

**Clark County Public Art Committee Meeting  
November 26, 2019 at 3:30 pm  
Sunset Parks & Recreation Admin Building, Conference Room**

I. MEETING OPENING: Rebecca opened the meeting. In attendance: Committee Members – Rebecca Holden, Dr. Robert Fielden, Harold Bradford, Jeff Fulmer, Chase McCurdy and Frederic Bonin-Pissarro. Staff – Mickey Sprott, Patty Dominguez & Sharon Cornell. Public: Robert Davidson (Nellis Absolute Ceiling-project update). Absent: None. 1 Vacant Position

**Meeting Started: 3:30 pm.**

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

III. MINUTES: **Fulmer moved to approve October 22, 2019 minutes, Bradford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Fulmer moved to approve amended\* agenda, Bradford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.** (\* Mickey asked for item # VIII to be put before # VII, as the artist is attending to give a project update.)

V. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS – BCC approval of new board members Chase McCurdy and Fredric Bonin-Pissarro on 11.5.2019 - item #28. After the 2 new members introduced themselves, each committee member in turn, introduced themselves, giving a short background of their experience in art and why they chose to serve on the Public Art Committee. (*not an action item*):

**Frederic Bonin-Pissarro** is from Paris, France and relocated to America in 1994, becoming a citizen in 2002. Fred studied art at the Ecole de Sèvres and at the École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts (ENSBA). His artistic background includes work in set design, animation, sculpture and 15 years teaching graphic design in Cincinnati. This is his third year teaching art at UNLV and he is currently prepping his first one-man art exhibit in Las Vegas, to be hosted in the Arts District.

**Chase McCurdy** is a third-generation Las Vegan, born and raised here. He attended college in Arizona and worked at MGM Resorts International right out of school; after that, he worked in music and fashion photography in Los Angeles, for several years. At age 27, Chase completed a 9-month Masters Degree program at the Paris College of Art, in Paris, France. Upon returning to Las Vegas, he set-up and maintains his art studio and has pursued various teaching opportunities, from Sprat Practices to his current art teaching project, the Creative Aging project, which encompasses a series of visual arts intergenerational masterclasses and pop-up exhibition, with the Neon Museum, Core Academy, Ovarions Senior Living, Doolittle Senior Center and Nevada Humanities.

**Harold Bradford**, originally from New Orleans, holds both a BA and MFA from Washington State University, where he also was part of the football coaching team during the years that he worked on his graduate degree. Before moving to Las Vegas to work for YESCO, he designed scoreboards for stadiums around the county, out of Spokane, WA. Harold was the Art Director for YESCO for seven years. Since retiring from YESCO, he has broadened his affiliation with Left of Center Gallery and has produced several public art projects around the region,

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including a 153' mural at McCarren Airport. Harold shared that he enjoys serving on the Art Committee is because it allows him to help advocate for and support the artist community by helping to find ways to put a few new dollars into local artist's hands through funded projects. His new art project in West LV is pending new financing.

Originally from Indiana, **Jeff Fulmer**, receiving his BA in Art from Wabash College, where he studied painting and drawing. He moved to Las Vegas for graduate school, earning his MFA (which was focused more on sculpture and art criticism, under Dave Hickey) at UNLV. During the summer of his first year in graduate school, Jeff did his first public project (for the City of Las Vegas), the Stupak Community Center Mural, which is now in front of the 5<sup>th</sup> Street School. This project started his interest in public arts and he has done other projects for both the county and the city. After receiving his MFA, Jeff taught at Wabash College and Herron School of Art in Indiana before settling down in Las Vegas, where he became a faculty member in the Art & Art History dept. at CSN. For the past 13 years he has managed the art collection and gallery at CSN full-time, in addition to some teaching.

**Robert Fielden** has lived in the Las Vegas Valley for most of his life, moving here with his wife and one-year old daughter, in 1964. He has been practicing architecture and urban planning here, since then. He has deep connections to the local arts community and has tried to emulate many of his artist friends, in his own work. Robert was invited to participate in the Art Committee because of his connection to the Urban Land Institute, who was a partner on the county's successful NEA-Our Town Grant application and project, developing and conducting the Maryland Parkway Master Plan study. He has represented the ULI on the Art Committee for the past 5 years, he will term-off of the Committee in May, 2020.

