



APPROVED MINUTES

BEAUTIFICATION AND PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

March 9, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.

City of Flagstaff – Council Chambers, 211 W Aspen Avenue

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Creag Znetko at 928-213-2906 (or 774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

City Staff: Eliza Kretzmann – Staff Liaison, Creag Znetko – Recording Secretary

A. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Garcia called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

B. **ROLL CALL:**

Anthony Garcia, Chair, **present**

Kraig Weber, **absent**

Sandra Lubarsky, Vice-Chair, **present**

Vacant

George Averbeck, **present**

Vacant

Jeremy Slater, **present**

As a reminder, if you are carrying a cell phone, computer, two-way radio, or other sound device, we ask that you turn it off at this time to minimize disruption to today's meeting.

C. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Chair Garcia announced the STEM Celebration that is being held this evening, arts grants funding informational is taking place at the Coconino Center for the Arts, Tuesday March 10, 2020. Chair also announced the Earth Day planning committee meetings. Flagstaff Leadership Program will be hosting a recruitment event at the Coconino Center for the Arts on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Commissioner Averbeck announced the Grand Opening of his Fire and Art Gallery.

D. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commissioners may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. Each public comment is limited to **three** minutes.*

None

E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. February Meeting – **MOTION:**

Chair Garcia moved to table the approval until the next meeting. Commissioner Averbeck seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

F. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Introduce Jana Weldon – Staff asked the Chair if the agenda could reflect the first discussion item, then the two action items, and returning to finish the discussion items. Chair Garcia agreed to the suggestion. Staff Liaison introduced Jana Weldon as filling the new Beautification, Arts & Sciences Project Administrator. Ms. Weldon gave a brief background of her career and her interests in Public Art. The commission welcomed Ms. Weldon.

G. **DISCUSSION**

A. Downtown Business Alliance Strategic Planning Update – Terry Madeksza, Executive Director, Flagstaff Downtown Business Alliance

Recommended Action: Hear presentation, ask questions.

Terry Madeksza presented to the commission on the history of the Downtown Business Alliance and what services are maintained by them. There is a vision and action plan in place in place that was initiated

in 2018 for the downtown district. Ms. Madeksza shared her struggles with ensuring information is being shared with all the entities as there are several governmental projects being worked on and the goal is to be unified in the improving of our downtown. \$130,000.00 in funding has been secured and the FDBA would manage the contract. The selection process included vendors that had experience with downtown planning. Out of 20 firms that were interested, 10 submitted proposals and the committee was unanimous in selecting Progressive Urban Management Associates. The scope of the plan is still evolving and is broad at this time as the FDBA will be meeting with their consultant team next week. Community engagement processes are being developed currently. They are hoping to have a deliverable plan by the end of the year and will be taking this to City Council and other boards and commissions in the coming weeks. Discussion included parking concerns within the plan, ensuring business owners have a voice during the process, pop up events that will engage the community, and potential funding for a parking structure. Commissioner Slater asked about the boundaries of the plan and the intention is to focus on downtown, but to include the rapid transit routes up to the hospital. Vice Chair Lubarsky asked about shared responsibilities with the FDBA and the City. The FDBA will be handling the day to day oversight of the plan while the city, the county, and NAIPTA will all have input. The project management team will be involved in key decision making. Vice Chair Lubarsky also stated concerns about the past “knick-knacking” of downtown and wants to ensure that the story of downtown is told with all input and the commission has an opportunity to help with design aspects during the beginning stages. Vice Chair Lubarsky stressed the importance of having input from the younger generation, sustainability, and the indigenous community. Ms. Madeksza stated that this has been discussed and feels the engagement will address and collect their input. Chair Garcia mentioned the Southside plan that had been presented at the last BPAC meeting to ensure the FDBA is aware. He also asked if staff could provide a copy of the five year plan so the FDBA is mindful of the projects going on. Ms. Madeksza thanked the commission for their time and would like to return as the plan progresses. There was discussion only.

B. Buffalo Sculpture Survey Language Draft – Eliza Kretzmann, City of Flagstaff

Recommended Action: Read draft survey language, provide feedback.

Staff updated the commission and hoped the language would be ready for this meeting, unfortunately it is not ready at this time. City leadership is involved in the editing process as well. Hope to see some draft language soon. Commissioner Averback stated he is still in support of saving and repairing the current buffalo. Staff stated that language is being carefully crafted and would like more input from the community. There was discussion only.

C. Courthouse Mosaic: Eliza Kretzmann, Jana Weldon, City of Flagstaff

Staff presented to the commission about the proposed mosaic for the new courthouse that will face Beaver St. Staff stated that even though the courthouse is the owner of the project, community engagement is necessary and would like to have key stakeholder involved. We are at the beginning stages and will have a selection panel that will choose from a call for qualifications for artists that submit ideas for this project. Vice Chair Lubarsky asked about the call for qualifications and staff stated artist will be chosen based on their past work and public art is site specific. This will help in choosing an artist that has proved their work will be aesthetically pleasing. Chair Garcia stated his support of the process and voiced concern about more time commitment regarding the commissioners and wondered if another shape can be used instead of a rectangle. Staff stated the rectangle may be the only option at this time. Commissioner Averback expressed concern about the lack of engagement from the local artists community and the call may need to be broader. Staff stated experience with this process she has had in other cities and is confident it will be successful. Chair Garcia asked if this would be funded through the 1% public art capital fund or through BBB tax. Staff said this is currently in the budget under the BBB funding. There was discussion only.

