

Session 11-04 A Regular Meeting of the Public Arts Committee was called to order at 5:05 P.M. on August 11, 2011 by Chair Angie Newby in Cowles Council Chambers located at City Hall, 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMITTEEMEMBERS NEWBY, FELLOWS, APLIN, MILLER AND WOLFE

STAFF: DEPUTY CITY CLERK KRAUSE

The Public Arts Committee met in a worksession from 4:10 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL

NEWBY/APLIN – MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ALLOW REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE UNDER VISITORS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items for reconsideration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Minutes are only approved during regular meeting.)

Chair Newby inquired if there were any questions or changes to the minutes for approval.

A. Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2011 Regular Meeting

Committee Member Miller requested a few minutes to review the minutes in the packet explaining she had not looked at them. She noted after a brief interlude that they did not need to hold up approval since she was not in attendance at that meeting.

WOLFE/APLIN - MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10TH REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

B. Meeting Minutes for the June 10, 2011 Special Meeting

Chair Newby inquired if the committee was ready to approve the minutes.

WOLFE/MILLER -MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10TH SPECIAL MEETING AS WRITTEN.

There was no discussion.

VOTE.YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Chair Newby recognized Representative Seaton's arrival and requested amending the agenda to allow Representative Seaton to address the committee under Visitors.

There was no dissension voiced by the Committee.

VISITORS

Representative Paul Seaton commented to the Committee that he decided to stop in after he heard about the meeting from an announcement on KBBI.

Representative Seaton mentioned that the City of Seward was awarded the designation of Mural Capital of the World. He noted he was really unaware that Homer had an Arts Committee. He commented that he is reminded in every community he visits that art does make a community; such as recently in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada where some of the public art concepts are really fantastic. He stated he really appreciates what the Committee does and believes it makes the community interesting for residents and visitors.

Chair Newby briefly explained how the committee came to be organized. She further explained that they do spend the majority of the time in education and promotion of public art. She elaborated on the Airport diorama/mural project and the Firewise Project at the Fire Station.

Chair Newby continued to go into the current project; Baycrest Hill Pullout/Rest Area Improvements and those they would appreciate any support and guidance from Representative Seaton. She noted the various parties involved and inquired if they could keep him in the loop on their progress with the various entities.

Representative Seaton explained that he recently met and toured the area with the Deputy Commissioner and that he will have someone send the committee that contact information.

Committee Member Marianne Aplin explained the progress that has been made in contacting the public entities that would possibly share in the improvements of the Baycrest Hill. Some of the ideas are new interpretative signage that can be uniform plus a new Welcome to Homer sign.

Discussion continued with Representative Seaton advising the members of the committee that getting projects in the funding process as soon as possible is the best path in response to putting the project in the city capital improvement projects (CIP). He further recommended getting the support of the agency or agencies involved such as the Alaska Department of Transportation and having them include the project in their funding process, which would be included in the Governor's Budget and therefore have the likelihood for future funding sooner. Further discussion on how to encourage support from all the departments and

entities involved; having a base or main sponsoring department or agency was strongly advised. It was noted that the time period in getting and keeping a project on the CIP was a very lengthy process and if the committee could obtain funding without going through the CIP process they would consider accessing that process.

The Committee inquired if Representative Seaton, being a person who travels frequently in and out of Homer through the Airport, if he knew what is said above the windows upon arrival. Representative Seaton admittedly could not report what it was and was informed that it said Welcome to Homer. Vice Chair Wolfe commented that it was another budget item they would be requesting funding for this budget cycle. The current letters are plastic and brown, the same color as the building and are not noticeable. A few years ago the Committee did look into refurbishing those existing letters, but it is not cost effective. The estimate to replace those letters is approximately one thousand dollars but would be beneficial for economic development.

Chair Newby elaborated on the Gateways projects and stated that in the future they may contact him seeking advice and support. She added that this represents the work they have gotten involved in since projects for the 1% for Arts Program were very few and far between.

Representative Seaton also noted that during a recent visit to Seldovia for the dedication of the Scenic Byway for the Marine Highway. He noted that there has not been anything like that over here for a number of years. He commented that he did not believe there was local promotion from an Arts Community standpoint. He then mentioned that the City of Homer has been granted the \$6 million dollars for the Cruise Ship amenities which also includes downtown restrooms along Pioneer Avenue. He believed that these two projects would be a source for artistic expression and the art community should be involved. He believes instead of a standard cement block facility it could be more attractive.

Vice Chair Wolfe asked for the specific amounts of the projects since that would determine the participation in the 1% for the Arts Program. It was noted that the program topped out at \$70,000 for each project over \$250 thousand dollars. Information was noted on the process to get the artists involved in the very beginning in order to maximize the dollars they received for each project. Representative Seaton noted that the total for all the projects in \$6 million he did not know the individual project amounts but that there should be several opportunities.

Chair Newby requested Representative Seaton, if he felt comfortable doing so, to send a letter of support and expressing the importance of including art into economic development since currently they do not have a regular budget and have even been cut out of previous budget cycles. She stated that this would assist them in getting some funding from council.

Representative Seaton elaborated further on different possibilities for public art and he commented that it would be the goal of the Public Arts Committee to make sure that Homer is the arts community by incorporating such things as public bus/trolley benches. He went on to describe artistic manhole covers that was done in Japan.

Chair Newby commented on the current project with the City Hall Renovation and Expansion project.

Representative Seaton stated the City should have received the agreements July 1, 2011. There was a proposed list of projects that the funding covered. The construction schedule would be up to the City of Homer.