**Rebecca Holden** is a Visual Arts Specialist II with the City of Las Vegas – Cultural Affairs. She is one of the two new full-time staff members assigned to oversee the city's Public Art program. Originally from Tennessee, she has been in Las Vegas for 21 years and earned her BA in Fine Art (minoring in Art History) from UNLV. Rebecca joined the City of LV in 2013. Her current duties in the Las Vegas Public Art program include overseeing much of the permanent and temporary public art initiatives and projects; she also oversees the long-term management, care and conservation of the city's art collection in the public realm and in city facilities (which the city has been building over the past 30 years). Her job includes community involvement components, so she also serves as the staff liaison for the city's Arts Commission, is the government liaison to the 18B advisory committee and the city's Cultural Corridor Commission. Rebecca took over this position on Clark County's Public Art Committee to represent the city of Las Vegas and appreciates the opportunity to be part of the 'cross-pollination' between the city and the county. (She added that as Mickey serves as the Vice Chair on the Las Vegas Arts Commission, that 'cross-pollination' goes both ways.)

VI. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR – Once a year the Art Committee appoints a chair and vice chair to the board. Since Eric Strain termed-off the Committee, in

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August 2019, the Chair position has been vacant and the Vice Chair, Rebecca Holden, has been covering those duties. (for possible action):

**Discussion, Q&A:** Fulmer asked Mickey to go over the duties of both the positions, before they move forward on this action item. She responded that the primary duty of the Chair (and the Vice Chair, in the Chair's absence) is to run the meetings; moving through the Agenda and keeping the meeting flow on-track. Beyond those duties, other aspects are flexible and less involved; the Chair might spend a bit more time communicating directly with Mickey outside of the actual meetings, for brief prep feedback. Mostly, the committee works as a whole unit. Fielden stated that since the original Chair termed-off, the current Vice Chair, Rebecca Holden, has stepped up admirably to fill in his vacancy and added that if she has time, he would like to nominate her to assume the Chair position officially, but only if it doesn't encumber her other work. As two members are new today to the committee and another joined only last month, Mickey suggested that the committee go ahead and vote in the positions and that as the new members become more familiar with the group and the work load, and that the positions could be re-addressed in several months, if the members believe it to be beneficial. When asked how much that extra involved time has been for her since being the acting Chair, Holden responded that as serving as a community liaison is also a part of her job, any extra time spent on this committee is not a job issue for her and that if the other members want her to continue as Chair, she is happy to do so, but is also happy to step aside if someone else is interested in filling the Chair position. (She will term-off of the committee in April 2022.) Mickey asked the members to put forward someone for both Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, then vote to pass those nominations, or not, at the same time.

**Fielden moved to nominate Rebecca Holden to the Chair position, Bradford seconded; Bradford moved to nominate Jeff Fulmer to the Vice Chair position, McCurdy seconded. Fielden then formally combined both positions into a single motion, to pass both positions together. The motion passed unanimously.**

VII. REPORT BY CLARK COUNTY PARKS & REC. PUBLIC ART OFFICE STAFF – Regarding Monthly Summary of Current Projects (*not an action item*):  
The *Public Art Projects Status Report* was included within the committee members' packets.

**Projects Status Report/Discussion:** Before her regular Public Art Projects Status Report, Mickey introduced Nellis Absolute Ceiling artist, Robert Davidson, and asked him tell the committee a bit about himself and then to give an update on the project design and pre-production process.

**Nellis Absolute Ceiling Artwork – Page 2**

- After giving a brief artist background (which includes the design and sculpting of the Statue of Liberty re-creation at New York-New York Casino), Robert then showed the selected Nellis Absolute Ceiling design mock-up that he created and talked about the project and what stage it is currently at.
- After talking to locals in the area (the median where the installment will be is directly by a bus stop and a bit south of the main entrance to the Nellis AFB), he determined to design a piece that would be colorful and brighten up the

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blandness of the area. (Most of the sculptural pieces are blue, with an orange central piece-which is the 'absolute ceiling' of the installment.)

