

Members present: Marsha Carrington, Robin Hudnall, Chris Parthemore, Adam Ramsdell, Gail Riedy, Brian Stanley, Jordan Sternberg, Martha Wikel and Ex-Officio member Greg Voltz

Members Absent: Cable Steinemann; Ex-Officio Members Roz Shepherd and Dennis Murray

Staff Present: Kelly Kresser (Clerk)

Brian Stanley, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of Brian Stanley and second of Adam Ramsdell, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2019, meeting. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Hike Hancock/Walk Wayne – Discussion of Proposal

Greg Voltz introduced Stephanie Rond who submitted a proposal/concept for this project. Stephanie Rond said her proposal is to engage this neighborhood through temporary public art. It will consist of four temporary art installations made with spray-painted stencils using a marine coating called “City Dwellers”. There will be four themes pertaining to animals or insects in an urban setting with a written element.

1. *Hive Mind* – 4’ x 4’ (or larger) beehive with prompts or suggestions for people to leave positive messages of what they want the community to “BE”, such as “Be Kind”, “Be Strong” or “Be Funny”. Participants will use markers to put these sayings on one side of the bee which will be affixed to a pole or dowel rod and staked into the ground around the hive.
2. *A Little Birdie Told Me* – Filling the existing planters or along the sidewalks or grassy areas with “City Dweller” birds. Similar to the hives, these will allow for words to be written on one side with positive community messages, words of wisdom, etc.
3. *Cat’s Meow & Man’s Best Friend* – The intention of this installation would be to honor persons from the community using cats (cat’s meow) and dogs (dog’s best friend”). People from the community would have the ability to write messages on paper using a mixture of flour and water. Their messages would adhere to the “wall” alongside the cats and dogs. This could be done on the brick bakery building on the corner of Hancock and Scott Streets, or on a freestanding wall in the shape of a triangle.

4. *School of Fish* – The fence at Monroe and Hancock Streets will potentially be utilized to create a water scene with plastic or cloth and netting. Fish will be pre-made and people from the community will be able to paint the fish and write messages about what they would like to see for the city's future.

Stephanie Rond said the messages written and made by members of the community would be done in a safe space such as a tent. She figured a cost of \$1,675 per installation which includes her time and travel for four single day events in June, July, August and September, as well as the costs associated with bringing the artwork from Columbus to Sandusky. She spoke with staff in the Planning Department who felt theft or vandalism should not be an issue here and hopes the community would embrace it and feel ownership toward it rather than steal or destroy. All of the installations are meant to be temporary and more about collaboration than permanent works of art. Talon Flohr said as the Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator, he will be helping to get the word out about events through social media, email and canvassing those in the Hancock/Wayne neighborhood to increase participation. Stephanie Rond said her experience with residents in Columbus for these types of exhibits has brought the community together to create very serious and beautiful messages. As an alternative to putting the animals/insects into the existing planters, Marsha Carrington asked if it might be possible to use the individual containers (each) as a body part of an animal. Greg Voltz said he will email the dates for the neighborhood events so members may participate by volunteering. The dates will coincide with the Bazaar & Brew events.

Temporary Transit Shelter Murals

Upon motion of Jordan Sternberg and second of Adam Ramsdell, the commission voted to support moving forward with the proposal submitted by Jordan Evans.

Discussion: Greg Voltz said the four proposals for these murals were scored by Brian Stanley, Jordan Sternberg, Adam Ramsdell and Nicole DeFreitas (Transit Administrator). The highest score was for the proposal submitted by Jordan Evans. Additionally, City Manager Eric Wobser submitted a letter supporting the artist Jordan Evans. Brian Stanley said the artists all had different styles and presentations which made it tricky to score them, but agrees with moving forward with the proposal submitted by Jordan Evans. Jordan Sternberg said the artists were very diverse, but appreciate the Evans proposal because of its twist. Adam Ramsdell said the Evans proposal offered a wide and interesting appeal for the entire community while being unique. Greg Voltz said if the members vote to proceed with Jordan Evans, he will contact him to come to the next meeting of the Commission.

The Chairman declared the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Digital Storytelling Project – Carolyn Culbertson

Carolyn Culbertson said storytelling has been going on for a very long time using various venues for stories to be told. These stories live forever and she believes Sandusky has a **lot** of them to tell. Leveraging the arts would be great opportunity to empower people of all ages and diverse backgrounds in the community to participate. Because Lake Erie is in trouble, she suggested partnering with members of the Sandusky Youth Commission with a theme attached to environmentalism. Sandusky is a destination community and our environment is improving, but this is all part of who we are and the environment and cleaning up Lake Erie could provide a strong narrative for some type of community project tied to digital storytelling. Storytelling requires visually-driven mechanisms and said the community might get engaged through some large temporary art installation to lead the way to cleaning up our waterways and shoreline. She works with children and believes their thoughts about our future, recycling and doing things to better our environment would be great themes. Marsha Carrington said the Lake Erie Monster has been part of our history, has been talked about by this commission and liked the idea of pairing this theme to youth and to our environment. Adam Ramsdell said this could have a large impact and if the Lake Erie Monster were personified with some type of welded structure and used for people to deposit recyclables, it would be a great message by personifying the monster. Greg Voltz asked if the members liked the idea of pairing this theme with the Arts Festival discussed for 2020, and suggested if someone might want to take this concept and run with it, he would welcome that. Chris Parthemore said the concept of Lemmy the Lake Erie Monster could finally be properly embraced by Sandusky as no other community has really done this yet. City Commissioner Nikki Lloyd said with the recent closure of the recycling site on First Street, we have learned there needs to be more education about how to recycle and suggested members of this commission work with the Sandusky Youth Commission. They embraced this idea for their class/group project and will be designing and creating a mural tied to recycling and the environment. Talon Flohr said he believes members of the Youth Commission will embrace this concept and probably would love to join forces with members of the Public Arts & Culture Commission. Nikki Lloyd said one of the regular vendors at the Farmer's Market uses the plastic six-pack toppers to make planters and the concept of repurposing our own garbage is a great idea.

NEW BUSINESS

Greg Voltz said members of **The Lange Trust contacted him and are interested in keeping the sculptures on loan** for an additional (one) year. He has asked them to provide a written proposal for consideration and anticipates bringing this to the June meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:53 p.m., upon motion of Chris Parthemore and second of Adam Ramsdell, the commission voted to adjourn. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Attest: Kelly Kresser, Clerk
Date: ____/____/____

Brian Stanley, Chairman
Date: ____/____/____