

January 21, 2016
8:30 A.M.
Newport, Oregon

The City of Newport Public Arts Committee met at the above date and time in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Bill Posner, Catherine Rickbone, Cynthia Jacobi, Judy Mayhew, Mary Peterson, and Tom Webb. Also in attendance were City Council Liaison Ralph Busby, City Recorder/Special Projects Director Peggy Hawker, and Artist CJ Rensch (via telephone at 8:52 A.M.).

CALL TO ORDER

Rickbone called the January 21, 2016 meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - DECEMBER 16, 2015

MOTION was made by Jacobi, seconded by Mayhew, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2015 meeting, as presented. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

DISCUSS DETAILS OF PUBLIC ART AWARD FOR THE AQUATIC CENTER

Rickbone reviewed the discussion from the previous meeting. Relevant excerpts from the minutes of that meeting follow:

"Kinetic Components

Webb suggested keeping the kinetic elements very simple. It was suggested that an obvious seam, or stitching, on the ball would denote the sports that occur at the Recreation Center. Posner agreed with a ball, if it was defined, and the kite. He also suggested a happy person, in a bright color, as the kinetic piece. Rickbone noted that she would like to see various color renderings for the sculpture.

Artist CJ Rensch joined the meeting, via telephone, at this point. Rickbone stated that the Committee was interested in discussing the kinetic components of the sculpture. Rensch explained that the kinetic elements work on a point loaded system or through a top loaded bearing or needle bearings. He stated that a point on point stainless steel loaded system is basically maintenance free. Posner asked what would happen in a heavy wind. Rensch reported that there are a couple of options for slowing movement, but that the elements are fairly heavy and can accommodate higher wind factors. Posner asked whether staff could use a pin to stop movement in a high wind. Rensch noted that this can be done by installing a set screw that can adjust the kinetic movement, adding that the kinetic element will adjust itself to the least amount of force. Webb asked whether there are noise issues with the pieces moving, and Rensch reported that there are no issues so far.

Further discussion ensued regarding the kinetic elements. Webb stated that he was in favor of a kite, but also favored more definition to the ball to make it appear to be a

basketball, soccer ball, etc. Posner suggested a generic sports ball with engraved seams. Rensch noted that he would prepare drawings of potential kinetic elements. Rickbone asked about the height of the ball, and Rensch reported that it would be 12 - 14 feet high. Jacobi stated that she was comfortable with the kinetic elements being a kite and stylized ball representing a sports ball. A further discussion ensued regarding the movement of the "happy person" at the end of the sculpture. It was asked how much this kinetic piece would move, and Rensch noted that it spins quite easily and would weigh approximately 45 - 50 pounds.

Pedestals

Rickbone noted that pedestals were discussed as a method of placing the sculpture higher. Rensch noted that, as discussed, there would be three 18-inch concrete pedestals that touch the ground. Webb asked whether the pedestals provide a foothold for climbing, and whether they would raise the overall height of the sculpture. Rensch suggested that a "no climbing" plaque could be placed on one of the pedestals. Jacobi suggested that the pedestals be oval so that there are no sharp edges. Rensch noted that the corners of the rectangular pedestals could be rounded. Posner and Jacobi agreed that the corners should be rounded.

Color

Rickbone asked about color alternatives. Posner suggested that if the inner color complemented the outer color, it would provide greater depth. Rensch stated that stainless disappears on gray days. He added that the Committee could look at one color for the exterior of the sculpture with different colors in the center cut-outs. Posner suggested that the people be one color, and the inside and the kinetic elements be another color, but the same color. Rensch suggested obtaining Sherwin Williams samples, and added that he would send line drawings. Rickbone suggested that the figures be white with different colors on the inside. It was agreed that black, brown, taupe, sand, deep purple, and other colors would not work. Jacobi asked whether red is more prone to fading. She suggested using red, yellow, and blue for the inside of the people. Rickbone suggested adding green to the color palette. She also suggested that the mobile figure be the same color scheme as the upper kinetic elements. Rensch asked whether there is a color theme to carry through inside and out. A discussion ensued regarding having the after school youth participants work with a line drawing of the sculpture. Rensch offered to work with community youth on this project. Webb added that there are youth classes at the VAC. Rickbone asked Rensch to provide color ideas from today's discussion.

