

Approved as submitted



REGULAR MEETING

October 13, 2015

SyraStat Office (Rm 215 City Hall)

5:30 pm

Attendance

Present: George Curry, Karen Convertino, Nancy Keefe Rhodes, Kerry Kennedy, Dan Ward, Bahar Zaker

Absent: Rick Destito, Bob Doucette, Corky Goss, London Ladd, Joanna Spitzner

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

I. Meeting called to order at 5:37 p.m.

The Commission reviewed the minutes of September 8, 2015. G. Curry made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, which was seconded by N. Keefe Rhodes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business:

No Old Business

III. New Business

SPAC 15-04 *Anathema*, Otolith Group (UVP). Anneka Herre presented the application for the screening of *Anathema* by the artist collective, Otolith Group. The film will be screened at the Everson UVP site from November 5 through December 15, 2015, and the artist talk will be November 12 at the Everson. A. Herre provided an interpretation of the video noting the themes that run through the artists' work and the UVP's reasons for selecting this particular piece. It was suggested that this additional information and clarification would be helpful for the more casual viewer of the work. Not all of the commissioners felt that this was necessary and that the artists' statement should stand on its own.

G. Curry then initiated a discussion regarding the timing of the UVP applications. He noted that the screening dates were usually only a couple weeks after the SPAC review and that this didn't provide much time should the Commission deny an application. The Commission discussed Light Work's curation of the UVP as well as the approval process through the Everson. A. Herre described the selection and timing of the program and noted the difficulty of the schedule. The Commission agreed that it would be helpful to have additional information about upcoming artists prior to the SPAC meetings. K. Auwaerter said she would work with A. Herre to provide that information.

G. Curry made a motion to approve the application, which was seconded by N. Keefe Rhodes. The application was approved unanimously.

IV. Discussion

Connective Corridor Update: Quinton Fletchall provided an update on the Connective Corridor public art project. He noted that in order for the artists to be able to begin design work, they need to receive approval of the owner on whose property the work would be located. The following artists are considering works on City-owned property.

Blessing Hancock: The artist has proposed to suspend a lighted artwork over Onondaga Creek at the Warehouse. This artwork might need to be tied into the city-owned wall on the east side of the creek adjacent to the Creekwalk.

Dewitt Godfrey: The artist is proposing a work in the block of Bank Alley between Jefferson and Fayette Streets.

Walczak & Heiss: : The artists are interested in an installation on the former Powelson Building site in Columbus Circle. K. Auwaerter noted that the site is considered a development site and so anything that goes in must be a temporary work (no benches or other seemingly permanent features). There is precedent for artwork in a development site: Tash Taskale's sculpture in Lemp Park.

The Commission approved the selection of these sites for artwork, although it was noted that by doing so the Public Art Commission was not approving the artwork itself. A full application and approvals would be necessary for any artwork in these locations.

Of the other artists, Q. Fletchall also noted that Erwin Redl is working with the County to install a lighting display at the Civic Center. In addition, Sam Van Aken is proposing to install trees in an unused tree pit on the Harrison Street side of the Everson Museum, which is also County-owned property.

Q. Fletchall then discussed sites that the Connective Corridor has identified for a set of four murals to be painted by four prominent sign painters from across the country (including one local artist). Q. Fletchall explained that the sign painters would create the artwork, but he said he was open to suggestions for themes for the artworks. K. Kennedy suggested that the artwork should advertise the City of Syracuse. N. Keefe Rhodes emphasized that the "signs" should be murals not just lettering. Q. Fletchall asked for the Commission's recommendation for two city-owned locations: The Fayette Street garage and for AXA Towers garage. The Commission agreed that these were acceptable locations.

V. Discussion

New Urban Space project: K. Auwaerter reported that the visit and community engagement activities organized by the design team of !melk urban design and Balmond Studio (September 24-26) had been successful with participation from a good cross section of the community. They planned to return to Syracuse on November 10 for a report back to the community. She requested that the November regular meeting date be moved to accommodate the community meeting.

VI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.