



WAYNESVILLE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
MINUTES-SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 16TH, 2024
FRIDAY, 3:00PM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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.

Present:

Chairman George Kenney
Steve Lloyd
Douglas Garrett
Ginny Moe
Ashten McKinney
Skip Middleton
Vicki Mangieri
CJ Deering

Staff Present:

Jesse Fowler, Assistant Town Manager
Candace Poolton, Town Clerk

Others present:

Gregory Wheeler, Pigeon Community Multicultural Development Center

Chairman George Kenney welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:01pm.

1. Review and Discuss Finalist Presentations and Score Sheets

The Commission agreed that Dominic Panziera and Daniela Garofalo, Grace Cathey, Todd Frahm, and Jeannette Brossart and Maria Geary were not a good fit for this project at this time.

Vicki advocated for Jhonnatan and Samantha Arango.

The Commission as a whole agreed that Ndubisi Okoye, Kristy McCarthy, and the Arangos were strong finalists.

Vicki said she did some research on the poly-tab material that Kristy McCarthy said she would be using for her mural. She said in order to make the mural last for 30 years, someone would have to

roll or spray a top coat on the mural every 5 years. She said it's \$50/gallon and would probably take three gallons to cover the mural.

Steve and Ashten said that Mr. Okoye were their favorite. Steve said he liked his connection to North Carolina, how much research he did, and that he's a person of color. CJ reminded the Commission that this facility is "multicultural". Ashten liked how Mr. Okoye represented the Center and told the story, but also appreciated Ms. McCarthy's professionalism.

Ginny felt that Mr. Okoye's style was somewhat old fashioned and wanted to see him work more with the community that he is creating for. Ashten said that he does include the community to help paint and liked that Mr. Okoye would install the mural in person.

Chairman George said Ms. McCarthy would hire two people that are local to help install the mural. CJ said that Ms. McCarthy did the most research. Steve said he liked that her mural would wrap around the whole building. Vicki said she liked how she incorporated so many elements of the Pigeon Center.

Chairman George asked Gregory Wheeler what his community's favorite artists were. He said the top two favorites were Ndubisi Okoye and Kristy McCarthy. He said they liked Ndubisi's work and the research that he'd done for his concept and that he is African American. Vicki said that one concern she had was that it is a "multicultural" center and "God" featured in Ndubisi's work does not encompass all cultures and religions. Gregory also said that people felt Mr. Okoye's looked dated. Gregory said that personally, he liked Kristy's concept. He said he liked the research she put into it, and the timeline and history of Pigeon Center symbolically told on her concept. He said that one challenge of her work was that it was a little busy. Chairman George said that Ms. McCarthy is fluent in Spanish, and she would be able to do a community workshop in Spanish.

There was much discussion about the historical status of the Pigeon Community Multicultural Development Center and whether or not Ms. McCarthy's method of applying her mural would be acceptable. Jesse said he would reach out to Jennifer Cathey of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office to make sure they follow the guidelines.

2. Make Artist Selection for the Pigeon Community Multicultural Development Center Art Project

A motion was made by Vicki Magieri, seconded by Doug Garrett, to recommend to Town Council that the contract be offered to Kristy McCarthy. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Next Steps-Notify Artist by March 2nd, 2024

Jesse said that the Commission needs to present at the next Town Council meeting their recommendation. Jesse said he will work on getting the easement down sidewalk and in front of the mural so the public can access the property to view the mural. He said he will also meet with Jennifer Cathey. Skip recommended that someone reach out to Poly-tab to learn more about how

it is applied to surfaces and if it's been used on historical buildings before. Candace said she will reach out to the other artists to let them know they have not been selected.

4. Other Business

There was no other business.

5. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Vicki Magieri made a motion, seconded by CJ Deering, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

ATTEST:

Candace Poolton, Town Clerk

Chairman George Kenney