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MAYOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RDA



BEN KOLENDAR
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake City Art Design Board Meeting
December 3, 2020
3:00 – 5:00 pm
Webex Online

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PENDING APPROVAL

PRESENT: Larissa Trout Joe Jacoby
Justin Johnson Aurelio Velazquez
Nancy Rivera

Staff Members

Felicia Baca, Arts Council Executive Director
Kat Nix, Public Art Program Manager
Abby Draper, Public Art Program Assistant

EXCUSED:

GUESTS: William Littig, Art in Transit Finalist
Nathan Srok Art in Transit Collaborator
Jiyoun Lee-Lodge, Art in Transit Finalist
Andrea Pullos, UTA
G.J. LaBonty, UTA
Cara Lindsley, RDA
Susan Lundmark, Transportation
Megan DePaulis, Salt Lake City Attorney's Office
Kelly Gillman, CRSA
Laura Smith, CRSA

I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

- a. After a quorum was established at approximately 3:00 pm, Mr. Justin Johnson read a statement concerning the need for virtual public meetings in light of the global pandemic. Mr. Johnson motioned to approve the minutes from the Board's November 5 convening, but all other Board members requested additional time to review the minutes, and the motion did not pass.

II. Art in Transit Finalist Revision Presentations



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This document and the recording constitutes the official minutes of the Art Design Board meeting held November 5, 2020.

- a. Ms. Kat Nix provided an overview of the Art in Transit artist selection process to date, noting that the Board would be reviewing revised proposals from artists Mr. William Littig and Ms. Jiyoun Lee-Lodge. She noted that the Board could select an artist to recommend to the Mayor and one to serve as the alternate, reject proposals, or accept a proposal with revisions.
- b. Mr. Littig and designer/fabricator Mr. Nate Srok presented their revised proposal for the 650 S. Main Street TRAX project. Mr. Littig had revised his proposal in light of feedback from the Board requesting a more cohesive design and more specific and story-driven wing design on the etched glass.
 - i. The Board discussed the revisions with the artists. Mr. G.J. LaBonty asked how light would be incorporated into the plan. Mr. Littig described that they had included a budget item for lights from the main platform and for the ADA-compliant highblock on the station, which would light each sculptural element from two sides. This was a more practical alternative to running lighting up through the central pole in each element. Ms. Andrea Pullos asked about the transparency of the windscreens. Mr. Littig explained that the team would lightly sandblast the existing tempered glass provided by UTA for their windscreens, and it would therefore be clear. Ms. Larissa Trout asked about the coloration of the pole. Mr. Littig replied that they had selected a blue color, and preferred some color, blue or otherwise, to the colorless galvanized steel. Mr. Littig noted that the wing designs to be etched into the glass would be redrawn to emphasize the design and reduce the naturalism. Mr. Littig thanked the Board for their consideration and asked about the extent to which the revisions addressed the Board's concerns. Mr. Trout affirmed that the revisions were thoughtful regarding the sculptural forms and partitions.
- c. Ms. Lee-Lodge presented her revised proposal for the 650 S. Main Street TRAX project. Ms. Lee-Lodge had revised her proposal in light of feedback from the Board requesting that her design better mitigate the risks presented by a glass-based design.
 - i. Ms. Pullos asked how the steel forms of the proposed sculpture would be installed. Ms. Lee-Lodge replied that the fabricator she had consulted, Metal Arts Foundry, had noted that footings would be needed to secure the artworks. Ms. Pullos asked which of the two options Ms. Lee-Lodge preferred, and she noted that she felt that the impact and engagement from multiple angles was strongest on her second option, *The Crossing*. Mr. Aurelio Velazquez asked what material the colorful orbs embedded in the sculpture would be. Ms. Lee-Lodge replied that it was a powder coated steel. Mr. Velazquez asked about the laser cutting into the design, in regards to public safety. Ms. Lee-Lodge noted that she was happy to make sure her design was compliant with any best practices put forth by the fabricator or public art program, which Ms. Nix noted that they had dealt with the same challenge recently in another project. Ms. Trout asked about the potential for design modifications, noting that significant design changes would need to be approved by the Board. Ms. Lee-Lodge stated that the specific pattern in the steel was not entirely finalized, and may be modified slightly, but the design of the sculptural form was complete. Ms. Susan Lundmark asked if the sculpture would reach all

the way across the platform and Ms. Lee-Lodge showed a 3d model of the design to show that it would not interfere with the pedestrian right-of way.

