



REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2011
THURSDAY, 4:00 PM
TOWN HALL

Mission Statement: The mission of the Waynesville Public Art Commission is to engage the community and enrich public spaces through original art that celebrates Waynesville's historic, cultural, natural and human resources.

The Public Art Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2011. Members present: Chairman Jan Griffin, Vice-Chairman Ed Kelley, Bill King, David Blevins, Sylvia Everett, Treasurer Sarah Jane League, and Diana Laursen. Members absent: Ann Melton, Charles Mills. Also present: Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova, Administrative Assistant Ginny Boyer, guest Martin Carter.

Approval of Minutes, August 11, 2011

Sarah Jane League moved to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2011 meeting. Bill King seconded and all were in favor. One addition was included, that being under "New Business: Sylvia: art for Town Hall/Police Department/Development building": Motion by Sarah Jane, second by *Diana Laursen* that we purchase the nine-part set for \$1,200. . .

Old Business

Art for Mini-Park

Ed Kelley distributed and read to members the following document:

This is the final recommendation for the construction and design of an archway for the "Mini-Park Art Project".

The Arch Phase of the Project is somewhat different than most prior public art projects in that, although each piece creatively represents the subject that was chosen, the fact that there was an existing arch to be represented puts several restrictions on this project in terms of creative design and placement. One of the most aggravating factors is that a certain phrase or statement must be incorporated into the design, and it must be readable, and preferably readable from both sides of the arch. Another difference in this project is that the WPAC has had to balance the arch construction with another art piece for the back wall area of the park, as well as satisfying the call for a representation of the original arch that was not included in the first phase of the Project, the railing. There are an unusual variety of visual and logistical requirements and possibilities for this project that have led to several different configurations of the project over the discussion period. After examining a variety of options in terms of placement and general design, lettering, and incorporation of an "art piece" in the arch, we believe we have come up with the best option.

An "art piece" will not be included in the Arch Phase of the ongoing Mini-Park Art Project. This will reduce the costs of the arch, meaning less fundraising. It will simplify the acquisition and installation of the arch. It will reduce the amount of time the WPAC will be required to devote to the project as there

will be no need for a call to artists and the following selection process. It will allow the WPAC to focus on a more important art piece for placement in the park in 2012. The inclusion of the slogan was such a critical component of the project that a call to artists for a design with the lettering was going to be very complicated. Reducing the complexity of the arch is also the best visual option for tying together each phase of the Project, including the railing, and the wall piece to follow.

The arch will be erected spanning the entrance to the park.

Dimensions will be approximately 10 feet wide for the opening, and around 10 feet tall at the top of the arch.

A new section of stone wall will need to be added to the existing wall on the Main St. side of the park to allow for a balanced placement of the arch.

The large tree near the entrance will not be disturbed.

The arch will have lettering that can be read from both sides. Phrase to be applied to the arch needs to be discussed and settled on, the current suggestion is “Gateway to the Smokies – Waynesville, NC”

The arch will be of similar proportion to the original arch(es) that once spanned Main St. at about 1/3 scale.

Examination of, and choosing project materials and finishes will be the responsibility of the WPAC, as will the selection of the typeface to be used for the wording on the arch. Martin Carter has volunteered to give advice on materials and finishes, sourcing, and other technical issues.

We are hoping to have the bulletin board kiosk, trash and recycling receptacles relocated from their current position for better views of the park, arch, railing and wall piece. The cleaner visual statement will make a more inviting entrance to the Mini Park. The Town of Waynesville will provide labor and materials for relocation of kiosks/trash cans, building addition to stone wall, and installation of the arch.

A scaled drawing of the arch will be presented to at least three different local metalworkers for bids.

Final installation of both the arch and the wall piece should be accomplished by September, 2012.

end report

Arch as commemorative piece, placement of lettering, stability, dimensions, visuals, timeline:

Jan Griffin said the arch may be complete in 2011 with panel completion in 2012. Ed Kelley said the arch will be a commemorative piece, allowing the wall piece to be a creative feature, adding that the letter will be all that is needed to generate the funding the commission needs for the arch. Jan mentioned the need to get the call to artists out as soon as possible.

Sarah Jane League’s concern was putting up a plain piece of metal, selling art short; she was afraid it would not fit with the railing and wall-art piece. Ed said it will visually complicate the scene if we try to do too much to the arch and detract from the piece on the wall. With removal of the kiosk and clutter, the arch will create a nice, inviting entrance to the park.

