



DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake City Art Design Board Meeting
June 27, 2019
3:30-5:45 pm
Finch Lane Gallery

PRESENT: Larissa Trout Libby Haslam
Nancy Rivera Aurelio Velazquez
Justin Johnson Leslie Anderson

Staff Members

Kat Nix, Public Art Program Manager
Felicia Baca, Arts Division Director
Sarah Hobin, Visual Arts and Outreach Manager

EXCUSED: Jann Haworth

GUESTS: Megan DePaulis, City Attorney, Salt Lake City Corporation
Kristian Anderson, Salt Lake City Mayor's Office
Nancy Volmer, Director of Communications and Marketing, SLCD
Tad Kaczor, Airport Redevelopment Program, Deputy Director
Gordon Huether, Airport public art consultant and artist
Miguel Arzabe, New SLC Art Wall Finalist
Trent Call, New SLC Art Wall Finalist
Soonju Kwon, Hannah Vaughn, Reihaneh Noori, New SLC Art Wall Artist-Led
Team Finalists

AGENDA

I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

- a. After a quorum was established at approximately 3:30pm Ms. Nancy Rivera motioned to approve the minutes from the Board's May 16, 2019 convening. Ms. Larissa Trout seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor.

II. Nominate New Board Member

- a. Review Process and Board Member Recommendation
 - i. Ms. Kat Nix provided an overview of where in the process the Board was in selecting a new member to fill the architect role on the Board as Ms. Libby Haslam will have served two full terms as a member of the Art Design Board at the August meeting. Ms. Nix reminded the Board that in the May meeting, the Board decided to interview two candidates to fill the architect role.



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b. Discussion

- i. Ms. Trout provided a recap of the interviews with the two architect candidates to serve as the newest member on the Board. Ms. Trout thought both would be incredible additions to the Board but thought that Mr. Jacoby's experience designing for all abilities could lend an interesting perspective to public art. Ms. Dean would also be an equally incredible candidate especially with her focus in sustainability however there is already representation for the district Ms. Dean would be representing. Ms. Haslam and Ms. Felicia Baca echoed Ms. Trout's sentiments on both strong candidates and the group further discussed their qualifications.

c. Voting

- i. Ms. Trout motioned to select Joe Jacoby to be the Board's recommendation to the Mayor to fill the architect role and Angela Dean to be the alternate. Ms. Rivera seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor.

III. The New SLC Art Wall Artist Proposal Presentations

a. Review Process and Artist Recommendation

- i. Ms. Nix provided a recap of the process thus far stating that there was 274 submissions that were reviewed and then narrowed down to three finalists who were invited to develop proposals for the New SLC Art Wall at the Airport. The three finalists, Miguel Arzabe, Trent Call, and the artist-led team consisting of Soonju Kwon, Reihaneh Noori, and Hannah Vaughn, attended a site visit at the Airport in May, had the opportunity to meet with the Airport stakeholders and construction team, ask questions, and observe how visitors would interact with the proposed location. Ms. Nix then provided an overview of how the proposals and selection process would take place at the meeting. She stated the requirements of what would be included in the finalists' proposals, the time allotment for each proposal presentation, and then asked that the group wait to discuss the proposals until all finalists had presented. Ms. Nix reminded the group that everyone could take part in the discussion on the proposals and how they responded to the artwork goals but only the Art Design Board would make a vote for the selected artist to be recommended to the Mayor.

b. Mr. Miguel Arzabe introduced his concept via keynote presentation and allowed for questions.

- i. Ms. Haslam asked why he chose not to weave the piece but to enlarge the image and print it? Mr. Arzabe responded that the call for artists asked for something that is calming and the smaller scale was more energetic where it would be more meaningful to interact with the piece on a larger scale.
- ii. Questions from Board members were asked regarding the thickness, fabrication methods, and decision on separating the layers. Mr. Arzabe stated that each glass layer would be a quarter inch thick, and that they would be looking for a translation of the weaving to accomplish depth and a similar effect as the weaving.
- iii. Mr. Gordon Huether asked if Mr. Arzabe had considered the impact of the glare with the lighting of the piece.



