



DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake City Art Design Board Meeting
September 26, 2019
2:45 4:45 pm
Finch Lane Gallery

PRESENT: Larissa Trout Jann Haworth
Aurelio Velazquez Nancy Rivera

Staff Members

Felicia Baca, Arts division Director
Kat Nix, Public Art Program Manager
Abby Draper, Public Art program Assistant

EXCUSED: Justin Johnson

GUESTS: Nancy Monteith, Salt Lake City Parks Department
Chuck Landvatter, Jared Steffensen, and Dayton Crites Glendale Park Project artist team

AGENDA

I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

- a. After a quorum was established at approximately 2:45, Ms. Larissa Trout commented that the NOTE District Artwork Walking Tour that the Public Art Program had led the previous week was valuable, well attended, and she hopes to see more events like that in the future. She then stated that Board member Ms. Leslie Anderson, who had been filling the role of artist professional on the Art Design Board, had relocated, and recruitment to fill that vacancy would begin in October.
- b. Ms. Jann Haworth motioned to approve the minutes from the Board's August 1, 2019 convening. Ms. Trout seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor.

II. Glendale Park Artist Proposal Presentation

- a. Ms. Kat Nix provided an overview of the Glendale Park public art project reminding the group that this was a national call with a commission of \$180,500. She then provided an overview of the process stating that the artist-led team consisting of Mr. Chuck Landvatter, Mr. Jared Steffensen and Mr. Dayton Crites were selected from the 146 submissions reviewed at the Board's May convening and the artist-led team had received Mayoral approval. Ms. Nix stated that the artist-led team had fulfilled all obligations outlined in their artist design agreement and had met with Salt Lake City Parks Department, the Parks Department's landscape consultant IBI, and community members, in at least three required City-facilitated meetings. Ms. Nix reminded the group that after the Artists' presentation and questions, the Board and Parks stakeholders would be able to discuss the proposal and then the Board would need to make a recommendation to either approve the proposal as is, approve with revisions, or reject the proposal. Ms. Nix read the project goals as listed in the Request for Qualifications for the Glendale Park Public Art Project and then she introduced the Glendale Park public art artist-led team.



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- b. The artist-led team provided a keynote presentation and allowed for questions.
 - i. Ms. Nix noted that this project was the first time the public art program had sought interactive art and stated that she felt comfortable with the presentation showing designs that were 60% completed. Ms. Haworth commented that 60% would allow for needed tweaks as a project is implemented. Ms. Trout asked how much the outcome was expected to differ from what had been presented, including the forms and colors. The artist team commented that the project could change site orientation, the color palette could vary within the general hues proposed, the central sculpture could have an altered layout and differently sloped faces, but that they hoped to make as few changes as possible. They also noted that the piece had been designed to effectively provide shade, eliminate hiding places, and facilitate safe play, but that additional modifications in service of those goals may be needed, which Ms. Nancy Monteith from the Salt Lake City Park Department, confirmed.
 - ii. Ms. Haworth asked if the team had predicted that a skateboard used on the project could damage the work. The artists noted that the edges of the concrete were chamfered, and that the pieces reflected big swaths of color. The team will provide color samples to the City for ongoing maintenance.
 - iii. Ms. Nancy Rivera asked about the process for sourcing portraits of community members. The artists' discussed their ongoing meetings with community leaders and the tennis court users, and laid out their intention to develop a process that was sensitive to remaining unpolitical and inclusive. They noted that photographs not selected for portraiture would still appear in a public exhibition. Board members and the artists floated several possible selection processes including random chance, only showing community leaders, and sourcing the images from social media. Ms. Nix noted that the potentially sensitive process and had been left deliberately undefined to this point so appropriate time and consideration could be applied to it.
 - iv. Ms. Trout asked the relevance of a small stand-alone component of their presentation, and the artists' confirmed that this component helped draw viewers into the park and direct their attention towards other parts of the work.
- c. Discussion
 - i. Mr. Aurelio Velazquez noted an appreciation for their sensitivity in gathering community portraits. Ms. Trout raised concerns that the design could change further if it was only 60 percent completed. The Board discussed the extent to which the Board, as partners in the process, could and should control design changes. The Board noted that a 20 percent contingency embedded into each line item of the budget was substantial and would likely leave room for permitting, installation challenges, and potentially the material that will surround the art.
- d. Voting
 - i. Ms. Haworth motioned to accept the proposal as is, and Ms. Trout seconded the motion, noting budgetary concerns but satisfaction with the artistic concept. Ms. Nix noted that she could provide updates to the Board as the project progresses to 100 percent design. All Board members voted in favor.

