

Session 14-05 a Regular Meeting of the Public Arts Committee was called to order on August 14, 2014 at 5:08 pm by Vice Chair Michele Miller at the Homer City Hall Upstairs Conference Room located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

**PRESENT:** COMMITTEE MEMBERS APLIN, MILLER, PERSONS, HOLLOWELL, AND PETERSEN

**STAFF:** RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Vice Chair Miller requested a motion to approve the agenda noting that no items could be deleted.

Ms. Persons asked for the agenda to be amended to address the CIP last under New Business. There was a brief discussion regarding persons in the audience and scheduled visitors and when should audience comment on agenda items. It was noted by staff that it is usually done after the approval of the minutes.

Vice Chair Miller asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda.

PERSONS/PETERSEN – SO MOVED.

The amended agenda was approved by consensus of the committee.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** *(Minutes are approved during regular or special meetings only)*

#### **A. Meeting Minutes for Special Meeting of May 13, 2014**

Vice Chair Miller questioned if there were any amendments to the minutes. She noted that she had a few typos.

Ms. Krause requested Ms. Miller to email her those errors. Ms. Miller responded that others would not know what the errors were if they had the same ones and proceeded to point out two grammatical errors.

There were no further amendments to the minutes.

The minutes were approved as corrected by consensus of the Committee.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

Michael Walsh and Asia Freeman, Bunnell Street Art Gallery (The Bunnell), commented on the proposed donation of the Fanciful Loon Sculpture by Rachele Dowdy. The Bunnell has found \$1000 to provide to the City to assist with future maintenance costs of the sculpture. They stated that the artist has assured them on the integrity and longevity of the sculpture and the beak was the weakest point but believed that it was out of reach from the public. The artist has further stated that she will be creating and installing the pedestal that the sculpture will be placed upon. There is no site preparation required from the city. The paint used may fade over time but is expected to last several years before this happens.

Mr. Walsh stated that the artist has agreed to be responsible for any damage to the sculpture that is not vandal related such as graffiti or physical damage. She will take care of repairs that are the result of nature or materials. The most maintenance will be the replacement of the windsock.

Mr. Walsh stated that all parties are open to the City's preferred location. The artist actually prefers location 1 next to the Boardwalk. Mr. Walsh stated that his opinion site 1 closest to the boardwalk offered the safest location in regards to vandalism. These sites were suggested by Mr. Meyer.

Vice Chair Miller that they can discuss location when they come to the item on the agenda.

Ms. Freeman commented on the selection process that was conducted and apologized that they did not follow the approved process since it was destined ultimately for a city park. She noted that they had Adele Persons, Marianne Aplin, Paul Duncan, Angie Newby, Deb Lowney, and Carey Meyer. She hoped that it is realized to be placed in the intended location of Bishop's Beach.

Vice Chair Miller suggested that Mr. Walsh and Ms. Freeman have those members of the selection committee attend the Council meeting to testify in favor of the placement of this sculpture since they are involved in the city and their testimony would provide weight. She further advocated that the committee should attend the Council meeting and testify in favor of the donation.

Ms. Aplin stated that they originally did not consider placement in the park but within Old Town and then it was decided to place it within Bishop's Beach Park.

### **VISITORS**

#### A. Carey Meyer, Public Safety Building Project

There was a brief discussion on the non-appearance of Mr. Meyer. Ms. Krause stated that they can make a motion to suspend the rules to address the other items on the agenda until Mr. Meyer appears.

APLIN/HOLLOWELL – SO MOVED.

Ms. Krause stated that she could provide some information on the project if the committee desires at the end of the meeting if he did not show.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **STAFF & COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS/ AND BOROUGH REPORTS**

#### A. HACA Report

Ms. Persons reported that the group is focused on the Needs Assessment and haven't been meeting as a group.

#### B. Staff Report

Ms. Krause provided the current art catalog and explained how the information was compiled by former committee members.

There was a brief discussion regarding the information being available in electronic form, forming a committee the request must go through Council, it was decided to schedule a worksession in mid-September to come up with a plan on creating the catalog.

Vice Chair Miller requested that everyone look at their calendars and submit the date to Ms. Krause.

There was a brief discussion on the art that was awarded for the Harbormaster Office project. There were comments regarding the selection of an artist from California. Vice Chair Miller responded that they did discuss the selection of a non-Alaskan artist not being against the rules.

Ms. Aplin commented on the sign at the road for Jack Gist Park and that a decision was made to be a regulatory sign and that sign was not on within the design agreed upon. Ms. Krause provided an explanation on the signage.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

There were no items for public hearing.

