

**The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:15PM**

**ROLL CALL**

**Members present:** Marsha Carrington, Shawn Daley, Robin Lloyd, Chris Parthemore, Brian Stanley, Cable Steinemann, and Martha Wikel

**Ex-Officio Members present:** Arin Blair, Blake Harris, and Michelle Newell

**Members absent:** Adam Ramsdell, Jordan Sternberg

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Shawn Daley made motion, second by Robin Lloyd to approve minutes from 03.15.22. Being no objections, Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Columbus Avenue Design Team Consultants:**

Ms. Cullen Meves of MKSK presented an overview of the focus group renderings that would provide a larger footprint for artwork within the Columbus Avenue corridor. She wanted to start a conversation of what the Public Art Committee would like to see incorporated within the “festival street scape”. The plan would include a 12’ dining and spill-out zone, adjacent to an 8’ sidewalk zone, a 9.5’ amenity zone for a tree canopy with lighting, 8’ parallel parking, and 12’ drive lanes. Arin added that all downtown owners and operators were invited to take a site tour approximately a month ago for their feedback. New crosswalk configuration, benches, planters, and lighting are items that will need to be addressed. The committee was asked to think about where installation and size of artwork placement would best be incorporated into the plan. Discussion on the idea of interactive artwork pieces, the difference between decorative pieces and artwork, the importance of an aesthetically pleasing flow was of importance. The committee discussed the priority of focusing on artwork installations and another committee or persons to select furnishings, lighting and such would be best. Arin reminded the committee that they were designing the exact placement of every piece of furnishing within the corridor so selection of size and space needs to be determined. The discussion of placing artwork on the bump outs at the intersections between Market and Water Streets as a starting point and Columbus Avenue as a focus, with several pieces placed between. Sculptures were the most popular idea of artwork that flowed or had a continuing theme as liked. The idea of radiant heated panels under the artwork was discussed to repel ice and snow. Arin would like to build a database of artists for artwork submissions.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Art Box Program Update:**

Arin has not heard back yet from First Energy about painting the boxes on Shoreline Drive. She is concerned about the voltage of those boxes. If artists do not paint them, she was thinking of asking First Energy to repaint them since they are so faded. In her research, the other cities doing art box painting are painting traffic control low-voltage boxes not electric utility boxes.

Public Works is comfortable with artists painting our traffic control boxes. The boxes are located at the intersections, which have good visibility, and all are located in city owned public right-of-way. Arin spoke with the Art Box program facilitator in Boston, and she is sending all the pros and cons they had with their program. Two years ago, they painted 40 boxes, many of which were near the artist's homes or neighborhoods. Last year they had 483 applications by artists and painted over 100 boxes. Consensus was to let the artist chose what box they would like to paint.

**Vinyl Mural Program Update:**

Seven of the nine businesses contacted received approval. The following were approved: 207, 220 & 231 Water Street, 129 Columbus Avenue, 246 & 301 Market Street, 401 Shoreline Drive. The Planning Commission approved the plan. The new intern is working on the document for the program. The idea of less parameters giving the artists freedom to submit what they wanted for artwork was accepted. Arin stated a call for artists would be posted on the city website, Facebook, the committee sharing it on their social media, and to her artist database. She asked the committee to share their artist databases with her as well to get the word out. The artwork would need to be submitted as a digital file to be able to print. Most murals would be at least 10 x 15'. Each business will have approval/veto power of artwork.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a motion of Shawn Daley, the meeting adjourned at 5:49pm. The Chairman declared the motion passed.**

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**Cathleen Myers, Clerk**

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**Brian Stanley, Chairperson**