The Committee directed staff to inquire about updates on the Cruise Ship Improvements funding, Spit Trail Completion.

There was no further discussion. The committee thanked Representative Seaton for coming and speaking to the Committee.

Chair Newby directed staff to accurately note the comments made by Representative Seaton so that they can take advantage of getting in on the design phase of these projects. The Committee was strongly in favor of being involved in the planning of these projects.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Staff Report dated August 4, 2011

Ms. Krause offered some clarification regarding a statement by Committee member Miller that she was correct in that the location for the artwork will be determined by the Art Selection Committee; however the Public Arts Committee and the City Hall Renovation and Expansion Task Force agreed on a preference for an outdoor location.

Chair Newby left the meeting at 6:15 p.m. explaining she had a previous appointment. Vice Chair Wolfe took over the meeting duties.

Ms. Krause erred in stating that the advertisement would be part of the costs included in the budgeted amount for the 1% for the Arts Program on this project but was unable to readdress the error due to disagreement from Committee Member Miller on having to advertise the Request for Proposal in local newspapers. It was stated by staff and affirmed by Committee member Aplin that advertisement in a local paper was required by City Code and Procurement Manual. The Request for Proposal must be accessible to any and all interested parties.

Staff requested a motion to send the Art Selection Committee members to Council for formal appointment.

WOLFE/APLIN – MOVED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS, RICK ABOUD, CITY PLANNER AS DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE; TODD STEINER, STEINER'S NORTH STAR CONSTRUCTION, INC. CONTRACTOR/DESIGN REPRESENTATIVE; WALT WREDE/ANN MARIE HOLEN, BUILDING DIRECTOR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE; MICHELE MILLER, PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE AND BRIANNA ALLEN, ARTIST AT LARGE TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE 1% FOR THE ARTS SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY HALL RENOVATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT.

There were brief comments and inquiry on the artist recommendation and how she was selected. It was noted that Vice Chair Wolfe was tasked at the last meeting to locate an artist.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBEJCTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion passed.

Staff then inquired if there were any further comments or questions. There were none.

There was no further discussion on the submitted staff report.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no items for public hearing.

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Gateways

1. Baycrest Hill Rest Area – Status Update

There was no further discussion under this topic. Discussion on this was conducted under the Public Comments.

2. Ferry Terminal – Status Update

Committee Member Miller will get back with the State of Alaska on the ownership of the building and that it has absolutely no art.

There was no further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Drafting Policies Regarding Placement and Display of Artwork in City Hall Common Areas

There was a brief discussion on the committee given permission to assist in placement of the existing art collection when the renovation of City Hall has been completed.

A discussion ensued between the committee members on the responsibility of selecting the placement or locations for the 1% for the Art Selection and that even though there was a consensus to have an outdoor piece it will be up to the selection committee to determine the actual location.

It was further clarified that the committee as a whole would address the display and placement of the existing art collection only. Many pieces have been hidden away in employee's offices and should be displayed for the public benefit.

There was no further discussion.

B. Discussion on the Budget process and 2012 Requests

1. Budget Schedule – Approved at the July 25, 2011 Council Meeting

There was a discussion on the following:

- ❖ Deadline to present to Council September 26, 2011 – City Manager to present budget request
- ❖ Submitting Budget Request Early
- ❖ Items to be included in the Budget Request for 2012

➤ Artist's Wall Identification and Elaboration	\$500.00
➤ Homer Airport Welcome Sign	\$1,000.00
➤ Contingency Fund for Repairs/Unknown	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$2,000.00

Staff was directed to check on who has taken over as Airport Manager since Sheri Hobbs has retired. Staff opined that it was probably Terry Felde but will confirm that with the City Manager.

❖ Collateral Materials

- Public Arts Rack Card – design and printing \$2000.00
- Includes Professional Photographer
- Cards and Badges - \$ In House

➤	Advertisement in the Homer News	\$300.00
➤	Event Expenditures	\$200.00
➤	Catalogue of Current Collection	\$1000.00
	▪ Student Photographer/Supplies	
	▪ Information Sheet – Produced In House	

Staff advised the Committee to consider that if they do get funded for 2012 they may not get any funding again for 2013. Ms. Krause noted that the last time they were funded was four years ago and that the committee has regular yearly functions and expenses and maybe they might consider those expenses in the budget. The committee disagreed stating that overall budget was tight and they should only request what they would need for the upcoming year. There is another chance next year if the Council does not approve the full budget this year.

Further discussion on performing research on the actual costs for the Art Collection Catalogue instead of just including an estimated amount so that the budget could reflect close costs.

MILLER/APLIN – MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET REQUEST AS DISCUSSED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Strategic Plan 2011
- B. Letter to Councilmember Beth Wythe
- C. Photos of Banner in the July 4th Parade and Street Faire 2011
- D. Emails regarding Parade Entry
- E. Emails regarding the Dedication to the performing Arts Mural
- F. Emails Regarding participation in Main Street USA
- G. June ASCA eNewsletter

There were no comments on the informational items.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There was no audience present.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER *(If one is assigned)*

None.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

None.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

None.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Committee Member Aplin thanked Staff for the help and providing the information in the packet.

Committee member Fellows commented that staff had a very difficult job.

Committee Member Miller thanked Staff for the notice of the Art Selection committee meeting in advance.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Vice Chair Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2011 at 5:00 p.m., City Hall, Cowles Council Chambers 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: _____