**PENDING BUSINESS**

A. Review and Updates to the Strategic Plan

Vice Chair Miller provided a brief summary of the work done by Ms. Persons at the last meeting and worksession. She noted that they had no long term items.

There was a brief discussion on changing the terms to Long term – Over 5 years and Short term – Under 5 years. There was a discussion and explanation on the following:

- combined Public Arts and Parks and Recreation
- How they implementing “promoting Homer as an Art community” with regards to the items under long and short term
- working more with the city to remind them that more people come to Homer for the Art not the fishing
- The previous Strategic Plan was wordier and this may have been too reduced

PERSON/PETERSEN – MOVED TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED STRATEGIC PLAN

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

B. Agenda Calendar and Attendance at Council Meetings

Ms. Persons provided some of the direction and intent behind creating the calendar. It was also discussed regarding the attendance of committee members at council meetings. It was noted that the recommendation from Committee regarding the sculpture may not be on the council agenda until the end of September. Ms. Krause will speak with the Clerk regarding scheduling this earlier. The agenda calendar will be included in each meeting packet and can be updated at each meeting.

Vice Chair Miller stated they should determine who will attend the September 8, 2014 council meeting if they cannot get the sculpture on the council agenda it will be September 22, 2014.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Welcome Newest Committee Members

The new members were welcomed.

B. Remand and Reconsideration of the Donation and Acceptance of Sculptures for Placement in or on City Owned Property.

1. Donation of the Fanciful Loon Sculpture
2. Administrative Guidelines – Donation Policy

Ms. Krause reported that the Silver Salmon was pulled by Alaskan Coastal Studies due to a decision to place in another location plus the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission did not really think that having trash from the beach placed in a net on the windscreen. Ms. Persons also commented that they wanted to keep the marine debris in one location instead of being spread out.

Ms. Krause then explained the objections from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission regarding placement of the sculpture within the park. She related the reasons expressed by the commissioners for not wanting the sculpture placed as safety, vandalism, maintenance and placement concerns.

The City Council does consider the recommendations from the Committee and the Commissions before making the decisions on items that come before them. The Committee can go before Commission to explain the situation however their agenda is closed for the next meeting and unless this committee recommends to council that the commission reconsiders they will not hear the item again.

City Council remanded this item back to this committee to address these concerns.

There was a long discussion regarding the location and placement of the sculpture in the park. The intent was to exert positive influences into the various areas throughout Old Town but especially Bishops Beach where a lot of vandalism and negative behavior occurs.

Vice Chair Miller stated that it is not the committee's responsibility to recommend placement. They are responsible for recommending accepting the donation. It was noted that the committee can submit a recommendation stating placement and can educate the commission if necessary after comments from the committee regarding not understanding the opposition the commission offered.

It was further noted that the members of the committee have not heard widespread dislike for this sculpture, the concern expressed on the soil conditions is a legitimate one and the committee could leave the decision for placement up to Public Works or a person experienced in soils.

The Bunnell has come up with \$1000 and the question was asked regarding acceptance by the city but it is not the purview of this committee. It was noted that the donated work if accepted by the City would be undertaken by the city as outlined in the Administrative Guidelines under Donations. The committee pointed out that the windsock was really the only annual requirement and the cost should be minimal since the statue was made out of concrete. Further discussion entertained locations and Ms. Aplin opined that she did not approve of the location nearest to the boardwalk since it would encroach upon the serenity and atmosphere encouraged by the boardwalk. She further commented that there should be a suitable location that did not encourage or lent itself to vandalism and did not take up the only grassy area for children to play within the park.

PERSONS/HOLLOWELL - MOVED TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL ACCEPT THE DONATION OF THE FANCIFUL LOON SCULPTURE BY RACHELLE DOWDY INTO THE CITY OF HOMER MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION WHEREAS THE ARTIST WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF PLACEMENT FOR ALL REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE NOT RELATED TO VANDALISM OR DELIBERATE ACTS, AND WHEREAS THE BUNNELL STREET ARTS CENTER HAS PLEDGED \$1000.00 TOWARDS THE POTENTIAL MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THIS DONATION, AND THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE FURTHER SUPPORTS PLACEMENT WITHIN BISHOP'S BEACH PARK BE DETERMINED BY THE APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL AND THE ARTIST.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

#### C. Budget Requests for 2015

1. Budget Request Heath Street Wall Mural
2. Blank Budget Request Form
3. Email dated July 23, 2014 from Committee member person

Ms. Persons provided the proposed budget numbers for the Heath Street mural as follows:

- Artists fees \$3000
- Supplies \$1000
- Travel \$1000

Ms. Persons noted that these numbers were in relation to the Bunnell Street Arts Center recent proposals.