- The 140-foot long sculptural installment will be 12-foot high (at the peak) and 24-foot across (at the median's widest point). It is an interpretive design, suggests movement and reflects the idea of flight or the sky. Each sculptural part of the overall design will be made of reinforced fabric, suspended from a stainless steel support rod (covered by foam). The pieces will be lit by solar power panels. The installment is designed to take advantage of the changes in natural lighting and will look different throughout the day, and at night.
- Because of requirements by NDOT, the height cannot be over 12-foot high and the pieces will be designed and installed to be crushable and each separate piece is replaceable, in case of road accident. The landscaping aspect will not be live plants, as there is no irrigation or NDOT maintenance, and the design, size and arrangement of the powder-coated 'plants', among the other sculptural elements may change somewhat, to best fit the finished sculptural pieces, and to be more interpretive (with brighter green color).
- Responding to questions, Robert gave additional details about the reinforced fiberglass-mesh fabric construction material, which will have a durable, ½-inch thick coating (this is the same material that he used on the Statue of Liberty and has held up well over 20 years in the Vegas sun). As to the question of graffiti, the coating can be re-applied or touched-up. The central 'orange cone' design element may be modified a bit more. More discussion on the design, color and placement, as well as the problem of vandalism and jaywalkers moving through the installment. The tops of the pieces need to be angled at 30%, to keep kids from climbing on top of the sculptures. Robert is testing different lights now and intends to have each sculptural piece to have its own lights, to be fed power through conduits from a solar collection panel on top of the central ellipse piece. The lights will be anchored into the concrete footing.

Mickey then went on to re-focus the committee's attention to what has been happening in the Clark County Public Art program recently with updated status of a few items from the Projects Status Report:

**Rat Pack Crossroads Artwork – Page 3**

- Rat Pack Crossroads did the initial installation of the footing and the sculpture on Monday (beginning at 3am, to work during the least trafficked time of the day). The installation site is at the 'corner' of where Dean Martin, Sammy Davis, Jr and Frank Sinatra Drives meet (behind Caesars' Palace). Following the installment, at 9am Commissioner Segerblom and artist, Wayne Littlejohn, held an on-site press conference about the project; several local media outlets covered the event and will be publishing stories.
- The installation is not fully complete yet. Over the next few weeks, the artist needs to install the concrete base, the concrete pedestal for the plaque, and the

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- county needs to install electrical. Public Works needs to approve what has been installed before further installments are done.
- The dedication for the piece is scheduled for January 16, 2020, at 8:30am. Parking will be arranged and the committee will be updated. We are hoping to be able to use Caesar's parking lot.
  - Originally, the electrical for the lighting of the sculpture was supposed to be pulled from existing lines. However, after the project approval and many follow up meetings, that turned out to be very costly and impractical, as the nearest hookup is across the street. The decision was made to hold off on the electrical until Public Works re-vamps and upgrades this road area (which is scheduled to be in the next year, or so). At that time, Mickey will be contacted and the new electrical hookup will be laid into the new road. The cost of this part of the project will be either from the Maintenance budget, or if needed, she will come back to the committee to get more funding approved, based on what our part of the costs will be. The sculpture is complete with internal lighting (ready for hookup), and has an interactive component.

**Zap 12 on Mount Charleston – Page 2**

- Patty updated where Zap 12 is currently at with a slide presentation showing the two finished (and two mostly finished) box groups from the four project artists. With this project, we always knew that we would be racing the weather to finish and now that the mountain has gotten its first snowfall, this project will go into 'hibernation' until the mountain warms back up.
- **Zap 11** will be the next project in the series and will be in the Sunrise Manor area of the valley. The artists call for the 6 artists, who will be part of Zap 11, will be released in early February, 2020.
- Discussion about how *Zap!* has grown (Clark County has over 400 existing boxes in our collection) and about the City of Las Vegas' similar *Amp* utility box art series, started about 3 years ago, which utilizes traffic control boxes.
- In response to a question from Fulmer about the Educational Component for Zap 12 (started with Zap 10), Patty explained that for due to the smaller size, location and timing of the project (and the fact that 2 of the artists are retired educators), that Zap 12 will have a digital Educational Component, focusing on design decisions and project experiences, which will be posted on the webpage, and will be written by each of the 4 project artists.
- Whereas, with Zap 11, the Educational Component will be directed by the current Clark County Poet Laurette, Heather Lang, who will work with the students and/or the seniors at the anchor facilities, to create and install some word-art in the project footprint, after the Zap 11 project is in the painting stage.

