

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

I. MEETING OPENING: Rebecca opened the meeting. In attendance: Committee Members – Eric Strain, Rebecca Holden, Harold Bradford, Robert Fielden and Keith Conley. Excused – Vicki Richardson & Louisa McDonald. Staff – Mickey Sprott, Patty Dominguez, Arturo Cecena, Cliff Fields, Justin Williams, Michael Shannon, Anthony Manor and Erika Borges. Public: Michelle Patrick (NAC) & Denise Moore.

Scheduled Presentations: Michael Shannon (South West Ridge Park Public Art Proposal)
Anthony Manor & Erika Borges (Pearson Community Center Pillars Mural Proposal)

Meeting Started: 3:46 pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Denise Moore, representing sculptor Hans Van de Bovenkamp asked a question about the CCPA RFQ for Double Negative Public Art Project (also known as the Moapa Valley Gateway Project), which was not on the agenda. She was asked to wait until the public comment period at the end of the meeting (for those comments that pertain to items not on this agenda).

III. MINUTES: **Fielden moved to approve October 23, 2018 minutes, Bradford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Fielden moved to approve agenda, Conley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

V. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS (*not an action item*):

- a. South West Ridge Park, Michael Shannon, who is Commissioner Jones' District Liaison – Proposal is for a 6' (in diameter) sculpture at the entrance to the park. Proposed budget: \$25,000. (His presentation included PowerPoint slides, which are available to view upon request.)

Shannon began by telling the committee that the new commissioner really wants to support a public art project in District F and that they are proposing incorporating new art into the plans for the South West Ridge Park, which is currently in the planning stages. Michael asked Justin Williams to attend the presentation, for additional technical and background information and explanations, if needed. The new park will include 4-5 acres, but perhaps as important as the park itself, is the fact that it will also be the location of the trailhead to the South West Ridge Recreation Area. This district is expected see a substantial amount of population growth and development, in the coming years. The park itself is to be developed with a natural-themed concept. Using the slides, Michael and Justin went over the layout, topography, proposed use, area history and intended nature of the park. The old mines in the area have all sealed and are safe. He briefly touched on the Lands Act Bill, some of the recent development in the area, and some of the possible community partnerships that may eventually be developed around or partnering with the park, itself. Important dates for consideration: the park is scheduled to begin construction later this year and is expected to complete construction in about a year, or so. Michael stated that he is ready to do whatever the program needs to help and facilitate a public art project at this location, because supporting public art in this location is very important to them. He has put himself forward to help and promote

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the creation and installation of a public art piece, in any way possible. He ended with two quotes, "Great art picks up where nature ends." – Marc Chagall, and "I think the role of the artist is to take whatever they believe in and put it out there, so that the public can see it." – David Le Batard (Lebo). Michael said that he believes that this is an ideal spot for these ideas to shine.

Discussion and Q&A: Fielden asked if there was an area in the park that was already selected for art? Mickey answered that the architect did incorporate the layout with an area, by the entrance of the park, set aside for a 6'x6' public art piece, however that is not set in stone. Discussion continued on the proposed location of the artwork and working with the selected artist. Michael reiterated that the park is still 'fluid' and that the county is willing to be open to artists suggestions and input.

Q: Strain asked when the trails are scheduled to be finished. Some trails already exist, both biking and hiking trails. Background and discussion.

Q: Bradford asked about the type of art? Signage and sculpture? Incorporate art into the park design? Both signage and sculpture are being sought for the park, but they are open to input and ideas about if the artist will do only sculpture, or have a hand in the signage designs as well. He trusts that the committee will bring some good suggestions.

