



Art in Public Places Panel

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **MONDAY, March 1, 2010**

The Art in Public Places Panel convened in a regular meeting on *Monday, March 1, 2010* at City Hall, Room 2016, 301 W. Second Street in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Ryan Thompson called the Panel Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Panel Members in Attendance: Irene Roderick (Arts Commission Liaison), Jaime Castillo, Jennifer Chenoweth, Murray Legge, Lynn Osgood, Ryan Thompson (Vice-Chair).

Panel Members Absent: Risa Puleo (Chair)

Staff in Attendance: Megan Crigger, Jean Graham (partial attendance), Meghan Turner (partial attendance), Alyson McGee.

1. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The minutes for the regular meeting of 2/1/10 were approved with no changes on the motion of Panel Member Roderick. Panel Member Legge seconded the motion. Motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

None

4. ARTS COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT

- a. Panel Member Roderick reported that at their last meeting the Arts Commission added Raul Garza to the Selection Panel for the M.A.C.C. Public Art Project and increasing the panel number to five members, approved the Seaholm Substation Wall Public Art Project Selection Panel with the AIPP Panel members participation, and approved the final design for the Dickinson House Public Art project.

Later in the meeting Panel Member Roderick reported that at their last meeting the Arts Commission voted not to fund the temporary Fast Forward exhibit and performance by artist Ryan Humphrey presented by ArtHouse.

5. OLD BUSINESS-

- a. **Approve Artist Selection Process for the Animal Shelter Art in Public Places Project**
Megan Crigger explained that staff was not ready to re-present the selection process for the Animal Shelter AIPP project and asked for a motion to delay discussion of this item to the next AIPP Panel meeting. She clarified that Health and Human Services staff are comfortable with the delay and have stated it will not impact their project schedule.

Panel Member Osgood motioned to delay discussion of the selection process. Panel Member Chenoweth seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation and Action on Intervention with Temporary Public Art on Moments for Art City Austin.

Alison Spector with Art Alliance Austin and Magda Sayeg, Artist presented a proposal for an art installation to be installed during the Art City Austin Festival. They stated that they are not asking for approval as an AIPP project or to donate the piece, but rather asking for AIPP Panel show of support for the project to facilitate the permitting process.

Magda Sayeg presented her past work, which consists of wrapping objects with material consisting of recycled knit and crocheted “afghans”. Her installations have been carried out internationally and include community involvement. For the Art City Austin project she proposes to wrap the pieces making up the Moments public art work located at the Lamar underpass. Carl Trominski, the artist who created Moments, has provided a letter supporting the use of his work for this temporary installation.

The Panel and artist discussed the durability of the piece and the artist clarified that they will be installed using Velcro, that the material will withstand the elements and that other pieces have lasted up to a year. She further clarified that she would like this installation to be displayed for up to one month.

Panel members, artist and Alison Spector further discussed the intended budget. Panel Member Legge suggested budgeting for removal of Velcro adhesive or any other restoration needed after de-installation.

Panel discussed the importance of messaging for the project specifying that any text or description of the work include clarification that the piece is a collaboration between Magda Sayeg and Carl Trominski.

Panel Member Legge motioned to support the project leaving it up to the artist and Art Alliance Austin to determine exact time frame for the installation. Panel Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0-0.

b & c. Approve Final Design and Additional Funding for Dittmar Recreation Center Art in Public Places Project

Jean Graham introduced the project representatives, David Taylor, Public Works Project Manager, and Jim Kotick, Dittmar Recreation Center Program Supervisor. Jean Graham provided project background and introduced the artist, Barna Kantor.

Barna Kantor presented images of his final design concept titled “Solar Tree”, which is a metal tree trunk with a solar collection “canopy”. On the shortest day of the year the shade of the “canopy” will be shaped in an ellipse mimicking the plaza design. At night the structure will light the plaza. The solar collection panels will feed power back to the building and when needed, power will be provided to the tree from the building. The piece will include three large boulders to provide seating and to house a safe that will have compartments to provide access to the electrical connections, and a geo-caching

compartment. Barna Kantor clarified that he will contract with Texas Solar to oversee fabrication of the entire piece with Texas Solar subcontracting for fabrication of the metal structure. Panel Member Roderick asked how the stone covering the safe will be carved and if the remaining stone will be thick enough to withstand cracking. Barna stated that a local stone carver would carve out a cavity for the safe, that a membrane will be installed to prevent moisture intrusion and that the stone will be thick enough to withstand cracking.

Jean Graham clarified that the team is still awaiting final approval from Parks & Recreation Department to include the geo-caching element and for a web site component. The Solar panels will feed data regarding the amount of power being generated to a web site (at a cost of \$18/year for 10 years) that can be accessed by the public for educational purposes. The upper compartment of the safe will be accessible by the public via a combination they can obtain by solving a puzzle on the web site. The web site will have a link from the AIPP web page for this piece.

Panel members discussed the concept of geo-caching and the ability of taking the education web site link off the AIPP web page if necessary.

Jean Graham clarified that staff is requesting approval from the AIPP Panel contingent of Parks & Recreation Department approval of the geo-caching and web site components.

Jim Kotick stated it was important that the project is moving forward and that the piece will draw attention to the site.

Panel Member Roderick motioned to recommend approval of the design. Panel Member Chenoweth seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4-0-1. Panel Member Osgood abstained.

d. Approve Artist Selection Panel for Seaholm Wall Art in Public Places Project.

Alyson McGee explained that at the previous AIPP Panel meeting the AIPP Panel approved a selection process where a Selection Panel would review artist team submissions and recommend 3 finalists who would be interviewed by the AIPP Panel. Based on conversations staff have been having with Contract & Land Management and other project team members, staff is recommending that the Selection Panel be made up of the AIPP Panel Members, 2 staff people from Economic Growth and Redevelopment Office, and 2 staff people from Austin Energy. The recommended Selection Panel would conduct the initial submissions review and the finalist interviews. This would streamline the process for evaluating submissions, scoring those submissions and making the final recommendation to the Arts Commission of one artist-led team and one alternate.

Panel Member Osgood motioned to approve the Selection Panel as presented by staff. Panel Member Castillo seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 6-0-0.

e. Discussion on Temporary Public Art Program (TEMPO) Policy Outline

Meghan Turner presented the draft policy for the Temporary Public Art Program (TEMPO). The goal of the policy is to make the process more open and fluid by having a rolling deadline, convening Selection Panels as needed, and allowing for larger maximum budgets for some projects.

Panel Members discussed the budgets for the previous temporary art project and

Panel Members expressed concern that an open calendar with out deadlines would lack curation, and branding and would make the program seem more tentative. The Panel Members expressed that they like having the locations be more open but with more structure regarding deadlines and the selection process. Members suggested have an annual deadline but allow for installation throughout the year. This will allow for more focused marketing. Panel Members recommended encouraging “performance art”, that the selection panel consist of young artists, and that calls require conceptual proposals with budgets. Staff will continue to work on the policy language and present a new draft at next month’s meeting.

7. VISIBILITY/BRANDING SUBCOMMITTEE

Tabled to next meeting.

8. PUBLIC ART COLLECTION SUBCOMMITTEE

Tabled to next meeting.

9. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Megan Crigger reported that 3 AIPP Panel Members are up for re-appointment and that staff will present those members resumes to the Arts Commission at their next meeting.
- b. Megan Crigger reported that the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA) has required that the AIPP program manage contracts to install artist-designed/fabricated bike racks on Congress Avenue. DAA will provide AIPP with \$30,000 to fund the installations and \$4,500 for the Public Art Fund.
- c. Megan Crigger reported that the Dickenson House AIPP project was reviewed by the City Arborist who didn’t approve the amount of fill being proposed under the stone pavers. The artist are working with the City to resolve the issue.
- d. Megan Crigger reported that the East 7th Street AIPP project groundbreaking will be taking place Friday, March 5 at 11:00.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m. without objection.