

**Members present:** Chris Parthemore, Adam Ramsdell, Marsha Carrington, Brian Stanley, Jordan Sternberg and Martha Wikel

**Ex-Officio Members present:** Dennis Murray, Michelle Newell and Greg Voltz

**Members Absent:** Robin Hudnall, Gail Riedy, Cable Steinemann

**Staff Present:** Kelly Kresser (Clerk)

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Upon motion of Chris Parthemore and second of Adam Ramsdell, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2019, meeting and suspend the formal reading. The Chairman declared the motion passed.**

### **Pre-Qualified Artists Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

**Upon motion of Chris Parthemore and second of Jordan Sternberg, the members voted to approve and release the RFQ for the pre-qualified artist list.**

*Discussion:* Greg Voltz said this RFQ has no deadline and will remain open and available for artists to submit qualifications. Individual artist qualifications would be scored every time a new project arises. The initial release will be out for two months and a deadline is set for the first round. The RFQ can be reissued biannually allowing for artists to update their qualifications and/or ask to be removed. Members of this commission could look to different artists depending upon the medium chosen. Projects which are expected to cost under \$10,000 could start immediately while commission approval would be required if they are to be more than this amount.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Marsha Carrington, Chris Parthemore, Adam Ramsdell, Brian Stanley, Jordan Sternberg, Martha Wikel, Michelle Newell and Dennis Murray, 8. Abstain: Greg Voltz, 1. The Chairman declared the motion passed.**

### **Potential Grant Program**

#### **A. Public Art Artist or Artist Group Project Grants**

Greg Voltz said this type of grant would be available for an artist or a group of artists who would need funding and proposes to dedicate a maximum of \$15,000 per year. They would be required to submit their idea, fill out the application and meet the criteria and goals in order to receive reimbursement. As an example, someone wishing to create a mural may purchase materials needed and then provide receipts for reimbursement. Brian Stanley noted the provision excluding private land and Greg Voltz said he can remove this reference since it

could either be public or privately-owned property. Pre-qualified artists would have the ability to apply for these grant funds for projects as well as others who may not have this on file. Chris Parthemore said he would like the reference to projects displaying “vulgar” messaging removed since this would be subject to interpretation (Section II – Project Exclusions: 1). The ability for public art should be made available, but not judged.

**B. Business/Organization Matching Grant**

Greg Voltz said this grant would be offered for public art projects by businesses or organizations and proposes dedicating a maximum of \$15,000 per year. All applications would have to be approved by this commission and the applicant would have to provide a fifty percent match, at minimum. Projects in or on a private building would be excluded with the exception of murals and only on single- or two-family residentially zoned properties. These projects would be led more by this commission rather than an artist. The amount was chosen as a starting point for budgeting purposes and said one large project could potentially utilize all of this money and would have a greater impact.

Greg Voltz said he will bring back another draft of each of these items (A and B above) at the December meeting for another discussion prior to finalizing them.

**Updates on Current Projects**

**A. Transit Shelter Murals**

Greg Voltz thanked Marsha Carrington for opening up Carrington Art Gallery on Saturday and hosting an artist reception for Jordan Arnell Evans who designed the four Sandusky Transit System murals. He said these murals were designed for a three- to five-year lifespan and said the city will be watching and will have them removed once they start to fade. He is hopeful we may be able to do other murals in the future and said they have been very well received and Jordan Evans was thankful and appreciative for the opportunity to do work in his hometown.

**B. Underpass Gateway Lighting Projects**

Greg Voltz said the Request for Proposals (RFP) is out for this project and he has been getting a lot of calls. Josh Snyder, our Assistant City Engineer, has been very helpful in responding to some of the technical questions. One of the lighting artists who inquired did the lighting for Terminal Tower in Cleveland and Greg expects we will get a wide range of responses to the RFP. Members of the Public Arts & Culture Commission also received the packet and are encouraged to send this to anyone who they think might be interested in responding. The deadline is December 3 at 1 p.m.

### **2020 Work Plan**

Based on 2019 admissions tax collections and 2020 projections, Greg Voltz said he estimates having a working budget of \$40,000 to \$50,000 for CY 2020 in addition to the money left over from this year of approximately \$35,000.

Projects previously discussed and for consideration in 2020 include:

1. Grant programs for public art artists and/or installation(s);
2. Underpass lighting;
3. Artist Meet & Greet event(s);
4. Graffiti wall project;
5. Lake Erie Monster project;
6. Hosting an Art Festival;
7. Art Park;
8. Welcoming Sandusky Mural(s);
9. Temporary transit murals;
10. City-wide lighting project;
11. Temporary sculpture exhibit(s);
12. Jackson Street Pier artwork.

Greg Voltz said Marsha Carrington provided a rough sketch of a Lake Erie Monster which could be used during some type of art festival to bring awareness about our environment and keeping Lake Erie clean. Marsha Carrington suggested working with someone like Thomas Tetzloff who is from Sandusky and makes many different kinds of art using recycled materials. Greg Voltz said the Lake Erie Foundation is interested in this type of a project or event and Absolute Vodka may partner for sponsorship.

Greg Voltz asked if there are any other ideas for projects in CY 2020. There is strong interest in a graffiti wall and various ideas were shared about their success in other communities. Greg Voltz said he would keep this on the Work Plan and start researching potential locations. He would like this Commission to focus on a gallery for the new City Hall in 2020. Chris Parthemore suggested refreshing the banners on the light poles in downtown and Greg Voltz said McKenzie Spriggs, who works in the City Manager's Office, has been looking into getting new banners. Adam Ramsdell suggested consideration be given to outdoor lighting along the Sandusky Bay Pathway, the shoreline and in city parks. Chris Parthemore asked if the shrubs which spell out "Sandusky" at Cleveland Road and Warren Street could be revamped or updated. Greg Voltz said he will draft a 2020 Work Plan and submit it for consideration at the December meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**LEWCO Paint Donation**


Greg Voltz said LEWCO contacted the city about donating some unused and unopened enamel paint in various colors. Adam Ramsdell said he would assume, because of the nature of their business, this paint would be for a metal project and could withstand extreme environments, but cannot think of a specific use for it. Greg Voltz said he would contact LEWCO, thank them for the offer and let them know we do not have a use for it.


**2020 Meeting Schedule**

The members concurred with the proposed 2020 meeting schedule and they were set for the third Tuesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. beginning in January, 2020.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:02 p.m., upon motion of Chris Parthemore and second of Jordan Sternberg, the commission voted to adjourn. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

  
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Attest: Kelly Kresser, Clerk  
Date: 12/18/19

  
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Chris Parthemore, Acting Chairperson  
Date: 12/18/19