

ERIN MENDENHALL
MAYOR



LORENA RIFFO-JENSON
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake Art Design Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024

5:00 – 7:00 pm

PRESENT:

Meggie Troili
Angela Dean

Colour Maisch
Michael Mejia

Jen Lopez

STAFF MEMBERS

Laurel Cannon Alder, Assistant Director, Arts Council
Renato Olmedo-González, Public Art Program Manager, Arts Council
Amy Childress, Public Art Program Coordinator, Arts Council

EXCUSED:

Tiffini Porter

GUESTS:

Nancy Monteith, Senior Landscape Architect, SLC Public Lands
Kat Andra, Public Land Planner, SLC Public Lands
Jamie Fogle, Design Workshop, Contracted Landscape Architecture Consultant for Pioneer Park
Jennifer Ortiz, Society Director, Utah Historical Society

Mission: To amplify art in Salt Lake City to enrich, enhance, and build a dynamic city where art and artists thrive.

I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Ms. Colour Maisch welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated the Art Design Board's mission. Mr. Renato Olmedo-González had everyone in attendance introduce themselves.

II. Approval of September 4th, 2024 Minutes

Ms. Dean put forward a motion to approve the September 4th, 2024 meeting minutes, Ms. Troili seconded the motion; all Board members present voted in favor.

III. Pioneer Park public art opportunity

Mr. Olmedo-González provided an overview of the 'Pioneer Park' public art project. Initially, the request for qualifications was open to artists from the 2023-2025 Pre-qualified Artist Pool. However, the board and stakeholders felt that site specificity and the park's history were critical to the project, leading them to relaunch the call for artists nationally in August 2024. Mr. Olmedo-González also reviewed the expanded project scope for the relaunched call. While the park itself bears the name "Pioneer," the selected artist/team will be encouraged to unearth and utilize the diverse narratives that exist beyond the singular history to create a site-specific artwork for the site. The artwork should illuminate these untold stories and enrich the public's contemporary understanding of the park. Mr. Olmedo-González reviewed the preferred locations for the artwork. Four areas within the northern portion of Pioneer Park have been identified as suitable for public art: near the playground, around

the north or northeast entrance of the park, or within the footprint of the future misting fountain. Everyone in attendance took turns reading the artwork goals. Some of the goals for the project include enhancing placemaking and helping define the character of downtown Salt Lake City's primary green space. The artwork aims to be inclusive, accessible, and welcoming to individuals of all abilities, incomes, ages, genders, and cultural backgrounds. It also recognizes Pioneer Park's significance as a daily gathering place that fosters connections among individuals from both the greater Salt Lake metropolitan area and the downtown urban core. Mr. Olmedo-González reviewed the budget for the project. The original commission was increased from \$115,000 to \$140,000 using unused funds from previous years. The \$140,000 commission is separate from the proposal fee or honorarium for finalists. The commission covers all costs, including artist fees, supplies, and materials needed to create the artwork. The goal of the meeting is for the Art Design Board to select three finalists to create site-specific proposals for consideration. Finalists must attend two upcoming meetings. The first meeting on October 14, 2024, will orient finalists to the project and allow them to meet with Arts Council and Public Lands staff, the contracted landscape architecture consultant, and other stakeholders. They will receive site-specific information and supplemental documents to aid in proposal development, with approximately three months to create their proposals. The second meeting on January 8, 2025, will involve finalists presenting their proposals to the Salt Lake Art Design Board and project stakeholders. Each finalist will receive a \$2,250 stipend for design development, research, meetings, presentations, and community engagement, which covers travel expenses, hotel, shipping, and other related costs, and is separate from the \$140,000 commission. Mr. Olmedo-González reviewed the project schedule. Once the finalist is selected and the commission recommendation receives approval from the Mayor, contracting will take place in Winter 2025. Park design, preparation of construction documents, and artwork integration are scheduled to occur from Winter 2024 to Spring 2025. Following this phase, park construction, along with artwork fabrication and installation, will take place from Summer/Fall 2025 through Spring/Summer 2026. The project will culminate in installation completion and a ribbon-cutting ceremony planned for Summer 2026.

Mr. Olmedo-González reviewed the artist shortlist, which includes 26 artists and artist teams ranked by the Art Design Board. Each artist or team received a score between 1 and 3, with 3 being the highest. The aggregate scores from both the Art Design Board and the stakeholders are displayed next to each name on the shortlist. Stakeholders for this project include Nancy Monteith and Kat Andra from SLC Public Lands, Jaime Fogle from Design Workshop, and Jennifer Ortiz from the Utah Historical Society. The scores are categorized into three sections: green, yellow, and red. Artists in the green section have the highest scores, followed by those in yellow. The artists listed in the red section are candidates for further discussion by the board and stakeholders. Additionally, Art Design Board members and stakeholders can request discussions about artists not included in the shortlist. Ms. Tiffini Porter, a board member unable to attend the meeting, asked Mr. Olmedo-González to discuss Fallen Fruit (David Burns & Austin Young). Mr. Olmedo-González also asked the Board to consider Tamara Kostianovsky. Both Kostianovsky and Fallen Fruit were listed in the red section.

The Green list includes Mark Reigelman, James Shen & Jennifer Tran, Xavier Cortada, Forma Studio (Sixto Cordero & Karen Kitayama), Volkan Alkanoglu, Don Redman, and Civic Space (Wess Heiss & Marek Walczak, and Ben Butler). The Yellow list features Matthew Geller, Jiyoun Lee-Lodge & Scout Invie, Sujin Lim, Bobby Zokaites, Anaisa Franco & Ignition Arts, Ilan Averbuch, Adam Frelin, Joshua Wiener, WOWHAUS (Ene Osteraas-Constable & Scott Constable), and Michael Whiting. The Red list includes Andrew Kovacs, Sean Orlando, Anette Coleman, Gail Christofferson, Jay Yan, David Griggs, Fallen Fruit (David Burns & Austin Young), and Tamara Kostianovsky. The Board decided not to promote the first four artists on the Red list, as well as David Griggs. However, they moved Jay Yan,

Fallen Fruit, and Tamara Kostianovsky to the Green list for further discussion. From the Yellow list, the board chose to elevate Jiyoun Lee-Lodge & Scout Invie and Sujin Lim to the Green list for discussion.

The Board discussed the green artists, including those moved up from the yellow and red lists. They were particularly impressed by Jiyoun Lee-Lodge and Scout Invie's response to the relaunched call, as they were finalists in the original selection. Ms. Maisch suggested that the finalists should include a local artist, a contemporary artist, and a traditional artist. The board decided to move Forma Studio to the green list for further consideration. While the stakeholders appreciated Xavier Cortada's work, there were concerns about his material choices and how they would perform in Pioneer Park, leading to his removal from the green list. The Board reviewed the shortlist with a focus on the durability of the materials used in the applicants' image examples. Ms. Maisch noted that Don Redman was one of only two applicants who explicitly addressed the park's history in his application materials. Ms. Meggie proposed a motion to select the top six artists: Don Redman, James Shen & Jennifer Tran, Mark Reigelman, Jiyoun Lee-Lodge & Scout Invie, Sujin Lim, and Civic Space. The Board agreed. Mr. Jaime Fogle emphasized the importance of choosing an artist who can create a memorable piece, especially with the park's upcoming enhancements. He also pointed out that the selected artist should have experience collaborating with landscape architects due to the project's accelerated design timeline. The Board and stakeholders discussed the significance of selecting a local artist or artist team as a finalist for the Pioneer Park public art project. Ms. Maisch then put forth a motion to select Don Redman, James Shen & Jennifer Tran, and Jiyoun Lee-Lodge & Scout Invie as the three finalists. Mr. Mejia seconded the motion, and all Board members voted in favor.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

V. Other Business / Adjourn

Ms. Felicia Baca, Executive Director of the Salt Lake City Arts Council, is currently in Japan with the Mayor and her team. The Arts Council is rapidly advancing the signature commission for the "Wake the Great Salt Lake" project. There is a possibility that the board will provide feedback on proposals during the Art Design Board meeting in December.

The Art Design Board currently has two vacancies for Districts 1 and 6. Ms. Dean's final meeting as a board member will take place in November, during which the Art Design Board meeting will last for three hours and will include finalist proposals for the Glendale Park public art project. Additionally, Salt Lake Arts Council Project Support Grants are now open, and murals are eligible for funding.

Ms. Maisch made a motion to close the meeting; all Board members present voted in favor.