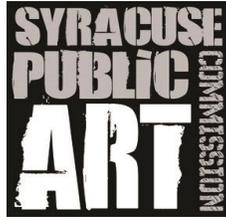


Approved as submitted



**REGULAR MEETING**

March 10, 2015

SyraStat Office (Rm 215 City Hall)

5:30 pm

Attendance

Present: Karen Convertino, George Curry, Bob Doucette, Corky Goss, Joanna Spitzner, Dan Ward

Absent: Rick Destito, Kerry Kennedy, London Ladd, Nancy Keefe Rhodes, Bahar Zaker

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

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

The Commission reviewed the minutes of January 13, 2015. B. Doucette made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by G. Curry. In discussion, K. Convertino requested the following correction:

Connective Corridor Public Art RFQ. K. Convertino noted the importance of durability and ease of maintenance for any works on public property. *In regard to the jury pool, she recommended that the Connective Corridor reach beyond SU alumni and faculty to identify jury members that are diverse and truly representative of the community.* N. Keefe Rhodes again emphasized the importance of the Commission's involvement as designs are progressed. The Commission noted that it wants individual applications (rather than a combined application) and suitable time to comment. The due date for the RFQ is March 1. J. Spitzner suggested that the Commission convene a workshop for artists, as discussed at previous meetings, prior to the March 1 deadline.

The minutes were approved unanimously as revised.

II. Old Business: *No Old Business*

III. New Business

Connective Corridor Public Art RFQ. Quinton Fletchall reported that the Connective Corridor had received 276 responses to its RFQ. The artist pool includes artists from 17 countries; of those 242 artists are from the United States, 85 are from New York State, and approximately 35-40 are from the CNY region. A steering committee is currently reviewing the entire pool to narrow it down to around 150 applications for the jury to review. As an aside, he noted that the jury pool composition had changed and was more diverse and representative of the community than originally proposed. The jury will select 12-15 semi-finalists by mid-April for a first round of interviews. From these interviews, 6-10 artists will be selected to create artworks along the Corridor. He reiterated that there were approximately 19 sites and the budget for the total program is \$650,000. There will be opportunity for community engagement when the finalists are selected. In discussion about potential sites, G. Curry noted that the Lemp Park site is considered a development site. Any agreements regarding artwork placed on the site would have to include provision for removal and possible relocation involving the artist should the site be sold for redevelopment.

SPAC 15-01 *Crow Requiem* (UVP), Cauleen Smith. Anneka Herre presented the application for the screening of *Crow Requiem* by artist Cauleen Smith. Cauleen Smith is the Light Works 2014 Artist in Residence. The work will be presented from April 7<sup>th</sup> through May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Everson Museum UVP site. A. Herre provided highlights from the artist's biography and the Commission reviewed a portion of the video. She noted that the work was in response to the artist's research into the migration of crows between Syracuse and Auburn and the recent high profile acts of violence against people of color across the country. K. Convertino made a motion to approve the application pending the submission of the final cut of the video for SPAC review, which was seconded by J. Spitzner. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion

Syracuse Memorial to Genocide. Paul Kardijian, Ara Tadevossian and Ed Kochian presented a summary of a project to create a memorial for the victims of genocide. Although the memorial is being organized and paid for by the local Armenian community, the presenters stressed that the memorial will be for all victims from across the world. They presented a couple images of a proposed large-scale, steel sculpture by Vahe Bedrosian, an LA-based artist. The sculpture is divided into two sections – mass burial and resurrection. They reported that they have raised approximately 40% of the funds for the project and they hope to be underway this summer or fall. They are looking to the city to assist with finding a prominent public location for the sculpture. The Commission stressed the importance of including the public in the discussion around the sculpture. K. Auwaerter offered to assist them to link up with some of the refugee programs as well as located suitable sites.

New Urban Space Project Update. K. Auwaerter and G. Curry reported that the 4 finalist design teams presented to the public on the evening of March 2 and then again to the jury the following day. K. Auwaerter noted that approximately 100 people attended the evening presentations. The jury, led by the Mayor, deliberated and selected the team headed by **Imelk**, a landscape architecture firm from New York City. The artist they have partnered with is Cecil Balmond. The jury will make this recommendation to the SURA board at its next meeting on March 24.

Airport Public Art. K. Auwaerter asked to table the discussion until the next meeting. She noted that she had not met yet with the director of the airport and so had no new information to provide.

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