

City of Clearwater

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 12, 2020

2:00 PM

Main Library - Council Chambers

Public Art and Design Board

Roll Call

Present 5 - Vice Chair Eric Seiler, Board Member Michael Potts, Board Member Jennifer Barbaro, Board Member Jonathan Barnes, and Board Member Danny Olda

Absent 2 - Chair Jerri Menaul, and Board Member Neale A. Stralow

Also Present - Christopher Hubbard - Cultural Affairs Coordinator, Patricia O. Sullivan - Board Reporter

Awaiting approval

1. Call To Order

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the Main Library and welcomed new member Danny Olda, representing Creative Pinellas.

To provide continuity for research, items are in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approve the January 30, 2020 Public Art and Design Board Special Meeting Minutes

Member Potts moved to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2020 Public Art & Design Board Special 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: None.

4. New Business Items

4.1 Review a staff update on the Imagine Clearwater project public art component.

Stantec, the Imagine Clearwater design team, identified 18 sites for public artwork in their 60% plans. Public art locations are throughout the park with most clustered in areas of the Civic Gateway Plaza, North Bluff Walk, Splash Pad, Coachman Gardens, and the Green.

Cultural Affairs Coordinator Christopher Hubbard reviewed the public art component. Stantec was preparing flyover imaging for a public marketing campaign; updates will be posted on myclearwater.com. Some public art components could feature directional signage, seating elements, etc. The intent was to locate public art at gathering spots and impactful sites. While the ordinance capped the project's public art contribution at \$200,000, the normal percentage contribution would be \$645,000, which would be more appropriate for this legacy project.

Mr. Hubbard reviewed proposed public art locations:

Site 1 *Waterfront walkway - 6-foot, human scale sculpture on pedestal;*

Site 2 Ramping access to park near old City Hall - pedestrian scale installation;

Site 3 Lake area honoring Clearwater's 60-year Sister City relationship with Nagano, Japan - pagoda, moon gate, stacking stones or Japanese inspired sculpture designed by Nagano artist;

Site 4 Bluff walk - colorful resilient addition requiring little or no maintenance and interwoven into the landscaping, such as a painted column or decorative concrete mosaic in the Stantec design;

Site 5 Top of bluff by Cleveland Street drop off zone – 8-foot or taller impactful public art, viewable from all sides, could serve as gathering point;

Sites 6 – 9 Concert space 4 access points - repeating wayfinding art devices;

Site 10 Waterfront promenade – move “Middens” to more prominent location to north on top of replicated mound. New public art piece 30 feet away needed to complement “Middens.” Stantec to propose artwork; 60% design plans for waterfront featured woven basket style sculptures more than 12-feet tall with flame component sponsored by Clearwater Gas.

In response to concerns that gas flames were wasteful and would be located in an environmentally sensitive area, Mr. Hubbard said the City's Sustainability Coordinator would attend tomorrow's biweekly design review meeting which will focus on sustainability. Discussion ensued re necessary amount of safety lighting, energy efficient lighting, effect of lighting on public art, and a suggestion to limit gas flames to one hour following dusk.

Site 11 Gateway Plaza - park entrance with design elements such as mangrove ponds, stained glass garden, and wall with cascading fountain. Public art could serve as a branding opportunity and memory point;

Site 11b Site left of Gateway Plaza - mosaic could memorialize Clearwater history along stair walkway down to park.

Sites 12, 13 & 14 Children and family section in front of library - playground area and interactive walls that could feature art graffiti, interactive sculpture, pixilated spin balls, or stop motion animation; visitors would determine wall activities;

Sites 15 – 18 Near waterfront off Drew Street - garden with native plants and 4 pads for commissioned permanent sculptures or expanded Sculpture360 rotating sculptures.

In response to a concern, Mr. Hubbard said many artistic features in the construction budget could be eliminated if a public art zone was preferred. Discussion ensued with comments that artwork must be durable enough to handle salt exposure and landscape maintenance mishaps, public art should be isolated from landscaping to prevent damage, the park provided an opportunity for unique beautiful art that stood apart from generic architectural elements, and artists should work with the design team to design Imagine Clearwater around art instead of designing art around Imagine Clearwater.