PETERSEN/APLIN – MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE HEATH STREET MURAL.

There was a brief discussion on the feasibility of the budget request being granted by Council, the budget amount being adequate, making it a community project with one person in charge, ownership of the wall Council not approving to expend funds to improve someone else's property, the willingness of the City Manager taking the steps for permission to create and maintain the mural, speaking with the property owners prior to requesting funding, considering the Baycrest Project since DOT will be starting the road improvements soon, refurbishing the Poopdeck Trail art by Leo Vait, the work that will be going on in that area in the future.

Vice Chair Miller directed the committee back to discussing the budget, she requested the previous discussion to be continued at their worksession in September.

Ms. Aplin commented on the Spit Trail Interpretive Signage project and committee involvement; the Baycrest Gateway Project being on the CIP and that the committee should just focus on advocating for the project or a line item in the budget.

Ms. Krause explained what was required to have a line item and that the likelihood that the committee could receive both was unlikely due to all the budget constraints. She noted that the budget request goes through the City Manager. Discussion followed that both a regular annual budget and a project budget would be beneficial and the committee should not discount getting money for a project. They can still advocate for a line item in the budget to cover operating expenses throughout the year and then also request for a project. It was the job as members of the committee to advocate for their budget request.

The committee then discussed submitting a budget request to create the Municipal Art Catalog. The committee was unsure what amount should be requested without some research. It was determined that they could start the legwork on the scope of work and what it would entail to complete this project as a committee.

Ms. Aplin voiced concern regarding using this as a project for a budget request. She did not feel she could support that.

Ms. Hollowell offered that they could start the outline and scope of the Catalog while searching for a proper community related project that they could request funding for. The committee expressed consensus on that idea.

It was noted that there was a motion on the floor. Staff explained that the maker of the motion withdraws and the second agrees it is withdrawn.

PETERSEN/APLIN – WITHDREW THE MOTION.

Staff will provide a memorandum to the City Manager that the committee would like to reserve the right to request funding for a project.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### D. Capital Improvement Plan 2015-2020 Review and Recommendations to Council

Vice Chair Miller read the title into the record and requested recommendations from the committee.

Ms. Person stated the committee should express support for the Homer Council on the Arts project. There was a question expressed regarding what action the committee was to undertake.

Ms. Krause provided a quick summary on the action required from the committee.

Vice Chair Miller provided information on the process for non-profits with regard to avocation from this committee. She has been involved with the CIP process for several years from the aspect or viewpoint of a non-profit with the museum. Most projects she noted on the CIP are city projects. Discussion continued on how and what projects the committee should support and recommend.

Vice Chair Miller mentioned the late hour and requested a motion.

PERSON/APLIN - MOVED THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE BAYCREST OVERLOOK GATEWAY PARK PROJECT, HOMER COUNCIL ON THE ARTS RECONFIGURATION AND FACILITY UPGRADE PROJECT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR 2015-2020 THE COMMITTEE FURTHER SUPPORTS THE PRATT MUSEUM NEW FACILITY AND SITE DESIGN PROJECT.

There was a brief discussion on the lack of art related projects included in the plan.

VOTE. YES. MILLER, HOLLOWELL, PETERSEN, PERSONS, APLIN

Motion carried.

### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

A. Appointment of Lance Petersen and Erin Hollowell

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

There was no audience present to comment.

### **COMMENTS OF THE STAFF**

Ms. Krause provided a brief description of the Public Safety Building Project and encouraged the committee members to attend the next meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. They will have the Space Needs Report from the Design Team for each department. She stated that the focus was on the need to provide not only an updated facility for the community but a safe facility for the people who work in those buildings since currently there are several safety issues such as breathing exhaust fumes from vehicles at the Fire Station and dealing with prisoners desperate enough to try to escape to unsuitable storage facilities for equipment for both departments.

Ms. Krause further confirmed the request for a worksession in mid-September and before the November regular meeting.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Petersen commented that he learned a lot from all the projects included in the packet.

There were no other comments from the committee.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee vice Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m. **A WORKSESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 P.M. PRIOR TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 13, 2014 AT 5:00 P.M.** at City Hall Conference Room Upstairs, 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_