

Approved as submitted



REGULAR MEETING

September 8, 2015

SyraStat Office (Rm 215 City Hall)

5:30 pm

Attendance

Present: George Curry, Rick Destito, Bob Doucette, Kerry Kennedy, Dan Ward, Bahar Zaker

Absent: Karen Convertino, Corky Goss, London Ladd, Nancy Keefe Rhodes, Joanna Spitzner

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

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

The Commission reviewed the minutes of July 28, 2015. K. Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, which was seconded by B. Zaker. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business:

SPAC 14-03: *Reach, Echo*. K. Auwaerter presented the final artwork for the mural at 508-510 Westcott Street, which the Commission had requested at the July meeting. She reported that the artists had decided to limit the mural to the wall facing the courtyard only. The mural includes the image of Daedalus reaching for the sun with the labyrinth at his feet, though the figure is now turned so that the viewer sees more of the figure's front torso instead of his back and wings (as in the original design presented to the Commission). No motion was required because the application had been approved at the last Commission meeting subject to the submittal of the final rendering.

III. New Business/Discussion

Connective Corridor Update: Quinton Fletchall provided an update on the Connective Corridor public art project. He noted that his office had been working closely with Syracuse University legal department to develop the language for the artist contracts. This had taken longer than anticipated and so the project schedule would need to be revised. He also provided the following update on the progress each artist has made to date:

Erwin Redl: The artist is interested in using the window display cases on the Civic Center for a lighting display. Q. Fletchall has contacted the County in regard to the cases.

Sam Van Aken: The most recent proposal is to use two unused tree pits on the Harrison Street side of the Everson Museum. The tree pits were part of the original IM Pei design, but were never used. Van Aken will be funded to plant a total of 8 trees.

Blessing Hancock: The artist has proposed to suspend a lighted artwork over Onondaga Creek at the Warehouse. Q. Fletchall has made initial inquiries with SU facilities and the City about a suspended work over the creek.

Dewitt Godfrey: Bank Alley is a potential location for a work by Godfrey.

BJ Kirvanek and Wesley Heiss are both waiting for contracts before they will initiate their projects.

The Commission discussed expectations for maintenance and the need for maintenance plans for each of the artworks. K. Kennedy asked if the Commission could see the draft contract language in order to understand the roles and responsibilities of the artists, SU and the eventual owners of the artwork.

Q. Fletchall also discussed briefly the sign painters that the Connective Corridor has selected to paint four murals along the Corridor. The locations for the signs include the SU Drama Building (E. Genesee St), Axa Tower garage structure (Harrison St); Montgomery St/Fayette St garage; and the Warehouse.

Eastwood artwork (proposed): Jeremiah Clifford made a short presentation to the Commission regarding a set of paintings that he proposed for a wall outside of his tattoo shop on James Street. He noted that the inspiration for the painting was based on an early photograph of the property, which showed three sign panels attached to the side of the property. The c. 1950 artwork of the signs within the panels inspired him to create signage for his business in a similar style in the same location. The Commission commended him for thinking creatively about the signage and for his artwork; however, they noted that because the proposed artwork was intended as advertising for his business, that it must go through Zoning and the sign permitting process. K. Auwaerter stated that she could assist him as needed.

IV. **Discussion**

Public Art Acquisition Fund. K. Auwaerter reported that signage for and/or restoration of public art in the City's public art collection were eligible expenses for the \$10,000 earmarked in the City budget for public art. The Commission suggested that the first priority would be simple plaques that could be attached to all the City-owned artwork. The Commission noted that moving forward signage should be built into the budget of all artwork to be paid for by or donated to the City. K. Auwaerter stated that she would start work on the signage project.

New Urban Space project: K. Auwaerter reminded the Commission that the design team lead by Imelk was visiting Syracuse from September 24-26. The Commission members are invited to participate in one of the focus groups with the design team. K. Auwaerter will send out the schedule for the focus groups shortly.

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