III. Seven Canyon Fountain Update

- a. Ms. Monteith informed the Board that through the Capital Improvement Program process last year, \$850,000 was allocated to bring the Seven Canyons Fountain in Liberty Park up to health department standards.



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noted that there was substantial work needed. Ms. Nix stated Liz Blackner, who had worked on the original fountain, is willing to serve in an advisory capacity as the Parks Department and Art Design Board work to protect the integrity of the artwork but also bring it up to health standards. Ms. Monteith identified potential changes including three feet of decking surrounding all water and a substantially more shallow pool. Most other predicted changes could focus on the sanitation processes for the fountain, though Ms. Monteith noted that there would likely be a set of priority adjustments and a set of adjustments only implemented if the budget allowed.

IV. **Regent street update**

- a. Ms. Nix reported to the Board that installation was underway and a public celebration was tentatively scheduled for October 22nd, 2019.

V. **9th South Roundabout project**

- a. Ms. Nix reminded the Board that last year they had voted to support and allocate CIP funds to the 900 South and 1100 East Roundabout public art project. Ms. Nix recommended, based on the scope of this opportunity, a commission of \$120,000. Ms. Trout asked about the impact that would have on the remaining CIP funds. Ms. Nix stated most of the funds had been allocated towards public art projects and some funds potentially re-scoped for maintenance but with all projects and the roundabout project included there will still be approximately \$50,000 remaining. Ms. Nix also suggested that the call be released as a Request for Qualifications, in line with national best practice standards, and that this would be an appropriate call to restrict to artists residing in Utah. The Board agreed to the commission amount and to those specifications. Ms. Nix further informed the Board that she would attend the upcoming East Liberty Park Community Council meeting to invite the community to participate in creating the artwork goals for the opportunity, and noted that she will report back to the Board to finalize the artwork goals. This call for artists is slated to open in mid-December 2019.

VI. **Mayor's office update**

- a. None

VII. **Public comment**

- a. Mr. Joe Jacoby commented on the Glendale Artist Proposal Presentation noting that the proposed shapes and colors invite the activities of a playground, and that even the low heights proposed could still harm a child. He suggested a pour-in-place fall material base to the work, and recommended that perhaps the Parks department, rather than the artists, could budget for that. He also noted that the small component of the design looked like a curb, and he hoped that they could redirect some of their contingency budget to increasing its presence as the project progressed. He noted that as the completion percentage increased, the contingency budget could decrease.

VIII. **Other business/Adjourn**

- a. Ms. Nix announced that the call for artists for the Block 70 Temporary Vinyl Wrap Mural project will open on September 27th, 2019.
- b. Ms. Nix updated the Board about the Airport tunnel call for artists with the tentative release of mid-November. The Tunnel will be used by the public for three to five years but will allow for a 1,000 ft mural opportunity. This project will be administered by the Public



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Art Program and funded by the Salt Lake City Division of Airports.

- c. Ms. Baca announced a proposal to increase the Percent for Art funds through the CIP in the current fiscal year. She informed the Board that the Salt Lake City Council will vote on the issue on October 8th. She also commented that CIP funds in reserve did not automatically expire, but the optics of an unused sum of money were not ideal.
- d. Ms. Trout motioned to adjourn, and Ms. Haworth seconded. All board members voted in favor.



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