Q: Fielden asked about the amount that is being proposed for the artwork, is \$25,000 enough? Discussion at this point, on the amount of the art budget, the timing for including the artist in the project, as well as the possibility of the artist creating the design of the signage; the interpretative aspects of the creative art. Holden asked where the \$25,000 number came from. Was it from the CCPA office or from the developer of the park? Mickey explained that she came up with that number, based on the area in the architect's layout that showed a proposed area for art, she came up with the figure based on that space, but it is only a starting point, for upcoming discussion. She added that she will work with Finance to get a grand total of what the committee can work with, by next month's meeting, when the members go over this proposal. Fielden commented that he really wants this project to be done right, and not short change it for the sake of including art in the park.

Q: Holden asked what the overall park's budget is. (...she is looking to figure the % of budget to go into the art... / just over \$4.8 million). Continued discussion about the timing, budget and size of county parks, in the future - Justin discussed the definition of parks.

- b. Pearson Community Center Pillars Mural Proposal, Anthony Manor, who is the Pearson Community Center Supervisor – Proposal is for each of the 21 pillars (in the lobby of the Community Center) to be painted. Proposed budget: \$65,000 or \$3,100 per pillar. (His presentation included PowerPoint slides, which are available to view upon request.)

Anthony started by setting the historic context for the Community Center, built in 2007. Pearson is located off of the southwest corner of MLK & Carey and sits within an area where the County, Las Vegas and North Las Vegas all converge; it was run by the Urban League until the county took it over the operational portion of the building, in 2017. These conditions combine to make Pearson Community Center a Clark County facility that sits within the City of Las Vegas' boundary and is literally

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across the street from the City of NLV. It is a high risk neighborhood, but at the same time, West Las Vegas (where the center is located) has one of the highest numbers of churches, per capita, in the United States (at this point, a short video about the area and specifically the community center, made by UNLV, was shown).

After the video, Anthony continued with specifics of their proposal (with the visual support of their PowerPoint slides); within the facility lobby are a substantial number of concrete pillars which they would like to have used for a permanent public art installation. For further context and to demonstrate the community connection that they have developed, they went over some of the events, programs and temporary art that have been done around the center, as well as some of the permanent public art that is in the West Las Vegas region. They discussed the impact that a temporary portraits project, from last fall, that was incredibly popular.

Pillar size: 11' (high) x 7' (in diameter). (21-24 count? Some of the pillars are set into the wall and not free-standing) Artists, or Artists working is local children? They want to have some kind of art created that could highlight the history and culture of the community (especially the West Las Vegas community) and give the kids there something to be proud of.

Discussion and Q&A: Strain asked if they wanted to have an artist, or artists, paint these pillars, or if they were seeking artist(s) to work with the kids to paint them? Anthony responded that they were looking more so, at the cultural part of the project. They want to include the community, if possible, but they want to have artwork created that will be a permanent part of the facility, and reflect the community; he used the Doolittle Mural, which was done in 1987, as an example. He added that the center has many social service offices in, or around it and that when he sees the concrete pillars, they remind him of a jail. This makes it more difficult to try to inspire the local community to do and be anything they can dream, when they are surrounded by concrete.

Q: Strain asked if the pillars were smooth. Anthony responded that they have some texture and that they may need to be treated, to add a smooth finish. They are even open to allowing an artist to carve into them, if that will work structurally and the artist has a safe way to do something like that. All of the pillars are inside the building.

Q: Bradford added that if they wanted the pillars to have a carved-in effect, that there are ways to add on carved foam that can be secured to the pillars. He also suggested that the project could use both professional artists painting some of the pillars and some being painted by the kids, under supervision. Strain agreed that combining professional artists and kids work together could be a lasting resource to empowering the local community and to sharing with new generations.

Q: Conley commented about the importance of the 'community' aspect of the potential project. And that rather than having one artist work on the pillars, that it seems that hiring several artists to work with different kids, individually or as a team, could enhance the arts education aspect, while creating some powerful community-focused artwork. Some further discussion.