Ed mentioned the need to decide if lettering should be on both sides, adding that the design should not vary too much from people’s perception of what the arch once was. Diana agreed the

arch should be commemorative. Dave said it should not be an art piece, but an entryway to a park, like an arbor. Bill was concerned with the expense of having both sides with lettering. Ed said, with lettering on the inside, this accommodates those who want to have photo opportunities without going out in the street.

The subject of stability of the piece was discussed. Martin Carter said that when you are dealing with something that has a large span, there has to be the proper amount of anchor weight. It would be a good idea to hire a structural engineer, as the piece could be a liability issue if it blows over.

As for dimensions, Ed said the arch height will begin at eight feet and could reach taller than ten feet at its zenith. This will allow for vehicular access to the park.

There was discussion among members as to whether or not the lettering should be readable from both sides, what the sign should say, how a visual will be necessary, and the importance of including a plaque describing the significance of the arch. Ed agreed to draw the arch with specific dimensions and styles, mockups of different fonts and letter styles, for visualization which will be necessary as part of the bid package.

Motion: Sarah Jane moved that the arch be readable from both sides with wording “Gateway to the Smokies” and that the Public Art Commission proceed according to plan (as described in report). (There was a brief discussion/agreement that Mr. Fred Baker be agreeable to the final recommendation and advise on the issue of installation. Ed Kelley agreed to email the final recommendation document to Mr. Baker. Members agreed the report need not be changed). Sylvia seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Future Art Project for Waynesville based on Asheville’s “Wolfe’s Neighborhood”

Dave brought to members’ attention a possibility for a future art project: a diorama with a history of plaques on the ground, an interactive art piece. He distributed pictures of the piece he saw in Asheville (*called Wolfe’s neighborhood at the corner of Market and Woodfin Streets, part of Urban Trail Walking Tour*). While the plaque in Asheville had a list of donors, the Waynesville Public Art Commission donors do not, as a rule, get advertising space. The plaque does not commemorate the donor. (Dave then excused himself from the meeting).

Treasurer’s Report

Sarah Jane reported the Waynesville Public Art Commission has \$27,034.72 currently. There was a payment to Ann Melton for scrapbook materials and a purchase of bulbs for the Mini-Park. Ed Kelley asked how the balance will be dispersed, how much is available for the Mini-Park project. Town Manager Assistant Alison Melnikova said the Waynesville Public Art Commission never set art budgets, never broke items into categories. From the Town of Waynesville, five-thousand dollars was received for the purpose of signage. Sarah Jane League said that this amount is cumulative from 2007 and includes donations from the public and monies from the Town. This is an operational cash flow on hand; Waynesville Public Art

Commission has cash flow that will allow the project to go forward. Ed Kelley made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Diana seconded and all were in favor.

Plaques for Mini-Park Project, Report by Bill King

Bill distributed samples (from A to Z Engraving) of what the plaques will look like visually, aluminum with a sand background. Old Time Music (19"x11"), Folkmoot (18"x13"), and Art Connects the Park (18"x16"). The price will be \$190.06 *plus* *. *mounting posts can be 1 inch square (\$104), 1 1/2 inch square (\$135), or 2 inch square (\$157). Members decided to accept the pricing of the 2-inch square post, as opposed to the 1-inch square post which adds \$53 (per post) to the total cost. $\$53 \times 3 = \159 .

Bill will call to place the order and there will be one more chance to proof. Once final proof is approved, production time is two weeks. Sarah Jane asked that the final proof come in an email attachment so all members could see it. Bill asked if permission could be granted for him and Jan to approve final copies. Alison said a purchase order would be necessary before a final order is made and that the Town will provide installation with Fred Baker advising.

Alison asked if PAC logos could be placed on plaques; it is unclear whose project the pieces are. Ed said plaques could be made separately and attached to the piece itself. Bill said he would inquire with A to Z signs on what is entailed when creating a logo.

Quilt for Stairwell of New Town Hall

Members discussed the quilt project for the New Town Hall/Development Offices. Members felt that two months seemed reasonable for each quilt to hang, and that groups could be on a rotation, providing six groups a year with the name of the quilting group on a tag for display. The Highland Quilters also have an interest in the project. Sylvia Everett moved that Shady Ladies Quilting Club have approval to hang a quilt in stairwell of New Town Hall for period of two to three months, and the display project will be evaluated at the end of one year. Ed seconded and the motions passed unanimously.

Alison said Kaaren Stoner's piece will soon be displayed in the New Town Hall/Development offices with the Town providing installation.

Adjournment

Members agreed to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 pm.

Chairman Jan Griffin

Secretary Ginny Boyer