



SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

July 10, 2012 5:30 pm Syra-Stat Office, 215 City Hall

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Present: Chris Capella-Peters, Karen Convertino, Rick Destito, Bob Doucette, Corky Goss, Nancy Keefe Rhodes, Joanna Spitzner, Dan Ward, Bahar Zaker

Absent: George Curry, London Ladd

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

I. Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the June 12, 2012 meeting. N. Keefe Rhodes moved to approve the minutes and K. Convertino seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. B. Zaker abstained from the vote.

II. Old Business

*No Old Business*

III. New Business

SPAC 12-07 UVP TONY Exhibition, Karen Brummund. The Commission reviewed the application for the UVP installation by Karen Brummund which will be projected from September 1 through October 31, 2012 at the Everson UVP site to coincide with the TONY 2012 Exhibition. The installation consists of a looping sequence of images taken from the interior of the Everson Museum. J. Spitzner made a motion to approve the installation, which was seconded by K. Convertino. The motion passed unanimously.

SPAC 12-08 *Untitled Mural*, Alex Biegler. Sharon Sherman, representing the Westcott Cultural Coalition, introduced the project to the Commission. The Coalition received a grant from the Cultural Resources Council for the installation of a mural at 508 Westcott Street. In preparation for the project the Coalition had asked residents of Westcott to answer the question "What does Westcott mean to me?" Artist Alex Biegler's design was selected through an RFP process. A. Biegler provided a brief description of his concept for the mural. The Commission determined that it did not have sufficient information to make a decision about the proposal. Specifically, the artist had not provided a full representation of the proposed mural. K. Auwaerter and J. Spitzner offered to assist the artist in preparing the necessary information. Because of the

applicant's deadline for the completion of the mural, the Commission offered to hold a special meeting on August 7 to review the revised application.

IV. Discussion

Public Art Plan: Draft review and roll out. The Commission reviewed the draft Public Art Plan and provided comment. The discussion included the role of the Commission. B. Doucette noted that the Commission cannot be both advocate and judge for public art in the city; that the two roles are in conflict. The Commission members generally agreed that the Commission's primary role is as adjudicator, but that this didn't preclude it from encouraging public art in an overall or general sense.

K. Auwaerter also clarified that the plan is the municipality's plan rather than the Commission's plan and the actions described in the plan do not fall solely on the Commission to implement.

There was also a brief discussion about performance art versus public art. Finally, there was also discussion about the need to put some language in the plan about developing a sustainable funding source for public art in the city.

C. Capella-Peters requested that everyone provide their comments to K. Auwaerter who will provide a final draft to the Commission at its next meeting.

V. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.