Mr. Hubbard said the City would commission artists to guide the construction and design team. An artistic hand in creation of the plan and

contractor build proposals was necessary; an artist needed to vet and approve final plans.

Mr. Hubbard said clip art in the design did not represent specific tree species. Choice of park sustainable landscaping materials, mostly indigenous, will be based on plants' ability to flourish, imperviousness to disease, and low maintenance requirements. He anticipated a call to artists would be issued before summer.

4.2 Review a staff update on the Crest Lake Park project public art component.

On January 30, 2020, board members requested an update on the Crest Lake Park public art component.

Mr. Hubbard distributed photos of a Deerfield Beach children's splash pad. The Parks & Recreation Department had opined that a publicly accessible splash pad at Crest Lake Park would be the most feasible public art feature with its \$64,000 budget. Maintaining a sculpture or fountain in the lake would be difficult and could harm birds. He will report on splash pad materials; an artist will design the public art component.

4.3 Review staff update on repair of the public artwork at US19 and Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard.

On January 30, 2020, board members requested staff to contact FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) re repairs to the LED lighting portion of the public art installation at the US19/Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard intersection.

Mr. Hubbard reported he had contacted FDOT maintenance in Pinellas Park. According to the contract, the City was responsible for maintaining the lighting that FDOT installed. Mr. Hubbard was working with traffic operations to repair the public artwork.

It was noted the overpass was at the City's gateway.

4.4 Review a staff update on an inquiry regarding the public art maximum required expenditure cap for City capital improvement projects.

On January 30, 2020, board members requested staff investigate amending language in Public Art and Design Board Ordinances 7489-05 and 8481-13 " . . . eligible city capital improvement projects shall include a City public art contribution of not less than one percent of the total construction budget before the addition of the public art cost but not to exceed the sum of \$200,000 per project, subject to the city budgeting and appropriating such funds.

Mr. Hubbard said he had discussed public art funding for Imagine Clearwater with Assistant City Manager Michael Delk. The City Attorney will

review the ordinance to determine if art funding for the project could equal 1% of the budget without a cap. Imagine Clearwater was a legacy project funded as a special initiative, not a CIP (Capital Improvement Project).

It was recommended more art friendly language be incorporated in the Code.

5. Old Business Items

5.1 Review current Public Art and Design Board Discretionary Fund balance.

The \$92,785 unencumbered balance of the Discretionary Fund included recent grant fund contributions of \$9,000 to Clearwater Arts Alliance for its "Thinking Outside the Box" signal box art program and \$8,500 to FYI Community Partnership, Inc. for its community mural initiative.

5.2 Review a staff update on the FYI Community Partnership, Inc. public art initiative.

On January 30, 2020, the board recommended approval of an \$8,500 grant to FYI Community Partnership, Inc. for a public art mural initiative in the Lake Bellevue neighborhood. The recommendation will be presented to the City Council for approval.

5.3 Review a staff update on the progress of Sculpture360: Season X.

On January 30, 2020, the board directed staff to focus the Sculpture360: Season X call to artists on Florida resident artists and for the exhibit to feature a sustainability and recycling theme.

Mr. Hubbard said sculptures were scheduled to be changed out in August. Sculpture360 could expand to a new pedestal that replaced the old City Hall fountain.

6. Director's Report

Mr. Hubbard said he was working with staff on updates to the Annual Master Community Development Plan by contributing art friendly language to several sections that would involve the art community at the beginning of construction projects to encourage and support accessible public artwork.

In response to a question, Mr. Hubbard said the Fire Department wanted interactive public artwork at the new Clearwater Beach station; the design phase had not begun. Work on a new police station at McMullen-Booth Road and SR 580 had not begun. He anticipated that project would donate approximately \$10,000 of public art money to the Discretionary Fund.

It was stated with significant traffic, the McMullen-Booth Road/SR580 intersection may be a good location for Public Art.

7. Board Members to be Heard: None.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Attest:

Chair
Public Art & Design Advisory Board

Board Reporter