d. Discussion

- i. The Board discussed the proposals. Mr. Johnson set the tone for the discussion, emphasizing openness and an awareness of power dynamics. Mr. Johnson stated that he felt the art deco elements in the sculptural components of Mr. Littig's proposal had been substantially improved. Ms. Trout stated that the etched wings in this proposal had potential to be engaged with and that she felt the design of the wings was not finalized. Mr. LaBonty noted disconnect between the design of the etched wings and the sculpted wings. Ms. Trout noted that Ms. Lee-Lodge had taken the Board's feedback to heart in her revisions, but that she was concerned the revisions were not fully complete. Ms. Rivera stated that she felt the design would be refined at a level of revision that did not concern her. Ms. Nix stated that one aspect of revision may be the removal of a tree planter to add room for the sculpture, and Ms. Baca suggested that she also felt the design would not vastly change. Mr. Johnson asked if the removal of a tree planter was feasible and partners from UTA confirmed that would be fine. Ms. Trout asked if UTA would provide artwork lighting. Ms. Pullos noted that the whole platform was lit generally, but if the artists wanted spotlights or other illumination that would need to be in their budget. Mr. LaBonty noted that the UTA's safety managers would need to approve any lighting to ensure it would not disrupt the driver. Ms. Pullos noted that platform footings were another component of the design and that the enhanced footing would fall to the artist budget. Mr. Johnson noted that Ms. Lee-Lodge's proposed budget was 10 percent over. The Board discussed Ms. Lee-Lodge's two design options, and noted their preferences for the dynamic and entryway-like second proposal. Ms. Draper asked if the Board prioritized the way Mr. Littig's proposal engaged with the whole length of the platform as opposed to Ms. Lee-Lodge's single-location sculpture. Mr. Velazquez stated that using more locations on the platform was an appreciated touch and Mr. LaBonty noted that some riders don't go to the center of the platform based on their entry point to the station. Ms. Rivera stated that Ms. Lee-Lodge's proposal was bold and large enough to attract attention from both the TRAX users and the pedestrians, cars, and bikes passing by. Ms. Trout stated that artwork at street level, like that in Ms. Lee-Lodge's proposal, would have good visibility.
- e. Mr. Johnson motioned to recommend Ms. Lee-Lodge's proposal *The Crossing* to the Mayor for commission, with Mr. Littig as the alternate. Ms. Trout seconded and all Board member voted in favor. Mr. Kelly Gillman noted that he did not have any concerns with this proposal. Ms. Nix stated that the public art program would draft a letter of recommendation to the Mayor, and the project implementation process could begin after that.

III. Board Update

- a. Ms. Nix stated that Ms. Jann Haworth had resigned from the Board. She noted that the Board would fill two vacancies and recommended that the Board collect

more applications before filling those seats. She requested that Board members help identify voices and individuals who could be valued contributors to the Art Design Board. Ms. Nix noted that there may be room to include an academic or arts educator perspective. Ms. Trout stated that she felt it was important to have another practicing artist on the Board. Ms. Baca stated that she valued age diversity on the Board and Ms. Nix stated that sculptural expertise was also a valuable skill for a Board member. Mr. Johnson asked about the qualifications of a non-artist to inform the Board. Ms. Rivera stated that there were a lot of art enthusiasts in the City, which was reflected by the great support for arts and arts events. Ms. Nix noted that community members may contribute expertise in storytelling or memorialization or might be a small business owner. Ms. Trout asked about the timeline to fill the Board vacancies. Ms. Baca stated that the process would proceed over the coming months and not be deterred by the pandemic. Ms. Nix requested that each Board member think of someone who may be a good fit for the Board and pass the opportunity to them.

IV. Executive Director's Comment

- a. Ms. Baca noted that RDA was likely to pass a 1.5 percent for art ordinance and that the City's 1.5 percent for art ordinance revision was before City Council but had not had movement yet.

V. Public Comment

- a. None.

VI. Other Business/Adjourn

- a. Ms. Nix urged the Board to complete the required open and public meeting acts training and send in a copy of their certificate. Ms. Trout motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Johnson seconded. All Board members voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.