

ERIN MENDENHALL
MAYOR



LORENA RIFFO-JENSON
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Salt Lake City Art Design Board Meeting

June 7th, 2023

5:00 – 5:40 pm

Webex Online

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PENDING APPROVAL

PRESENT: Tiffini Porter Colour Maisch Michael Mejia
Angela Dean Jen Lopez Alex Moya

Staff Members

Renato Olmedo-González, Public Art Program Manager

EXCUSED: Meggie Troili

GUESTS: Bill Louis, Finalist

I. Call to Order / Approval of May 3rd, 2023 Minutes

- a. After a quorum was established at approximately 5:04 pm, Mr. Alex Moya called the meeting to order and stated the Arts Design Board's mission. Ms. Colour Maisch motioned to approve the minutes from the Board's May 3rd, 2023 meeting. Mr. Michael Mejia seconded, and all Board members voted in favor.

II. Foothills Trailheads: Bike Rack Murals public art project

a. *Proposal Presentation*

Mr. Bill Louis, who is a finalist for this project and was requested by the Board to resubmit his proposal, presented two designs for consideration. Both designs use imagery reflecting Mr. Louis' Polynesian cultural background. His first proposal was a vibrantly colored design inspired by the tropical scenery of the Pacific Islands. Mr. Louis chose to incorporate bamboo, coconut husks, and fishing hooks as important Pacific Island cultural icons. The second design incorporated the geometric patterns of Tapa cloth in the design, while using contrasting yellow and brown circles on the inner rim of the wheels, which highlights the sego lily within the bike rack. The Board and Mr. Louis discussed which design they preferred for commission and asked further questions about whether one or both designs would be on one rack.

b. *Discussion & Recommendation to the Mayor*

The Board proceeded to discuss both of Mr. Louis' proposals. There was consensus of preference for the first design that featured a palm tree. Ms. Maisch commented on how the tropical landscape is compelling and will stand out against the surroundings of the Foothills trail. Ms. Jen Lopez commented how the obscured patterns of the Tapa cloth would not resonate well, whereas the landscape highlights his artistic style in a more compelling way. Ms. Maisch made a motion to recommend Mr. Louis' first design proposal to the Mayor. Ms. Angela Dean seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

III. Deaccession Reports & Recommendations

The following two artworks were discussed as recommended deaccessions from the Public Art Collection, as determined by the Public Art Program's Artwork Deaccessioning Policy and Guidelines (adopted by the Salt Lake Art Design Board on December 2, 2021).

- a. Wayne Chubin's *Friends of the Park* (Location: Herman Franks Park, 700 West 1300 South)
Friends of the Park at Herman Franks Park consisted of two photographic plaques originally commissioned and installed in 1993. The entire artwork installation was originally installed in two distinct locations; there are two other existing plaques installed at Washington Park that are part of this series. In 2008, it was noted that the plaques at Herman Franks Park were severely damaged/vandalized, in part by bullets. In 2020, after the Public Art Program conducted a conservation assessment of its collection, it was found that the Herman Franks Park artwork was been removed and their current location is unknown. Very little information was found on what happened to the artwork and it is presumed it was stolen/removed a long time ago. No notification was ever made to the Public Art Program. The plaques at Washington Park are still installed; the artwork is in overall fair condition, although the piece has noticeably faded and deteriorated due to its age.
- b. Thomas Tessman's *Pierpont Benches* (Approximate location: 200 South and Pierpont Avenue)
Pierpont Benches was an installation consisting of sandstones turned into a series of benches. Its commission and installation date are unknown, and the artwork has since been removed. There is little information on what happened to the benches and there are no existing records about the artwork's removal. Due to the benches' seamless integration into the landscape architecture at the site, the Public Art Program's determination is that the benches may have been destroyed during a construction project at the site without awareness of them being actual artworks.
- c. *Recommendation to the Mayor*
Because both artworks no longer exist, their formal deaccession from the Public Art Collection was recommended as a course of action in 2020 by the Maintenance & Conservation Assessment of the collection. Ms. Lopez made a motion to formally deaccession the artworks. Ms. Maisch seconded. All board members voted in favor of the deaccession of Wayne Chubin's *Friends of the Park* and Thomas Tessman's *Pierpont Benches* from the Public Art Collection.

IV. Public Comment

- a. None.

V. Arts Council & Public Art Program updates

- a. Public Art Program Updates
Mr. Renato Olmedo-González provided the Board with updates on behalf of the Public Art Program.
 - i. Mr. Olmedo-González is working on a call for artists for the 500 North Fairpark Public Art Project; the project locations are along 500 North & 1200 West (traffic splitter islands) and 500 North & 1300 West (traffic circle). The budget for this project is roughly ~\$60,000. Budget permitting, both locations will be addressed with artworks, although the traffic circle is the preferred location for a public art project. The draft for the Call for Artists will be sent to the Board for review later this month.
 - ii. The Concrete Public Art Project will be postponed.
 - iii. The Public Art Program is working with Utah Museum of Fine Arts' curators to implement a public art project for the Liberty Park Basketball Court. A list of potential artworks from the UMFA's permanent collection that could be adapted onto a sports court mural will be presented to the Board for assessment and there are plans for the

- community to vote on their favorite for commission. The Board will discuss this project during their August meeting.
- iv. Board compensation by Salt Lake City is underway.
 - v. The Arts Council is currently in the process of interviewing candidates for our next Public Art Program Coordinator.
 - vi. A virtual option to attend Board meetings in the future will be through Zoom.
 - vii. The Public Art Program currently has two open community engagement surveys: 500 North/Fairpark and An Iconic Public Art Installation for the West Side (Mayor's 2023 Goal for Public Art)
 - viii. There will not be a meeting in July 2023.

VI. Other Business/Adjourn

- a. Ms. Dean made a motion to close the meeting, Mr. Mejia seconded. All board members present voted in favor.
- b. Next meeting: Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023, 5:00 – 7:00 pm.