



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAAC) MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2021 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. via ZOOM

Present: Chair Deb Dyer, Tom Herriman, Emily Leighton, Phillip Mehas

Absent: City Councilman Melvin Willis

Staff: Winifred Day

Guests:

- For Love Your Block Stephanie Ny, Richard Salazar artist, Joanna Pulido, representing Family Camps, Luis Pacheco representing Youth Leadership Pathways program.
- For Nevin Plaza Public Art Master Plan: Developer rep. Brian Swartz, Danielle Fox, Karen Eichler
- For John Wehrle in support of Wehrle mural restoration: John Hanson – Neighborhood Council President, Michele Seville, resident Michelle Rappaport

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Dyer at 7:00 p.m.
2. Action Item #1: Accept and approve December 9, 2021 PAAC Meeting Agenda. Rotary Club Art of Peace item IV b. moved to December when Patti Poblete could attend and they have met with Neighborhood Councils as Stakeholders for the project. Motion to approve by E. Leighton, seconded by P. Mehas. Accepted by all.
3. Action Item #2: Accept and approve November 9 PAAC Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve by E. Leighton, seconded by P. Mehas. Accepted by all.
4. Public Comments. Letter of support to restore John Wehrle mural from Neighborhood Council president John Harmon.
5. Discussion Items/Action Items:
 - a. Love Your Block “YES, Nature to Neighborhoods” mural concept design approval. Stephanie Ny, Richard Salazar and members of the design team were present. General comments: Like the design, cheerful and upbeat, however it looks like a jail. Mehas asked if the gated doors could be painted as part of the design. Design team agreed to adjust the design to paint the metal doors – entrance to bathrooms. Recommendation by both Mehas and Leighton to further develop the design to include the doors. Motion to accept and approve design made by E. Leighton, seconded by T. Herriman.

b. Ookwe Park Signage – Graphic Design for three locations including; Directional, Didactic and Botanical Markers. Proposals submitted by Cherlyn Oto and Randolph Belle. All voted to accept the Cherlyn Oto proposal and to proceed with next steps.

c. Nevin Plaza Housing DRAFT Public Art Master Plan. Present included developer Brian Swatz, SLATE Consulting Team; Danielle Fox, Karen Eichler and Nia Taylor

Presentation with summary of public art selection process included; elevation plan, BIPOC outreach strategy, preliminary interior and exterior art opportunities, collaborations with community partners i.e. NIAD and RAC, preliminary schedule, expectations, etc. Brian shared that they plan to work closely with DRB on the building design They plan to create a database for artists to submit resumes and work samples from which the SLATE Team can draw upon for good matches.

Nevin Plaza Public Art PAAC comments:

Deb – Applaud wish to engage community in a thoughtful way making it easy for artists to participate.

Emily – Great to start early. Suggest that they not provide examples so artists can use their own imagination vs trying to match the examples.

Phil – PAAC Is responsible for the Art and pointed out that PACC and DRB do not always agree.

Deb moved to approve Nevin Plaza DRAFT Public Art Master Plan process, E. Leighton seconded, accepted by all.

6. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

a. Love Your Block Beautification Grants – Mural Selection process – Stephanie Ny – in the future PAAC will participate on the Selection Panel for Love Your Block Grant projects, including murals. This will help avoid confusion for Love Your Block mural approval process. Stephanie agreed that including PAAC on selection panel is a good idea. The next cycle will be open in January 2022, 2-week evaluation process that will include electronic scoring applications in February/March taking about 10 minutes per application for about 20 applications. D. Dyer volunteered to be a panelist.

E. Leighton expressed concern that we need more PAAC members to support projects.

b. John Werhle mural restoration presentation, public comments in support included several in support budgeting the restoring two tagged murals installed in 1989 and in 1993. Proposal submitted for \$7,900 with details of the types of paint, how much time it would take and exactly what needs to be repainted. Werhle has selected a team of four experienced muralist to assist him in the restoration process. Part of the process includes a collaborative effort with Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program to pre-clean or power-wash the site walls, prior to painting. Recommendation: Return next month with a more complete budget.

PAAC Werhle Mural Restoration Suggestions:

1. Include a mentorship component with RYSE to train youth to assist with the painting process, which will create a team of young people who will have the skills to assist the Graffiti Abatement Program to possibly clean other tagged murals.
2. Create an Ad-Hoc PAAC Committee to address tagged mural in to future, as needed.
3. Phil – need to take care of our murals, immediate fix, long term approach, drawn on a pot of money, add more money for mural restoration, strongly support the proposal.

Resident Comments: In support of mural restoration:

1. M. Rappaport – resident 33 years, husband died 2003, feels that John’s murals are destinations that attract visitors to Richmond. Community vs fine art, try to find taggers – public safety issue.
2. M. Seville – love John’s proposal, this restoration will help ensure quality of the mural is maintained, idea to train teams of three is a good idea, create a mural maintenance fund as a long-term solution

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Possible Projects for FY 2022 – 24
 - a. COVID Relief Mini Grant (name change)
 - b. E. Leighton suggested creating a delayed maintenance fund an more strategic approach when selecting art that needs little or no maintenance, too many murals
 - c. Create a temporary Sculpture garden
 - d. Evaluate current art inventory before selecting new art
 - e. Archie held Sculpture Waxing \$10,000 bi-annually
 - f. Metro Walk Fence replacement – possible HOA item

8. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**
 - a. Osprey Bird Commission – Tom Herriman site visit w/artist in November and in December
 - b. WCCFJC Semi-Finalist update RFP, Selection Panel in December or January
 - c. COVID Relief Mini Grant Summary - 6 awards not to exceed \$50,000
 - d. PAAC Project and Financial Summary
 - e. Rotary should plan to attend and present with Pati. P. at the December meeting
 - f. Phil wants to join DRB Sub-Committee when public art is on the agenda – request to Lina

9. Meeting Adjourned at 9:07 p.m. until December 9, 2021