Further discussion ensued regarding involving community youth in the project planning. It was suggested that January 21 and February 18 are possible dates for youth participation. Rickbone noted that testing dates need to be determined so there would not be a conflict. Jacobi asked what age group is recommended for participation. Rensch suggested K-6 grade children, and added that the project could be distributed to home room teachers. He noted that he has wooden "happy humans" that the children could take home. Webb stated that the youth participation could be used as a photo opportunity for a press release, adding that it would generate momentum. Rensch stated that if the

teachers had the information in advance, he could visit several classrooms in one day. Webb suggested adding a “meet the artist” luncheon. Webb and Rench agreed to make contacts in the schools, and Webb noted that it would be beneficial to have a sketch prior to contacting teachers.

Rickbone noted that the work with youth could be publicized in a press release. Webb suggested distributing copies of the rendering throughout the community; Rench would work in the classroom; press releases would be issued regarding this event; and an invitation to the community to a reception at City Hall.”

Rench joined the meeting at 8:52 A.M.

A discussion ensued regarding the pedestals. Webb suggested that they be wider to give people more of a sense that it is a seating area. Rench noted that it could be a great opportunity for a seating area, but would need to include appropriate signage. He added that the engineering design will dictate some of the parameters.

A discussion ensued regarding color and the outreach to local school children to participate in the possible color selection of the sculpture. It was noted that a line drawing would be prepared for the students. Webb agreed to talk with school officials about participating in the program.

Discussion ensued regarding the unveiling of the art and the opening of the building occur at once.

Rench explained the school outreach program in detail. He noted that K-6 students are the most amenable to the project. He stated that he would send wooden “happy people” for Webb to use when explaining the project to school officials. He noted that he would plan to spend one to three days in Newport working with the students and community. He suggested finding time in the morning that works for all classes.

A discussion ensued regarding the timeframe for the student project. Webb suggested that the outreach occur after spring break but not too close to the end of the school year. It was suggested that the outreach occur in April.

It was recommended that the participating schools be Sam Case and Yaquina View Elementary Schools. Rickbone suggested building publicity around this initiative with “meet the artist” opportunities and more.

Webb suggested adding text to the PDF line drawing to help participants understand the project. Mayhew suggested enlarging the line drawing for ease of use by the younger students. Rench suggested utilizing a large transparency rendering of the sculpture with the building in the background for each homeroom. Peterson suggested giving an option to participate to middle and high school students. Busby recommended having media outlets print the line drawing for community participation, or include a link to the drawing on the city’s website. Webb noted that the Committee will need to discuss a window for submission. Posner suggested judging only from student submissions. Mayhew noted

that the Committee shouldn't have to select one. Rench suggested a contest duration of two to three weeks. He reported that Terre Haute held a slide show of his other works around the United States. Peterson asked at what point in the contest/installation process the reception was held, and Rench noted that this occurred at installation due to travel. It was agreed that a "meet the artist" event, along with the classroom work, would be beneficial.

Rench requested that the Committee work on the text for the drawing. Rickbone noted that the Committee could develop the title and text. She asked Rench what he needed from the Committee, at this time, and he indicated that once the engineering package is complete, he might have other questions. He added that he expects the engineering to be finished within the next month.

PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM - DISCUSSION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROGRAM TO ALLOW FOR A DECREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE ALLOCATED FOR PUBLIC ART IF A PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECT IS OVER BUDGET

Due to time constraints, it was agreed to discuss this item at the next meeting.

PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM - DISCUSSION REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE PROGRAM TO RENOVATION PROJECTS OF CITY-OWNED BUILDINGS

Due to time constraints, it was agreed to discuss this item at the next meeting.

BAYFRONT MURAL PROGRAM

Posner noted that he is ready to go on the mural project for the last inspection. He added that the inventory forms are ready and include a photograph of each mural. Peterson asked whether the "welcome to the Bayfront" was included in the inventory.

A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of the Committee participating in a walking tour to view the Bayfront murals.

ESTABLISH NEXT AGENDA

It was agreed to continue discussion of the student project; the Percent for the Arts Program items; and the Bayfront mural program at the next meeting.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 8:30 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 A.M.