



REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2014
SyraStat Office (Rm 215 City Hall)
5:30 pm

Attendance

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

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

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the March 11, 2014 and April 29, 2014. K. Convertino made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. G. Curry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

II. Old Business
No Old Business

III. New Business
SPAC 14-05 *Western Union: Small Boats (The Leopard)*, Isaac Julien.

SPAC 14-06 *Lock Alley*, Echo.

IV. Discussion

Airport Initiative update. K. Auwaerter reported that the Commissioner of Aviation had invited two artists to submit proposals: Tim Frerichs and Ben Entner. K. Auwaerter reported that Frerichs has developed a proposal for an installation on the upper floor of the new terminal building next to the security gates. Ben Entner was working on a proposal that might be part of a collaborative effort with the Onondaga Historical Association on the ground floor. More information on both works will be forthcoming.

New City Park and mural: K. Auwaerter made an introductory presentation to the Commission regarding the park site. She discussed the history of the site, current status and appearance, examples of possible different uses for the space and presented a variety of examples of public art in public spaces. She provided a summary of the project to redesign the vacant plaza and park space into a vibrant public space centered around a major work (or works) of public art. It is the goal of the project team to begin construction in 2015. She reported that 2014 will be a major fundraising year and that the Connective Corridor had already made a commitment of funding for the project.

In the interim, in order to enliven the space and generate ideas about its future redesign, the Downtown Committee has agreed to fund a large-scale mural project on the site. Adria Finch of the Downtown Committee presented examples of ground murals and other temporary, inexpensive, but high impact paintings that other communities have used to revitalize public spaces. She is working with the Public Art Taskforce to develop ideas for the mural and handed out some conceptual designs. She noted that at the recent presentation to the SURA board, the Mayor had suggested that mural incorporate the entire site and not just the plaza area. The Commission discussed the concept of the mural and urged the Downtown Committee to open up the design process to the wider artist community. K. Convertino noted that there are a number of artists in the community who have done large-scale mural projects and whose experience would be invaluable not only for design but installation. N. Keefe Rhodes added that the Commission had heard from artists who were looking for more opportunities to participate. C. Capella-Peters agreed with the Mayor's comment that the design should incorporate the entire site and that an artist would be able to develop creative solutions for how this could be accomplished.

Website development: J. Spitzner presented a draft design of a new website that she is developing for the Public Art program. It will be accessed through a link on the city website and will include not only the "official" documents and notifications, but also an interactive public art inventory, information about specific works, news, resources and other commentary.

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