



BEAUTIFICATION AND PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES

April 12, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

City of Flagstaff – Microsoft Teams Remote Meeting

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Creag Znetko, (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, Jana Weldon – Project Administrator, Creag Znetko – Recording Secretary.

The Public is Invited to Attend this Remote Meeting: Please join us via Microsoft Teams by clicking on the following link, which brings you to the live meeting: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Please turn your camera off and mute your microphone except when speaking. If you need an invitation to the meeting, email cznetko@flagstaffaz.gov prior to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12.

Provide Public Comment Prior to the Meeting: Email eliza.kretzmann@flagstaffaz.gov with your public comment prior to 3:00 p.m. with PUBLIC COMMENT in the subject on the Monday of the meeting and it will be read during the public comment section or during the item to which your comment pertains.

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

B. ROLL CALL:

Anthony Garcia, Chair, [present](#)
Sandra Lubarsky, Vice-Chair, [present](#)
George Averbeck, [present](#)
J Michael Cruz, [present](#)

Carla McCord, [present](#)
Jeremy Slater, [present](#)
Kraig Weber, [present](#)

C. UPCOMING EVENTS:

[American for the Arts Convention June 8th to 11th.](#)

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or acting 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. Public comment should be sent to eliza.kretzmann@flagstaffaz.gov, prior to 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting with PUBLIC COMMENT in the email subject or during the designated public participation section.

[NONE](#)

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March BPAC Meeting.

MOTION: Vice Chair Lubarsky moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Cruz seconded the motion: the motion passed unanimously.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. None at this time.

G. ACTION ITEMS

- A. **Library Entry Plaza Approval of Preliminary Art Concept and Ramp Options:** Jana Weldon, Beautification, Arts and Sciences Project Administrator; Jeremy DeGeyter, Capital Improvements Project Manager

WLB, with input by the design team, has developed a ramp design that meets ADA compliance and embraces universal inclusivity. Options are included for alternate entrances on Aspen. Principal Artist Maria Salenger of Jones Studio has developed a new concept for the art features and has presented that concept to community members and stakeholders in focus groups. Jeremy DeGeyter will present the ramp design with options and Jana Weldon will present the art features.

Suggested Action: Hear the presentation led by Jeremy DeGeyter and Jana Weldon and approve the ramp design with options and the preliminary art concept.

Staff presented the project to the commission with different options for the commission to consider. This presentation is for the ramp design only. Other elements, including landscaping, will be presented at a later time.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Is there a financial ramification with adding the extra stairs?

Staff: Yes, although in the grand scheme of the larger project the cost of adding stairs is relatively negligible.

Chair Garcia: Would you like the commission to come to a consensus on each of the three points of feedback?

Staff: Yes, please. Approve options and provide recommendations for any alternatives.

Commissioner McCord: What about the loss or gain in capacity for civic space at the top of the plaza if we added stairs?

Staff: No, we have not looked at that data to accurately quantify it.

Commissioner McCord: Would it be fair to say, if we added the second set of stairs, we would lose some of that civic space?

Staff: That is correct.

Chair Garcia: Is the malapais rock on the retaining wall a place filler for now? Can we decide on that later?

Staff: Yes, the initial thought would be to match the existing retaining walls with the same material, but that has not been "set in stone" yet.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Can we remove the tree from concept 2?

Staff: Yes, it can be done, but wanted to see if saving the tree was worth it.

Concept 2 is the most popular with the commission.

Commissioner Cruz: Likes concept 2 as well. Keep the tree, add the stairs, no comment on parking.

Staff: The grass on the presentation is for place filler only.

Commissioner McCord: Wants to be clear that the landscaping will be robust enough that people will not make their own pathway.

Commissioner Averbeck: Can we put a parking lot above the Rio de Flag?

Staff: Possible and will be discussed, not a yes or no at the moment. Not sure how it can play out.

Commissioner Averbeck: Concerned about the younger population and safety hazards. Likes concept 2.

Commissioner Weber: Likes number 2 concept without additional stairs.

Commissioner Slater: Likes concept 2 better, no stairs, no issue with the parking lot.

MOTION: Vice Chair Lubarsky moved to approve concept 2, no memorial tree, no stairs, no additional parking spaces as a recommendation to council. Commissioner McCord seconded the motion; the motion passed 6-1 with one no vote. Commissioner Cruz is the no vote.

Staff presented the second part of this project that included the preliminary art concept design. The presentation consisted of new concepts from feedback that came from a community focus group. The overhead concept that was presented previously was not continued due to the size and cost of the structure. Staff showed the commission some of the community aspirations that the artist wants to capture.

Chair Garcia: Has the concept completely changed?

Staff: Yes, it has due to cost of the shade structure (leaving little for art) and clutter (challenges with the shade structure blocking the building from sight more) with the original design.

