



## **Art in Public Places Panel**

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, May 7, 2012**

The Art in Public Places Panel convened in a regular meeting on *Monday, May 7, 2012* at City Hall, Room 2016, 301 W. Second Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Ryan Thompson called the Panel Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Panel Members in Attendance:** Ryan Thompson (Chair), Jaime Castillo (Vice Chair), Scott Daigle (Arts Commission Liaison), Jennifer Chenoweth, Murray Legge and Hollis Hammonds.

**Panel Members Absent:** None.

**Staff in Attendance:** Meghan Turner, AIPP; Carrie Brown, AIPP; Susan Lambe, AIPP; Rey Hernandez, PARD; Kevin Gomillion, PARD; Alison Von Stein, PWD; Jessica Salinas, PWD.

### **1. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. The minutes for the regular meeting of 4/2/12 were approved on the motion of Legge. Panel Member Castillo seconded the motion. Motion passed (5-0-0).

### **3. CHAIR'S REPORT**

None.

### **4. ARTS COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT**

None.

### **5. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Approval of Final Design for the Bartholomew Pool AIPP Project**  
**-- Casey Cooper, artist**

Susan Lambe presented a brief overview of the project site and building design. Casey Cooper then presented his final design concept which consists of a lockable entrance gate made of inflated steel, a process of metal fabrication developed by Mr. Cooper. The gate will be approximately 12'W x 8'H x 2'D and will be powder coated to match the adjacent window frames (blue). The gate will lock in both the open and closed positions and will have steel tabs on the back end that will function as a bumper system.

Panel Member Chenoweth suggested keeping the bumpers out of view as to not distract from the sculptural quality of the gate. Mr. Cooper agreed with this recommendation. Panel Member Daigle asked about the lifespan of the bumpers. Mr. Cooper stated that they will last 15 – 20 yrs. Panel Member Legge asked if the frame would also be made of the inflated steel. Mr. Cooper stated that the frame would not be inflated, rather 4" formed steel for structural purposes. Mr. Cooper also noted that there will be 3 ½" spacing in between the vertical bars. Rey Hernandez asked about the conservator's opinion about using two different metals (mild and stainless). Ms. Lambe stated that the conservator hasn't provided an opinion on that issue yet. Mr. Cooper explained that in his research he found no reason to believe that the different metals would react as long as the right alloy was used.

Panel Member Daigle made a motion to approve the selection process. Panel Member Chenoweth seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

**b. Mid-Design presentation for the Morris Williams Golf Course AIPP Project**  
**-- Ansen Seale, artist**

Carrie Brown presented an update on the design process which so far has included a site visit and meetings with PARD, the project architect and the Golf Advisory Board. Ansen Seale then presented two preliminary design concepts: the first consisting of a large scale portrait of Morris Williams Jr. made of 6,000 golf balls (exterior) and the second consisting of a reproduction of the golf swing image by Harold Edgerton made of machine-drilled acrylic (interior).

Panel Member Legge asked if the artwork (both options) would be visible at night. Mr. Seale stated that lighting hadn't been discussed at this point. Panel Member Daigle asked what precautions were being taken for the exterior design. Mr. Seale stated that the entire artwork would be coated with an anti-graffiti, UV-protectant sealer for easy maintenance. Panel Member Chenoweth asked where the image of Morris Williams Jr. came from. Mr. Seale explained that the image is a composite of several images he found while researching Morris Williams Jr. Panel Member Chenoweth expressed she liked a composite image that would be unique to Austin. Panel Chair Thompson asked if the artwork had to be black and white. Mr. Seale stated that adding color could cut down the resolution of the image making it hard to read but that he will consider the use of color. In response, Kevin Gomillion stated that the building's interior colors were beige and the exterior was light grey siding. He also stated that the Gold Advisory Board would like the first concept which better captures the historical nature of the course however he is concerned about vandalism. Lastly he stated that the proposed location of the exterior artwork may be problematic in that it covers up a window. Panel Member Hammonds asked how far the exterior artwork was off the ground. Mr. Ansen stated it was over eight feet off the ground.

Vice Chair Castillo noted that the Panel as a whole seemed most interested in the proposal for exterior artwork but, instead of looking for an adhesive to install the golf balls, create a panel with perforations that will hold the golf balls onto a substrate, thus removing the concern of replacing balls due to vandalism or adhesive failure.

No action was taken.

**c. Mid-Design presentation for the Colorado Streetscape AIPP Project**  
**-- Dharmesh Patel and Autumn Ewalt, artists**

Carrie Brown presented an update on the design process which so far has included site visits and meetings with PWD and Great Streets Program manager. Dharmesh Patel and Autumn Ewalt then presented their preliminary design concept which consists of eight mirror-finish stainless steel sculptures scattered along Colorado St (between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Street). The sculptures would reflect (literally and figuratively) their immediate surroundings showcasing the uniqueness of Colorado St.

Panel Member Chenoweth stated that she was concerned about the budget. Mr. Patel explained that they are currently seeking bids and that a structural evaluation might determine how many sculptures they can produce. Panel Member Legge asked if the artists would be open to fewer sculptures, perhaps one per block, if the costs were prohibitive. Mr. Patel said yes. Panel Member Chenoweth suggested fewer, larger sculptures and suggested that the artists create a full scale mock up to test reflections during the day and night. Panel Member Legge stated he was concerned about the fabrication costs of the mirror-finish stainless steel. Mr. Patel noted that you can buy pre-polished steel which would cut down on labor costs to achieve the mirror-finish. Vice Chair Castillo asked if the artwork would extend past 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Brown explained that when the next phase of reconstruction on Colorado Street begins, the artists would be invited to continue their design concept. Chair Thompson asked how the artists plan to deal with normal wear and tear, like smudges and scratches. Mr. Patel stated that they like the idea of wear, as long as the integrity of the artwork wasn't compromised. Jessica Salinas asked if the sculptures would be as reflective after the trees mature. Mr. Patel stated that further research was necessary.

Panel Members Murray and Chenoweth and Vice Chair Castillo recommended that the artist consider the flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic as they determine exact locations for the sculptures. Vice Chair Castillo suggested considering the site lines from one end to the other and the possibility that all of the sculptures could be visible from one end. All Panel Members were in favor of fewer, taller and/or more massive sculptures.

No action was taken.

#### **7. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. Carrie Brown reported on the artist information meeting/webinar for the CONRAC at ABIA AIPP Project held on May 3 at City Hall.
- b. Susan Lambe provided an update on the Seaholm Wall AIPP Project. The artists are currently at 60% design development.
- c. Carrie Brown reported on the Austin Nature & Science Center dedication event on April 20. Panel Member Scott Daigle spoke on behalf of AIPP and participated in the ribbon cutting.
- d. Carrie Brown reported that Flow Nonfiction began filming the YMCA community garden project at the kick off meeting on April 23.
- e. Susan Lambe asked the Panel Members to help her spread the word about the stone collection for the Asian American Resource Center AIPP Project.
- f. Meghan Turner announced that interviews for the new AIPP Panel will be held on May 8.
- g. Meghan Turner stated that July would be a good month for the AIPP Panel retreat.

#### **8. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m. without objection.