



**UrbanArt Commission
Public Art Oversight Committee
Wednesday, January 9, 2019 - 1:00 PM**

ATTENDEES:

PAOC: Ellen Daugherty
Juaness Keplinger
Lisa Law (on phone)
Coriana Close
Mary Haizlip
Earnestine Jenkins

UAC: Lauren Kennedy
Brett Hanover

MINUTES:

- I. Welcome
 - a. Meeting is called to order.

- II. Approvals
 - a. Kennedy calls for a motion to approve the December meeting minutes, Haizlip motions, Close seconds. The minutes are unanimously approved.

 - b. Kennedy shares images of Greely Myatt's recently completed project at Overton Park for final acceptance by PAOC. UAC will request vendor/subcontractor information and breakdown of project expenses Greely, and other artists going forward. Law asks for warranty information for solar panels. Daugherty motions for final acceptance, Close seconds. Final acceptance is unanimously accepted.

 - c. Kennedy discusses drainage changes in design of Bruce Myers project at JFK park. Kennedy will confirm whether there are still flat surfaces, for wheelchair accessibility.

 - d. Hanover presents committee members for upcoming Movable Collection call - Melissa Sierra (MPL head of programming for COM Library Services), Tamika Carwell (teen services coordinator for COM Library Services), Kimberly Jacobs (curator), Carol Crown (art historian, UofM), and Andrea Morales (photojournalist). Hanover plans to add one additional artist representative; Daugherty expresses interest in an art teacher from SCS; Keplinger mentions possibility of representative from art department at LeMoyne Owen College. Pending the addition of someone connected with education, Kennedy calls for a motion to approve the committee. Keplinger motions, Haizlip seconds. Motion is unanimously approved.

III. Updates

- a. Movable Collection - Hanover shares draft language about the curatorial vision and selection criteria for the Movable Committee. Artists will submit specific works available for sale, along with a resume or CV. Daugherty suggests having an option for people who do not have a resume or CV - a cover letter or letter of recommendation. Daugherty asks whether the funds be specifically divided to different categories of artists. Hanover outlines the original purposes of the Movable Collection. Daugherty suggests specifically mandating purchases in certain categories. Haizlip suggests clearly stated goals for representation.
- b. Blight Out - Kennedy discusses conversations with Neighborhood Preservation Inc, Clean Memphis, and City of Memphis Public Works about aligning project funds with other blight initiatives. Hanover notes that Clean Memphis is formalizing plans to target blight in Klondike and either Raleigh or Whitehaven [note: later changed to Klondike and South City]. Kennedy recommends the Blight Out program to move to different areas in partnership with these groups, eventually hitting all 7 council districts. Jenkins asks what kind of sites are possibilities. Kennedy responds that temporary projects at land bank properties, permanent projects at medians, murals are all possibilities. Haizlip asks how difficult it will be to get art on medians approved. Kennedy shares that UAC will initially revisit applications for the Blight Out program before exploring issuing a new call to artists.
- c. FY20 City of Memphis Public Art Plan - Kennedy says that in response to problems with project sites, UAC is thinking of creating a pool of money for developing gateways or landmarks at neighborhood entrances. Office of Comprehensive Planning has expressed interest in this idea. Kennedy recommends allocating FY20 funds to support reissuing a call to artists for the Frayer Library, adding to pool from what remains of the previous project fund (11k). Kennedy is also interested in making an additional Movable Collection allocation in FY20, which could include purchasing work for the convention center. The final FY20 allocation is still being determined through the City budget process, but is estimated to be \$400,000, most of which would go to Landmarks funding and Movable Collection. Close asks if UAC can commission studio work on a theme for particular spaces, to bridge the gap between Movable and larger projects. Kennedy responds that it is possible but may change the spirit of purchasing studio work. It would feel like a smaller public art project, and may need a different moniker. UAC is also thinking of doing a small call for temporary projects using extra grant funds. Kennedy agrees that we do need to create some sort of entryway for artists who haven't applied for a large commission. Law notes her possible conflict of interest regarding the convention center remodel as an employee of the architect of record, LRK.
- d. Misc. Updates - No updates from Lester Merriweather for the mural on Wolf River Greenway at Humphreys and Walnut Grove. Douglas Kornfeld's fabricators begin this month, and UAC is having a meeting with the property managers of Heritage Landing soon to share the project details with residents. Bruce Meyers is looking to install his project for JFK Park in September. Cossitt Library contract with rhiza A+D is wrapping up, pending contract edits from the City of Memphis legal department. District Mural Program artists have an extended deadline of March 4 to turn in schematic design proposals for their respective sites. UAC is seeking City Council support for site issues related to Dunbar and Whitehaven sculpture projects.
- e. Whitehaven - Jenkins asks how information about the Whitehaven project is being shared with the community. Kennedy says Rebecca Hutchison has been contracted to support community engagement with the District Mural Program artists, and she and the artists are doing outreach. The most consistent communication is with the residents who use the community centers, etc, that the projects are located at. There has not been much public discussion about the larger Whitehaven sculpture project beyond the Town Hall meeting with CW Robinson in February 2018 because a site has not been identified. Jenkins suggests better promoting community engagement events. The committee discusses other ways to find city properties - Antonio Adams with General Services is recommended as a resource.