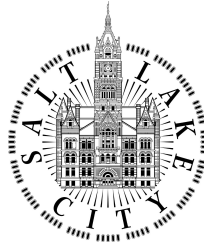


ERIN MENDENHALL
MAYOR



BEN KOLENDAR
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake City Art Design Board Meeting
June 2, 2022
5:00 – 7:00 pm
Finch Lane Gallery & Webex Online

PRESENT: Tiffini Porter Meggie Troili Alejandro Moya
Michael Mejia Colour Maisch

Guests

Valerie Price, former Public Art Program Manager for Salt Lake County Arts & Culture
Makaylah Respicio-Evans, Salt Lake City Public Lands Planner

Staff Members

Renato Olmedo-González, Public Art Program Manager
Felicia Baca, Arts Council Director
Brenda Alavez, Public Art Program Coordinator

EXCUSED:

I. Call to Order, Welcome

Ms. Meggie Troili called the meeting to order.

Mr. Renato Olmedo-Gonzalez introduced a new Staff Member, Ms. Brenda Alavez, Public Art Program Coordinator. All those present took turns introducing themselves.

II. Approval of May 5, 2022 Minutes

Ms. Troili motioned to approve the minutes as written, Ms. Colour Maisch seconded, and all Art Design Board members present voted in favor.

III. Poplar Grove – Public Art Project Discussion

Guest Ms. Makaylah Respicio-Evans introduced the Poplar Grove Sports Courts project. This will take place in Poplar Grove Park (800 S Emery St, Salt Lake City, UT 84104). The current tennis courts are in failing condition and will be replaced; Parks and Public Lands Department is currently conducting community outreach and stakeholder engagement to decide whether this project will encompass keeping the two existing tennis courts or retrofit the site to allow six pickleball courts in their place. Ms. Respicio-Evans provided visual aids of what the courts could look like and declared that the biggest question for the Art Design Board is whether to have the commissioned art limited to the borders of the court or whether to include the playable area of the courts in the artwork as well.

Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez proposed selecting artists from Pre-Approved Artist Pool for this project to speed up the commission and art-selection process. The Board discussed the best way to reach out to this pool of artists and whether to reach out to only muralists. It was determined that it would be best to have Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez contact all artists from the pool individually with information regarding the scope and expectations of the project and asking for a letter of interest from artists. The Art Design Board will decide on which artists to commission and/or whether they would like to start the process for a Request for Proposals (RFP) from the artists that have submitted the letters of interest during next month's Art Design Board meeting in July.

IV. Public Art Process – Professional Development

Guest Ms. Valerie Price introduced a method of commissioning artists as an alternative way of handling a Request for Qualifications (RFQs). In Ms. Price's experience, artists have responded very well to this method.

This process works best for larger commissions and commissions with a large budget and is geared toward experienced artists. The process entails scheduling an in-person interview with the artist based on their portfolios. In this interview all stakeholders would be present including but not limited to the architect, project manager, Art Design Board and so forth. The goal of this interview is to determine whether the artist could work well in a group and meet the directives and needs of all stakeholders. The artist would also have a chance to think through the process of installation and any site-specific challenges. A reimbursement or stipend is given that covers travel and accommodation for artists selected for interviews. With this method, the committee is hiring an artist and trusting the artist and their process instead of being solely focused on a proposal. Ms. Price emphasized that for this process to work, all city staff and stakeholders must be honest, upfront, and specific about their expectations for the project. With this method, the artist is also much more involved throughout the process and is a more integrated member of the team rather than an afterthought or an independent contractor who only gets involved toward the end of the project.

Ms. Felicia Baca noted that there may be limitations in implementing this method given the specific language in the ordinance that requires art to be approved by the Mayor. Further consideration and research are needed to understand how this would fit in with the ordinance and whether there is a large enough budget for this process.

V. Art Design Board vacancy – Candidate Discussion

Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez informed the Board that Ms. Jen Lopez, a potential Art Design Board candidate, was not able to be interviewed. Mr. Olmedo-Gonzalez and the Board agreed to table any discussion on candidates until next month's meeting.

VI. Public Comment

No public was present.

VII. Other Business / Adjourn

Ms. Baca reported that the budget presentation for the Arts Council for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 had gone well. Part of the ask is to create a CMS software for the public art collection. We will hear back about whether this was approved soon.

Ms. Maisch motioned to close the meeting; Mr. Michael Mejia seconded and all members voted in favor.

Next meeting: July 7, 2022, at 5:00 pm