Chair Garcia: Thanks to staff for all the work put in so far and including the public at the early stages.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Likes the concept, this is the most exciting, and has been involved in other capacities.

Commissioner McCord: Likes the new concept with the luminaria aspect. This shows a lot of work and a lot of thought.

Commissioner Weber: Appreciates the design and the direction it's going. Consider making permanent instead of temporal.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Clarify that pages will be permanent and possibly add temporary pages if needed.

Staff: Yes, that is our understanding.

Commissioner Averbeck: Likes the concept, feels the artist understands the dark sky ordinance a little bit better now. Thinks it's good to go.

Commissioner Cruz: Have seen this before due to being in the focus group. Feels this is a better connection to the library.

Commissioner Slater: Likes the concept and feels the flow is good.

Heidi Hansen: Recommendations on position of books on railings and words to use in the civic space. Would like more discussion on the words.

Staff: There will probably be more focus on the words by the focus group.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Wanted to echo the concern about the words on the plaza. Pleased that will be determined with a community group.

Staff: Pros and cons to each approach. Longer phrases, multiple languages, more exploration is warranted for sure.

Chair Garcia: Can we add a life-sized checker/chessboard stamped into the civic space?

Staff: We can certainly discuss that idea.

MOTION: Commissioner Cruz moved to recommend the preliminary art concept as presented. Vice Chair Lubarsky seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- B. **Traffic Signal Cabinets Approval of New Locations:** Jana Weldon, Beautification, Arts and Sciences Project Administrator.

Based on community survey results and availability of City owned cabinets, Staff will present potential locations with staff recommendations. Funding is definite for four new locations.

Suggested Action: Hear the presentation by Jana Weldon and approve new locations for art wraps for the Traffic Signal Cabinet project.

Staff presented the new locations to the commission.

Chair Garcia: Open for discussion. Likes that this is not in downtown and brings art to other parts of the city.

Commissioner Cruz: The Foxglenn location is used by multiple sports teams and likes that it can be arted up. Maybe not at the mall due to less traffic but would like to see them added to school areas.

Commissioner McCord: Has heard more positive things about this project than any other outside of BPAC. Maybe the area close to the hospital and the mall seems to be ok too.

Commissioner Slater: Likes the locations and giving the love to the east/Sunnyside of Flagstaff.

Commissioner Averbeck: Any chance of sponsorships?

Staff: Would like to look at this in the future, maybe a granting situation for neighborhoods.

Staff: Can be sponsored but can't advertise the sponsor, should be beautification purposes only. We can keep this discussion going.

Vice Chair Lubarsky: Swap out the mall proposal with a different neighborhood. Keep the school age children in mind.

Staff: These locations have been cleared with the traffic division and swapping out needs to be considered with other neighborhoods. It can happen, just more work to be done.

MOTION: Commissioner McCord motioned to approve these locations as presented. Commissioner Slater seconded the motion; the motion passed 6-1 with one no vote. Vice Chair Lubarsky is the no vote.

Discussion: Vice Chair Lubarsky: How difficult is it to swap out a box?

Staff: Would need traffic approval, several considerations are taken into account. Would probably bring this site and others back for another vote.

Chair Garcia: How do we move forward with this motion?

Staff: Can amend the motion if this is not satisfactory for the commission.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. **Strategic Direction Activities** – Discuss the process going forward for updating the Mission, Vision, and Priority Areas/Guiding Principles of the Arts, Science and Beautification Programs.

Suggested Action: Consider having these activities woven into existing BPAC meetings and discuss who may lead this effort.

The Commission has tabled this item to a future meeting.

I. TO/FROM ITEMS

- A. City Staff To/From and Updates: Erin Kaczmarowski, Eliza Kretzmann, Jana Weldon
 - Update on DCC site plan discussion at City Council Work Session on March 30 – Jana Staff updated the commission on a site plan discussion about parking vs. civic space.
 - Flower Project Update – Eliza
Planning to expand to the Southside, formal solicitation for vendor has been completed.
 - Beautification in Action Grants – 5 solid proposals received, will be the main focus of the May meeting for BPAC to determine funding for these. Applicants will provide short presentations with time for questions from BPAC, and the full packet will be sent to BPAC well in advance of the meeting. Please come to May meeting prepared, having read the applications. – Eliza
Next meeting will have these discussions.
- B. Chair To/From and Updates: Anthony Garcia
The amount of shoutouts during city council meetings (advocating to retain civic space at the new Downtown Connection Center) have been positive.
- C. City Council Liaison Updates
Thank you for the time and commitment to the library project.
- D. Additional To/From Items from the Commission?
Can the Council Liaison announce the next BPAC Meetings?
- E. Requests for future agenda items?
Discuss meeting in person and outside.

J. TIME/DATE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

- A. BPAC Meeting: Monday, May 10, 4 p.m., Microsoft Teams Meeting

K. ADJOURNMENT Chair Garcia adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.