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Arzabe responded that he would work closely with the lighting designer and he felt confident that the team he assembled could collaborate and find a solution.

- c. Mr. Trent Call introduced his concept via keynote presentation and allowed for questions.
 - i. Ms. Haslam asked about the thickness of this piece in which Mr. Call responded that it was a couple inches thick.
 - ii. Questions were asked from Board members regarding the fabrication of the work especially for the map, choice of color and words represented, and budget. Mr. Call responded that the highest point on the map would be flush with the aluminum pieces and that the airplanes would then be bolted into the aluminum making in the highest point. Mr. Call stated that the color palette and words were selected to add a bit of fun and whimsy to the stressful area. Mr. Trent Call stated that was what the budget added up to be.
- d. Ms. Soonju Kwon, Ms. Reihaneh Noori, and Ms. Hannah Vaughn introduced their keynote presentation and allowed for questions.
 - i. Ms. Trout asked about the nature of the copper in which the artist-led team responded that they hope to cast the copper so it won't have sharp edges and the copper will not be more proud than the proudest point, it will be pre-patinated so the color will remain the same, and that they have been working with Metal Arts but would like to explore sourcing from Kennecott Copper Mine.
 - ii. Questions were asked from the Board regarding the materials, small artist fee, and the durability of the piece. The artists went into detail regarding the intentionality of the material choice all being inspired from elements found in Utah. The artist-led team described the plaster casting process, and that if touched it could be easily maintained and wiped down.
 - iii. Ms. Nancy Rivera asked the team the reason behind their decision for the pallet and minimal color in which the artist-led team responded that they wanted the moments to be striking and they had experimented with color in their iteration process and asked if they needed it and they decided no, so they took it away. If they had used color it would have been a different approach to the piece and they wanted to keep the essence of the piece with the horizon and highlight the moments of pause in where the copper brings warmth.
 - iv. Ms. Haslam asked the weight of the piece in which the Ms. Vaughn stated 3,000 pounds and that they had been working with a structural engineer on the ability of studs to take the weight.
- e. Discussion
 - i. Ms. Nix again gave an overview of the process and read all the artwork goals listed in the RFQ. The Board decided to discuss the proposals in chronological order. Ms. Nancy Volmer stated that she appreciated Mr. Miguel Arzabe's thoughtfulness in his approach with the posters but did not think this piece provided a calming effect and perhaps was not the best fit for the location. Ms. Trout stated with consensus from others that she was disappointed that this piece did not have the same quality or affect as the woven piece. It was discussed that it was difficult to imagine the installed piece and the effect with the layered glass and that the glare in the room behind the TSA



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area would be a challenge. The group then discussed Mr. Trent Call's proposal. Comments included that the sense of humor in the artwork was appreciated as it is not seen as often in public art but that the work did not meet other artwork goals and was not seen as calming and that Mr. Call's proposal did not seem quite complete with the process, materials, and budget. The group then discussed the Kwon, Noori, Vaughn team and how it met the artwork goals. Ms. Volmer thought it responded well to the rest of the Airport environment. Ms. Haslam commented how she appreciated that there was an essence of Utah in the work with the material choice. She also noted that it was calming, and you would be able to get more from the work every time it is interacted with. There was more discussion on the materials, color, and the thoughtfulness that the team put in regarding how people moving from the TSA lines will rarely be able to interact with the piece head on but that no matter how you approached the work you would be able to have an experience with it. There was some discussion whether the Board should put forth an alternate but it was decided that they would only recommend one artist.

- f. Voting
 - i. Ms. Haslam motioned to recommend the Kwon, Noori, Vaughn artist-led team to the Mayor to be the commissioned artists for the New SLC Art Wall public art opportunity with their proposal as is. Ms. Trout seconded the motion. There was a majority vote.
- IV. **Mayor's Office Update**
 - a. None
- V. **Public Comment**
 - a. None
- VI. **Other Business/Adjourn**
 - a. Ms. Trout motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Haslam seconded the vote. All Board members voted in favor.



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