

Session 15-03 a Regular Meeting of the Public Arts Committee was called to order on May 14, 2015 at 5:00 pm by Chair Michele Miller at the Homer City Hall Upstairs Conference Room located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

**PRESENT:** COMMITTEE MEMBERS MILLER, PERSON, HOLLOWELL AND PETERSEN

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

The Committee met in a worksession from 4:00 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. The Committee members discussed a suitable project that would fit the ArtPlace and Our Town Grant Programs and partnering with other city commissions and organizations.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Miller requested a motion to approve the agenda

PERSON/PETERSEN – MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

The 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 regular meeting of April 20, 2015.

Chair Miller requested a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

HOLLOWELL/PETERSEN – MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

There was no discussion.

The minutes were approved by consensus of the Committee.

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

There was no public present.

### **VISITORS**

A. Denice Pitzman, Chair and Polly Prindle-Hess, Development Committee, Homer Foundation – Presentation on the Concept of a Donation Sculpture

Ms. Pitzman and Ms. Prindle-Hess presented to the Committee an idea similar to the Pike Place Donation Pig. They informed the committee members regarding the increased needs in the Community and wanted to take advantage of the numerous Visitors that flock to Homer and the Spit. The Homer Foundation felt that this idea would raise awareness and a funding source for the Food Pantry that provides more than just food to the community but also cash for emergency needs such as prescriptions, car repair, utility payments, etc.

They proposed an installation of public art with a visible Spit location that is essentially a user friendly interactive piggy bank. They are looking at placing a large bronze salmon that could provide a place to climb aboard and have their pictures taken. The money collected from the salmon would all go directly to the Community Chest program passing onto the community. They wanted to use Alaska artists and the Homer Foundation would assume all the fundraising for the project.

They requested input and information from the Committee to make this project a reality.

Suggestions for advertising a call for artists and the various placement of salmon around town, seeking the permission of placement on private property, not city owned and placement not just on the Spit. Ms. Person shared a donation idea that was conducted in local bars in Houston, Texas providing options on what organization will benefit from your donation.

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

#### **A. Staff Report 15-03**

Ms. Krause stated that she was unable to research the Pike Place donation pig idea and pulled the storefront programs. She also spoke with the City Manager and City Clerk on placing something like that on city property.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

There were no items for public hearing.

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

#### **A. Project Discussion – Pioneer Avenue for Art Place/Our Town Grants**

1. Partnering with Other City Commissions
2. Similar Programs in Other Communities
3. Draft Letter of Interest

Chair Miller noted that the members were given homework at the last meeting. Staff has provided information regarding the various programs from other cities in Washington, California and Soldotna. Ms. Person stated that she has a lot of ideas but who would write the letter, etc.

Discussion ensued regarding a timeline and having the community involved in the idea.

Ms. Person stated that using all their words they can provide, using their framework, then they do not have to hold a stakeholder meeting until they have the grant. It is about connecting to and through the town center and it is about walkability, storefront, transportation which will enliven the social, physical and economic aspects and place arts and culture at the center of the project. Ms. Person will email this after writing a bit more on it including last year's grant application.

The framework will state that a person will be hired; there will be a process to call for art interventions to do these things - revitalizing the urban core through walkability and storefront improvement, the judging process and follow-up. If that goes forward, they may have to have a stakeholders meeting, the LOI would be a bit bigger.

Chair Miller inserted that they need to be methodical on the application since they do not have a lot of time. She acknowledged that if it doesn't have to be embraced by the community prior to submittal of the letter of interest then that will be good.

Ms. Hollowell stated that with summer coming they could maybe have a Bar-B-Que get together. Ms. Person has spoken to a number of stakeholders due to her involvement with walkability. Ms. Hollowell provided a brief scenario on how it would evolve such as here are the goals now please propose how you would use your art to achieve those goals. Then on the flip side the businesses could be asked how they would use art to improve your business and they would play matchmaker. It was acknowledged that they would need various organizations supporting the idea.

Discussion on the content of the letter of interest, organizing a community cookout with a speaker system which is similar to what Old Town did, it could be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the City Offices were closed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> so this parking lot could be used, Bay Realty parking lot, not sure if they could galvanize a cookout that soon. The fall may be better after all the rush is over, businesses could respond to see art helping them, draft a letter to businesses for the August meeting.

PERSON/HOLLOWELL - MOVED TO DRAFT A LETTER ADDRESSED TO BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS ON PIONEER AVENUE REGARDING A PIONEER AVENUE REVITALIZATION PROJECT.

Discussion followed that the date will be finalized at the August regular meeting along with the structure of the meeting or event. This letter will include information that the committee is looking at art led projects and would like to invite you to a community conversation on this date to provide input. Other people to invite would be Alaska Department of Transportation and Chamber of Commerce.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Request for Executive Session Pursuant to as §44.62.310(c)(2&3), Subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion and matters, which by law, municipal charter, or ordinances are required to be confidential. (Review and Evaluation of Submitted Proposals)

HOLLOWELL/PETERSEN – MOVED TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF SUBMITTED PROPOSALS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. MILLER. HOLLOWELL. PETERSEN. PERSON.

Motion carried.

Chair Miller recessed the meeting to executive session at 5:24 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 5:34 p.m.

B. Recommendation to Award the Contract to Create a Municipal Art Baseline Inventory  
Chair Miller requested a motion on the Committee decision.

HOLLOWELL/PETERSEN – MOVED TO HAVE STAFF SUBMIT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO CREATE A MUNICIPAL ART BASELINE INVENTORY.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. PERSON. HOLLOWELL, PETERSEN, MILLER

Motion carried.

### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

A. 2015 Annual Calendar

A brief review of the Calendar during the worksession adjusted the following:

- Move Presentation of the Draft Inventory to the November meeting
- Include Storefront Program in Budget Discussion at the August meeting

B. 2015 Committee Attendance at Council Meetings

It was corrected that Mr. Petersen attended the April 27<sup>th</sup> council meeting not Ms. Person.  
Chair Miller will attend the May 26, 2015 meeting.

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

There was no audience present to comment.

**COMMENTS OF THE STAFF**

Ms. Krause had no comments.

**COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

Ms. Hollowell will not be attending the August meeting due to a prior commitment.

The committee members noted that there was one opening since Ms. Aplin did not wish to be reappointed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m. **A WORKSESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 P.M. PRIOR TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2015** 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: \_\_\_\_\_