**Additional Discussion, Q&A:** Mickey suggested that members refer to their Staff Report packs for other project updates. She wanted to take just a moment to point out, in

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the Communication Flyer, that December's **Full Scope** (on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, only) is scheduled to be an artist portfolio review. Interested artists must contact us and sign up for a time slot; those participating will receive a personal public art portfolio review and critic of the materials that they have. We will answer questions, and have information packets (with information about letters of intent, resumes, image lists, and other online resources) for participants to take home and explore for more information on improving their project applications. She also discussed the art call for the next **Winchester-Dondero Gallery**, which will be an abstract group show. The juried Best of Show artist and the two Honorable Mentions, will receive gift certificates from Desert Art Supplies.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF BUDGET. Budget presentations take place January, February and March. In April the Art Committee votes on and makes a recommendation regarding the proposed art projects and appropriate budget for the projects. The Public Art Staff will then present the recommended projects and budget to the Board of County Commissioners at a subsequent BCC meeting. (*not an action item*):

**Discussion:** Mickey began by reminding members that at the last meeting, the upcoming budget was brought up and very briefly discussed. She prepared budget information materials to further that discussion and help explain the budget process for new members; handouts are in the member's packets (including **Art Committee Timeline Snapshot, Projects Map, Projects Status Excel Breakdown, New Projects Process flowchart, Proposals for FY21**). She went quickly over each of the handouts and pointed out, on the Projects Status Breakdown sheet, the funded (but still incomplete) projects that are currently in the RFQ process or going into the RFQ process in the next couple of months, those are: James Regional, Nellis Absolute Ceiling, Zap 11, Zap 12, UMC Healing Garden Design, Rat Pack-Crossroads, Sunset Park Art & Litter Awareness. We have had unexpected issues with the UMC project, due to the time passage, staff and UMC's internal project changes, this project may need to be cancelled. Discussion on what our obligations and liabilities are here, since the RFQ was released and the finalists were selected. As District C is the least-funded district for public art, we are searching for new project opportunities in that area, which is hard as there simply are not as many county facilities there and Summerlin takes up much of the area (which is not our jurisdiction). Mickey is hoping to be able to develop a future project at the Juvenile Facility (which is in this district). This discussion led to a review of the New Projects Process flowchart; this guides members through the process of how to create a project proposal and what, and who we need to work with and resolve before we can even get to the details of feasibility. This was a review for some members and an introduction for new members.

Mickey then touched on the list of her upcoming projects, which she is currently researching and prepping to present to the committee in the first quarter of 2020. These include: West Flamingo Pool-District A, Zap 13-District F, Whitney Recreation Center Mural-District G, and two All District projects involving Social Services-Foster Care and the Mobile Art Cart project.

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In response to a question about the status of the Sunset Signature Signage project, Mickey responded that we are still waiting on the quote for removing the signage from RPM. She also touched on the Parkdale Bathroom Mural project (which is part of the Community Outreach funding component) in response to a question about addressing the steps along the way to help artists who are not ready for major projects, but need to be 'brought along' with smaller, more elemental projects. Mickey also suggested that we further discuss this in January. Zap! is also another of these kinds of projects and perhaps the Art Cart project might have some of those components. Mickey would also like to create some of this level of artwork in both the Alexander Villas and the Wetlands Park projects. It was also brought up that we have already begun to create these entry-level projects with the Ren Fair Cut-outs project, earlier this fall (also a Community Outreach project).

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – POSSIBLE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION - Regarding topics for future agenda items by the committee members. Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether such proposed items shall be placed on a future agenda. (*not an action item*): None, beyond what was discussed in item # VIII.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS (*not an action item*): None.

XI. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE: Due to the newly created advisory committee for the Governor's 1 October Permanent Memorial, Mickey asked if the Art Committee could check their schedules and come up with a new monthly day to hold the Clark County Public Art Committee meetings. (Note: Fielden, Holden & Bradford are representing the Public Art Committee on the Governor's 1 October Permanent Memorial Committee.) (*for possible action*):

**Discussion:** After some checking of schedules, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, beginning at 3:30 p.m. was agreed on as the best solution. Members were also reminded that there will not be a December meeting because of the holidays.  
**Fielden motioned for adjournment, Fulmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

a. Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

b. Currently, all regularly scheduled meetings are held at Sunset Parks & Recreation Admin Building, 2601 E. Sunset Rd.

XII. ADJOURNMENT (*action item*): **Fielden motioned for adjournment, Bradford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Meeting Ended: 5:18 pm.**