H. ACTION

A. East Flagstaff Community Library – Michele Brosseau, Deputy Library Director – City Services

This proposal is for a mural for the “Tween” section of the library. It is similar in cost and scope to a Beautification in Action Grant. Vote on whether to recommend this project for funding (utilizing an existing line item for Indoor Art).

Michelle Brousseau presented to the Commission on an idea that would require funding from the Public Art budget. She gave a brief history of the East Flagstaff Library and some of the projects that have been completed so far during their remodel. They have hired the Mural Mice for some of the murals and would like to hire them for this mural as well. The Mural Mice have hosted events for feedback from the community and are confident they can capture and represent what the library is hoping to convey. Vice Chair Lubarsky asked about the cost. Staff stated this is not related to a BIA grant, but rather will be funded through an existing line item. Chair Garcia asked if we could single source the artist? Staff responded and stated the direct select process can be justified due to established procurement processes. Chair Garcia asked about the timeline. The proposed “Grand Opening” is scheduled before the summer and hope the mural will be finished in time for that.

MOTION: Vice Chair Lubarsky moved to approve the proposal. Commissioner Slater seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

B. Climate Justice Beautification in Action Grant – Audrey Kruse, Grand Canyon Trust

Vote on whether to recommend this project for BIA funding.

The applicant, Audrey Kruse, is ill and Maria Archibald will present. Ms. Archibald gave a history of the Grand Canyon Trust in regard to working with youth from the Flagstaff, Navajo and Hopi communities. Discussion included the location of the project and concern if it was put on a private building and made mention of the business. Another location would be the sustainability building. Vice Chair Lubarsky spoke about a photographic artist and wondered if it was limited to photographs. Ms. Archibald stated it could be but doesn’t have to be. Vice Chair Lubarsky asked if the final project would be brought back in front of the commission. Typically, these smaller grants do not return to the commission for approval. Commissioner Averbach conveyed his concerns with the wheat paste medium that may not endure the elements. Ms. Archibald expressed the process for wheat pasting is an opportunity to transfer skills to the next generation. Vice Chair Lubarsky expressed concern about funding honorariums for artists as the policies do not allow for that to happen. Commissioner Slater asked about ongoing maintenance. Ms. Archibald will need to check in with that as she does not know but is aware of a coating that can prolong the life of the installation. Chair Garcia stated his support of the project and to be mindful of the location. He also asked about funding from last year and the FAC provided the grant. Chair Garcia asked staff if funding is allowed for travel and food. The BIA grant restricts funding for those aspects. There was discussion around how to move forward.

MOTION: Vice Chair Lubarsky moved to have staff research if there is an alternative funding mechanism for this project. Chair Garcia seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

H. REPORTS

A. Manager

- i. Flowers and Planters – informational presentation to Council on March 17.
Staff is scheduled to present to council on March 17. There are other local business wanting to be involved.
- ii. New Commissioner Appointments – Eliza will let the BPAC know when this is on the Council’s agenda. Please encourage people to apply.
Applications are being collected. Staff asked the commission to encourage others to apply.
- iii. Alley Project – Eliza has met with several local artists involved in this initiative; we will begin planning this project in more earnest now that Jana has joined our team.
Meeting with local artists to continue conversations.

- iv. Pluto Sculpture – continuing discussions with Lowell Observatory, Economic Vitality Leadership, and other Divisions to help with ideas and placement.
Director is wanting to meet with staff to see if the Lunar Legacy campaign can be incorporated with this project. Conversations are continuing and a location is at the forefront.
- v. Aspen Avenue Bike and Pedestrian “Niche”: agreements being signed with CenturyLink, working with a contractor to come up with a few conceptual ideas to get the conversation started on what this may look like.
Agreements are being drafted and concept designs are at the beginning stages. Vice Chair Lubarsky asked about a working group for this project. Staff stated this could be a good project for this to happen.
- vi. Requests for future agenda items?
 - A. Vice Chair Lubarsky suggested having thematic conversations for conceptual designs for future projects.
 - B. Vice Chair Lubarsky recommended having joint commission discussions with other commissions for shared information and how that could look.
 - C. Commissioner Slater asked if people involved in the Pluto project can be brought into a future meeting.
 - D. Commissioner Averback would like to ensure the processes for projects and timelines are kept on track.

B. Chair Updates

Chair Garcia gave an update the commission on considerations of City Council:

- A. How to go about bonds for the election year and that the BPAC should consider how those needs could be met through that bonding process.
- B. How paid parking downtown affects the arts and artists.
- C. Congratulated all the winners and the host for the Viola awards.

C. City Council Liaison Updates

NONE

I. AGENDA ITEMS AND TIME/DATE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next meeting date:

- April 13, 2020

J. ADJOURNMENT Chair Garcia adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm.