



## **PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**

October 16th 4pm 2018 meeting Pikes Peak Room City Hall

Meeting called to order 4.06pm by Chair Byers

In Attendance: Voting members

Bernard Byers (Chair), Kim Polomka (Secretary), Marta LaCombe, Sandy Friedman (Vice Chair),

Absent: Vincent Coleman, Sarah Stonestreet, Pam Sawyer, Lisa Cross.

City Staff Ted Skroback (Communication Specialist )

Matt Mayberry (Cultural Service Manager/Director)

Jacquelyn Puett

Council representative: Tom Strand

Parks and Board representative: David Siegel

Guest speaker Sean O'Mealie, Local Artist

Visitor: Emily, Graduate Colorado State University Fort Collins

Chair closed meeting at 4.34pm

As there was no quorum, minutes will be tabled till next meeting November 16th 2018

Councilor Stand, asked if the two new members of the AC had been notified, about this meeting. Councilor Stand informed the Commission that Alternates could be allowed to vote when a quorum has not been met. This is under consideration by City council.

Vice Chair Friedman asked about the funding for PAMP (Public Art Master Plan) and this was to be updated in the November meeting.

Concern was directed to a Commissioner member who has missed more than 3 consecutive meetings

Chair suggested that Ted Skroback (Communication Specialist) look into this non-attendance.

A point of order was brought to members, pertaining to temporary Chair responsibilities when the Chair and Vice Chair are not in attendance.

Councilor Stand made note that in the event the Chair and Vice Chair, a voting member of the commission should be the acting Chair.

Chair opened the meeting to Sean O'Mealie local Artist.

The artist gave a brief history on the Art on the Streets program and his commitment to the local Streetscape. He outlined his three proposed projects to beautify and inspire Downtown Colorado Springs

Spinning pinwheels at the Exchange National bank, suspension project between Tejon St and Plaza of the Rockies and running Green and red laser beams from Colorado College to Tejon Street.

All projects were accepted, and the question was asked to the artist, when could you have this completed.

The Issue of funding was then raised by artist. It seems to be the norm that artists are required to fund their projects, even though their work would benefit the Downtown.

Sean then explained to the members the process of Poly Poly sculpture and how this project eventuated.

Deborah Thorton from Imagination Celebration was in the process of securing a grant and reached out to artists to create works in Downtown space.

The Alleyway between Tejon and Nevada, especially the corner of Chipotle was of great interest to the artist. The alleyway suffers from Dumpsters, trash receptacles and cooking by products. The artist saw the opportunity to inject aesthetics into this specific area.

The artist explained that that the funding was his responsibly. Winning the AOTS (Art on the Streets) and using the 10K to get Poly Poly Project a reality.

There was help from Chuck Murphy from Murphy Constructors for the installation of Poly Poly and the suspension between 2 buildings.

The issue of wear and tear on the plastic sculptures (Poly Vinyl Chloride) was mentioned and that these items will need to be replaced.

Mention was made of the Chair project in Manitou and that this project was listed as one of the top five projects by Denver publication.

This was seen as a wonderful PR for Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs.

Sean then gave a presentation showing mockups of Buildings and how Poly Poly would fit into the existing streetscape and be suspended from 2 buildings.

There was a general discussion led by the Vice Chair about the various alleyways and how some have been vastly improved and the potential of others that could benefit from visual overhaul.

Councilor Strand made note of the improved inertia to address funding and improvements to the City, especially the Downtown face of Colorado Springs, he also invited members to come a workshop meeting to share the issues re the Arts.

The lack of Quorum was raised and the Communications specialist detailed why certain members were unable to attend this AC meeting. Councilor Strand made it clear that if there are too many commitments that hamper attendance then those should resign to give way to new members that can attend monthly meetings.

Councilor Strand asked the cost of the Poly Poly to be around \$10K, the artist responded that \$3K-\$4 including installation would be needed for maintenance of Poly Poly. HBNA and Downtown partnership are looking into putting cables and lights to enable similar projects.

Our Parks rep David Siegel brought up the issue about the importance of Planning Department. This is not a Parks issue but a planning issue. A suggestion that a member of the Planning commission served on the Art Commission. He also presented an actual case study in Boston where the Planning commission had staff that only dealt with public art.

The suggestion was put to the commission that a representative from planning department be invited to attend further meetings.

Councillor Strand suggested that LARK be contacted to support the Poly Poly and other art related projects.

This is related to tourism, and the arts in any community promote tourism which has the trickle down affect.

Councilor Strand mentioned the early November work session and that the chair and Vice chair attend.

Chair asked for any further member announcements.

Matt Mayberry mentioned that 50K necessary to engage the consultant for PAMP (Public Art Master Plan) will hopefully will be completed by December 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. Matt explained that as soon as the funding has been realized, there will be a contact drawn between the parties. The Art Commission will be involved in the early stages of PAMP.

Assistant to Council, City of Colorado Springs mentioned that the Public Art Commission was one of 5 commissions selected to have Youth Ambassador assigned to it. Applications are opened, and proposed to start January 2019.

Chair declared meeting over at 5.11pm

