Barnes, Board Member Jerri Menaul, Board Member Bryan Voliton, Board Member Gregory Byrd, and Board Member Lisa Bilz

Also Present – Amber Brice – Arts & Cultural Affairs Manager, Nicole Sprague – Deputy City Clerk

1. Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approve minutes from the January 11, 2024 Meeting

Member Menaul moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2024 Public Art and Design Advisory Board meeting as submitted in written summation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Beth Daniels said a signal box at Turner St. and Myrtle Ave. was wrapped with a student designed award winner. She said Clearwater Arts Alliance is participating in the art in the park on Saturday. The Arts Alliance is applying for CRA grants to manage the Sculpture 360 program. She said two public art walks are scheduled for the coming Saturday.

4. New Business Items

4.1 Discuss potential donation for the Clearwater Beach Marina

A local artist would like to donate a sculpture for the new Clearwater Beach Marina, which will be completed in 2025. City Management and Clearwater Arts Alliance have expressed concern about the origins of the sculpture and not hiring a local or U.S. based artist for the art piece.

Arts and Cultural Affairs Manager Amber Brice said a local artist would like to donate a marble sculpture of the God of the Sea and requested it be placed in Coachman Park. The local artist did not create the sculpture but is willing to pay to have it shipped here to display it and requested a plaque with his name and the history of the God of the Sea. She said staff suggested the sculpture would be more appropriate at the new beach marina.

Discussion ensued with comments made that there is a lot of opportunity for public art in the new marina without a donation and the sculpture is

not particularly relevant to the Clearwater area. It was suggested the donor seek out a private entity who he could donate the piece to.

4.2 Discuss the Downtown/Gateway Mural Festival

Review designs and placement of murals for the festival

Ms. Brice reviewed the participating establishments. She said there is a new mural going up in Coachman Park this week as well as on the MSB parking garage. She said information regarding the mural festival is being publicized on social media. She said the property owners of the other murals were asked to share the information online as well.

4.3 Discuss Art in the Park: Coachman Event

The city of Clearwater's second Art in the Park: Coachman event is happening this weekend March 16th from 10:00am to 4:00pm in Coachman Park. There will be over 40 artists, artisans and craft vendors at the event and there will be live painting on one of the mural walls by artist Carlos Pons.

Ms. Brice said the second Art in the Park event is scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2024. Spots are free to vendors. Participants will get to see live mural painting and Sister Cities, Inc. will be there selling drinks as a fundraiser. In response to a question, Ms. Brice said the city's Public Communications department posts events across the City's social media.

Discussion ensued with comments made that everyone could share the city's social media posts regarding events. It was said that if the people on the Board and their organizations shared posts, the information would be shared to a wider range of interested people. A suggestion was made to combine different types of events, like have live music playing while a mural is being painted.

4.4 Approve Design for Coachman Park Mural Wall

Artist Carlos Pons was selected to participate in the Art Oasis Mural Festival. Some of the originally interested property owners decided not to participate in the festival, so Carlos was asked to design a mural for Coachman Park instead. The board will decide on one of two images.

Ms. Brice said designs were sent by email. She said the majority of the Board selected the design with gladiolas. It was said the work felt like it was created with AI and not a good fit.

Member Menaul moved to approve the design with gladiolas. The motion was seconded and carried with the following vote:

**Ayes 5: Chair Voliton, Member Barnes, Member Menaul, Member Byrd,
and Member Seiler**
Nays 1: Member Bilz

5. Old Business Items

5.1 Update on Timeline for Fire Station 46 Sculpture

The Public Art and Design Board agreed that the sculpture should only contain the jellyfish images and that the board did not want to add the stingray images. The timeline has been pushed back from May to approximately June for installation on this project.

Ms. Brice said the artist had a delay in obtaining the materials and the sculpture will be installed closer to June 2024.

6. Director's Report

Ms. Brice said intern Mark Wiley is working on an art database where all public art information can be found in one location. He is working on a cleaning schedule for current pieces and is researching cleaning and restoration companies to get pieces on a maintenance schedule. She said there is new art on the trail at the MSB parking garage. A vibrant expansion will go on the elevator wall and the wall facing Pierce St. She said the Americans for the Arts will present the economic impact study to Council next week. A resolution will go to Council in May to name Clearwater Arts Alliance as the official arts alliance in the City.

7. Board Members to be Heard

Member Bilz said she attended an art event in St. Petersburg where a warehouse has individual studio spaces where the public can watch the artists work. It was a family friendly event and could be replicated in Clearwater on Hercules Ave. She said St. Petersburg also does a tour of murals which could be done in Clearwater with a private public partnership.

Member Byrd said there is little signage on the Pinellas Trail in Clearwater as opposed to the signage seen in Palm Harbor and Ozona. He said people are out exploring and there is no indication that Clearwater has much to offer. Assistant City Manager Dan Slaughter suggested a small sign on the trail with a QR code and a picture of art that is in close proximity of the trail. People could scan the code to find out the location and other information about the art.

Member Bilz expressed a concern regarding the highway sign that blocks the City of Clearwater sign on the newly constructed pedestrian

overpass on US Highway 19 and Harn Blvd. Mr. Slaughter said the City has been in communication with FDOT with hopes they will split the \$16,000 cost to move the FDOT sign over nine feet.

Member Barnes inquired about the underlighting on the overpass bridge at Gulf to Bay Blvd. and US Highway 19. It was said staff would inquire as to which entity is responsible for the lighting.

Member Seiler inquired if art sharing would be a possibility. He said he works with artists that have art that need a space to be displayed. It was said that the city has rented art before, for example the pieces for Sculpture 360.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Chair
Public Art & Design Advisory Board

Attest:

Board Reporter