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- c. Zap 12 – on Mt. Charleston – Mickey outlined Zap 12 for the committee. Proposal is for up to 12 utility boxes, on the Kyle Canyon Rd and above the town of Mt. Charleston, to be painted. Proposed budget: \$12,000.
- The public art program was approached by a member of Metro PD, who works up in Mt. Charleston, to let us know that Mt. Charleston would really appreciate hosting the next Zap! project. They are currently having a lot of tagging issues in the area. They would like to stipulate that the images painted be consistent with the natural environment. She stated that generally, Zap! artists paint 3-4 boxes and are paid \$2,500. Because of the location, there would be a travel allotment added onto that amount for the selected artists, so we are looking at 3-4 artists, at \$3,000 per artists. Once the budget is approved for this project, Zap 12 will be pushed ahead of Zap 11, in starting production, due to the weather conditions on the mountain and in the valley. Therefore we will plan to release the Zap 12 RFQ on July 1st, to be complete by the end of summer season.

VI. ASSIGN JURY MEMBERS FOR EXISTING CALLS (*for possible action*):

Because each public art selection jury requires representation of one committee member, Mickey asked for volunteers for the three open project calls. Here are those assignments:

UMC Healing Garden Design – Robert Fielden
Nellis Absolute Ceiling – Keith Conley
Double Negative Gateway (Overton Community Project-Part 2) – Eric Strain

Discussion: Strain asked if we could have more than one committee member on these juries. Not officially, as the committee is considered as one stakeholder for the jury, however we can, and have used an additional backup jury member, to fill-in if there are not enough members to go through the different selection rounds for various projects. Bradford and Holden volunteered to serve as backup jurors, for these projects, if needed. There was some further discussion about the projects and who might be in the running for them, particularly UMC, which just closed the application deadline last week. 42 people showed up for the UMC pre-meeting.

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 and the Public Art Programming Communication Flyer were included within the committee members' packets.

Mickey indicated that in the Projects Status Report, the items in blue are those currently in-progress. 6 projects in the report are currently on-hold: West Flamingo, Zap 11, Alexander Villas, Wetlands, Sunset Park-Signature Artwork, and Sunset Park-Art & Litter Awareness Project. Part of our budget is dependent on our ability to get some of these projects begun. Because of this backlog, we have been asked to propose a lighter schedule for the number of projects that we are asking to fund in the upcoming budget. That is why we are only asking the committee to consider the 3 projects that were proposed today. Once we have had a chance to get some of these projects, which have already been funded, but not produced, worked through,

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we will return to a normal workload. Mickey went through the status of recently completed projects and those projects that are coming to a close in the next couple of months: Overton-Moapa Valley Mural, Zap 10, Mountains Edge Park, Rat Pack Crossroads. She also highlighted the rebranding of the Professional Artists Education Series to be called Full Scope and the county's call for the next Clark County Poet Laureate.

Discussion and Q&A: Fielden asked for clarification on when, according to our present schedule, the committee could look at funding an actual Healing Garden at UMC (based on the design project outcome)? Mickey responded that the UMC Design Project will wrap up and we will have our winning designs in August, she believes that depending on the outcomes and awareness around this project that the commissioners may come back to this committee and ask for more action to move forward. Some discussion on the 1 October Project and the committee-voted locked funding that is now in the Governor's hands. Mickey will clarify if the annual budget is constrained year to year, until those funds are actually used by the 1 October Project, because there is no PR on it yet. Some further discussion on the program budget.

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – POSSIBLE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION (*not an action item*):

None.

IX. COMMENTS BY GENERAL PUBLIC:

Public comments, by Denise Moore, will be discussed after the meeting adjournment.

X. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE: 4th Tuesday of each month, beginning at 3:30 p.m. (*for possible action*)

- a. Next scheduled meeting: March 26, 2019.
- b. Currently, all regularly scheduled meetings are held at Sunset Parks & Recreation Admin Building, 2601 E. Sunset Rd.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: **Fielden motioned for adjournment, Conley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting Ended: 5:22 pm.