



REGULAR MEETING

January 14, 2014
SyraStat Office (Rm 215 City Hall)
5:30 pm

Attendance

Present: Chris Capella-Peters, George Curry, Rick Destito, Corky Goss, London Ladd, Nancy Keefe Rhodes, Joanna Spitzner, Dan Ward
Absent: Karen Convertino, Bob Doucette, Bahar Zaker
Staff: Kate Auwaerter

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

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the November 12, 2013 meeting. D. Ward moved to approve the minutes as submitted. N. Keefe Rhodes seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

II. Old Business

Syracuse Pedestrian Routes: A Mile in Their Shoes, Cardone (update). K. Auwaerter provided an update on *Syracuse Pedestrian Routes*, which had been approved by the Commission in September 2013, subject to DPW and Engineering approval. She reported that the Commissioner of DPW had not approved the project because of a lack of public notification. Although the sidewalks are owned by the City, property owners are responsible for their maintenance and upkeep and the Commissioner felt that it was essential that the property owners be notified before the proposed semi-permanent stripes were painted on the sidewalks. K. Auwaerter reported that the artist has begun an outreach effort and that she was planning to look into less permanent paints (C. Goss recommended tempera paints), which might alleviate the Commissioner's concerns while still fulfilling the artists intent. R. Destito suggested that the artist consider rolling out a single line every couple weeks and build a publicity campaign around the individual roll-outs. The Commission agreed that this might be better than trying to paint all twelve at once. In conclusion, C. Capella-Peters stated that the Commission in its efforts to accommodate artists' schedules, should not get ahead of other City department approvals, and/or be clear with artists that the Commission's decisions are contingent departmental approvals.

III. New Business

SPAC 14-01: *Cat Brushing Teeth* (2008); *Cronica de Una Muerte Anunciada* (2012); and *Sunset Donut* (2012), Yui Kugimiya (UVP). Anneka Herre presented the application for the screening of the three individual pieces by artist Yui Kugimiya. The videos will be screened from January 23 through February 22 at the Everson UVP site. A. Herre described the work and artists biography. K. Auwaerter read comments sent by Karen Convertino who was unable to attend the meeting, in which she noted that the Everson Museum had held a one-woman show of her Kugimiya's work and as a result the Everson now had both a video and painting in its permanent collection.

D. Ward made a motion to approve the application as submitted, which was seconded by G. Curry. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion

Airport Initiative update. K. Auwaerter reported that the Everson Museum had installed works from its ceramic collection, including pieces by Adelaide Robineau and Syracuse China, in the exhibition cabinets at the airport. She noted that the Everson had succeeded in executing a very quick turn around on the installation in order to get the cabinets filled before the holiday rush; however, the signage explaining the program and its purpose (the airport's responsibility) was not yet complete. The Commission emphasized that this context was essential for understanding the installation. K. Auwaerter reported that the airport was working on the signage.

K. Auwaerter also reported that the Commissioner of Aviation had selected artists from the Artist Pool to prepare proposals for two potential temporary installations. The two artists – Benjamin Entner and Tim Frerichs – are scheduled to visit the airport shortly. K. Auwaerter noted that moving forward, she will assist the airport authority to formalize the art program guidelines and management. The Commission agreed that these were exciting first steps for the airport.

Carrie Mae Weems sculpture. N. Keefe Rhodes reported that she had informed artist Carrie Mae Weems that the Parks Department and Public Art Coordinator were discussing the installation of her sculpture, *Tatlin's Monument for the Future*, and that the City would contact her to discuss possible locations for the work. Although the Parks Department is considering Libba Cotten Park as the location for the sculpture, the N. Keefe Rhodes suggested that the artist might have other spaces in mind. This topic led to a discussion of Armory Square Park and the possible relocation of the *Shot Clock* to a more appropriate location (Blodgett School or Eastwood).

New City Park project update. K. Auwaerter updated the Commission on recent activities related to the New City Park project and handed out a one-page description and proposed budget for the project. She noted that as a City-run project it would have to move through the City's procurement process; as a result, the anticipated completion date is Summer 2016. The coming year will be dedicated to fundraising for the project with an anticipated RFP release date of Spring 2015. In the interim, the Downtown Committee is working with the Public Art Task Force to design simple interventions (painting, benches and planters) that will help activate the space while plans are being developed for the redesign. The Commission discussed briefly the public art component of the project. C. Goss stated that the committee working on this project must focus on and not lose sight of the artistic content of the entire project, which must be at the heart of the redesign for it to succeed.

2013 Annual Report/2014 Workplan. The Commission reviewed the proposed workplan for 2014. It agreed that the New City Park and the Airport Public Art program were top priorities. It also agreed that public education and outreach should be a priority for the coming year. The Commission discussed strategies for reaching out to artists to let them know that there is a process that allows for the installation of public art in the city. It also discussed the need for publicizing the work of the Commission, recent approvals, etc. K. Auwaerter will organize a subcommittee to work on the outreach strategies for the year.

V. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.