

Members present: Marsha Carrington, Robin Hudnall, Adam Ramsdell, Cable Steinemann, Brian Stanley, Martha Wikel, Roz Shepherd (Ex-Officio) [arrived 5:53 p.m.] and Greg Voltz (Ex-Officio)

Members Absent: Jordan Sternberg, Ethan Unzicker and Beth Maiden

Staff Present: Kelly Kresser (Clerk), Eric Wobser, Amanda Golden and Josh Lapp with Designing Local

CURRENT BUSINESS

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Cable Steinemann stated he received a call today and **Rhonda Watt has resigned from the Public Art & Culture Commission for personal reasons and asked if anyone else wished to serve as the Chairperson. There being no names brought forward for consideration, Mr. Steinemann stated he would begin serving in this capacity.**

Chairman Steinemann asked if there were nominations for the position of Vice Chairman. Chairman Steinemann nominated Adam Ramsdell who declined; he nominated Brian Stanley who accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Chairman Steinemann asked if anyone opposed this nomination. Chairman Steinemann announced Brian Stanley is the new Vice President of the Commission.

Chairman Steinemann said Martha Wikel will be a regular member as the City Manager has changed her status due to the resignation of Rhonda Watt.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of Adam Ramsdell and second of Martha Wikel, the commission voted to approve the minutes as drafted and submitted. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Site Recommendations for Lange Trust/Midwest Sculpture Initiative

Greg Voltz said the City of Sandusky's Bicentennial Vision/Strategic Vision calls for utilizing public art as a lasting legacy of the Bicentennial by partnering with local foundations. The Lange Trust is working with the Midwest Sculpture Initiative to locate eight temporary sculptures through Sandusky. During the July, 2018 meeting, the Public Art & Culture Commission recommended the Lange Trust look at utilizing the triangle parks for these sculptures. The draft Placemaking Plan also proposed a project to link the triangle parks. The proposed locations were identified as:

1. Chesapeake Lofts Northwest corner
2. Shoreline Park (Southwest corner)
3. Sandusky Library (tree lawn on Columbus Avenue)
4. Parklet at Central Avenue/Decatur Street & Adams Street

5. West Park (Columbus Avenue & Monroe Street)
6. East Park (Columbus Avenue & Monroe Street)
7. Sandusky Greenhouse (Franklin & Elm Streets)
8. Parklet at Adams Street/Hancock Street & Huron Avenue

Greg Voltz said the city's Planning staff recommends supporting the proposed locations for the Lange Trust/Midwest Sculpture Initiative: Sculpture on Loan program. The Lange Trust has designated a committee to select the sculptures to come to Sandusky. Cable Steinemann said he is not a proponent of these being placed in tree lawns but is fine with all other locations. Adam Ramsdell asked if this project will be promoted and/or advertised and Greg Voltz said this will be done through the Lange Trust and Shores & Islands. Cable Steinemann expressed his appreciation to the Lange Trust, on behalf of the entire Public Art & Culture Commission, for funding this project and seeing it through.

Upon motion of Cable Steinemann and second of Robin Hudnall, the commission voted to accept these recommended locations as presented. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Public Art & Placemaking Plan

Greg Voltz said Amanda Golden and Josh Lapp submitted a **draft Public Art & Placemaking Plan**. Arts and culture is highlighted within the Destination City section of the city's Strategic Vision document. The process for the project included preliminary data gathering, surveying, public outreach and presentations throughout the process. The public outreach component included a community open house, stakeholder conversations and individual conversations. With input provided through public outreach, the consultants created a draft plan based on this feedback. Through public feedback, the draft plan creates a 'Spirit of Sandusky' framework meant to guide future projects, strategies and ideas. The city's Bicentennial is the context this plan is set within. The plan is focused on maintaining artistic integrity, community identity and using public art as a resource in economic development. Designing Local was also tasked with assisting the City of Sandusky in creating an administrative guide for staff so the city is able to administer a program of high quality while being responsible. Greg Voltz said staff recommends a favorable recommendation to the City Commission for the adoption of the Public Art & Placemaking Plan.

Amanda Golden asked if there were questions about this document. Cable Steinemann indicated he submitted a letter with clarifying questions on August 5 and left phone messages, but has not received a call or responses to his questions; he expressed his desire for this to be a professional document. In this letter, he suggested the use of willow trees rather than Cedar trees, photographs which show a more diversified community and questioned the use of specific words. Greg Voltz stated he did respond to these emails and indicated the use of photos of Cedar trees was meant to be interpretive from an artist standpoint and said photos of the Freedom Shrine were included and are meant to present diversity. Cable Steinemann questioned the use of the word continuation in the document and Amanda Golden said this language was reviewed by the city's attorney and is policy language which should be included. Amanda Golden stated she did

not receive a voicemail message from Cable Steinemann but did receive an email from Rhonda Watt and her points were addressed via email although he (Cable) was not copied on this response (as he was not included in the original email). Adam Ramsdell asked if the audience for this document is everyone in the city and said he understands these are minor interpretive issues and artists speak for themselves. Eric Wobser said he is hearing through this discussion the members seem comfortable with the spirit of the Plan although there may be some specific changes to be made. If this is the case, he asked the members to consider passing this on a conditional basis leaving room for another review. Amanda Golden noted none of the content has changed since the first draft of the Plan document although some of the renderings and pictures have changed. Cable Steinemann asked about the use of the Masonic symbols in public art and Eric Wobser stated this is not meant to be a literal religious symbol but is representative of the community and this can be discussed when specific projects may come up for discussion at a later date if this grid or symbol is used. Amanda Golden reiterated these proposed projects are only conceptual and meant to generate creative ideas.

Upon motion of Adam Ramsdell and second of Brian Stanley, the commission voted to recommend the spirit of the Public Art & Placemaking Plan, as written, based on a conditional review of it.

Discussion: Robin Hudnall said she is not certain she supports this as she has not seen nor read the Plan. Kelly Kresser indicated she can make this document available via print/paper as well as a pdf document for further review. Eric Wobser said he understands the passion with this Plan and getting it right and the real work will begin after it is adopted. Amanda Golden said the next step is for this to be recommended for consideration to the City Commission. She asked all members to provide their input by September 11 and if appropriate, will be incorporated into the final document.

The President declared the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS


Greg Voltz said as a training exercise, he would like to present, for consideration, the possibility accepting the donation of a collection of prints called "The Barnkeepers: Ohio Barns and Those That Keep Them". Marsha Carrington said the photographer, Michael S. Cohen, reached out to her as he is interested in donating them to Sandusky and feels this would be a great opportunity. Greg Voltz said staff has looked at this request and first considered the rationale for the intent, the statement about the artwork and the artist, the project timeline and potential locations including the new City Hall or Firelands Regional Medical Center. Greg Voltz said staff does not recommend accepting this collection, but does recommend the members assist in finding an alternate location for it because of its historical nature to this area. Eric Wobser said in

considering this, staff thought they could reach out to the Ohio Veterans Home, the Erie County Fairgrounds, Erie MetroParks or others who may be interested in accepting it. Josh Lapp indicated Designing Local has a working relationship with the Ohio Arts Council and said he can pursue their potential interest in the collection or other arts organizations in the State of Ohio. Robin Hudnall asked what will happen to the artwork at the end of a display or if locations change and Cable Steinemann said this is covered in the Public Art & Placemaking Plan's Collection Management Policy.

Upon motion of Cable Steinemann and second of Adam Ramsdell, the commission voted for the city to assist in finding a new home for this collection as appropriate for the content and the artist. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:34 p.m., upon motion of Cable Steinemann and second of Adam Ramsdell, the commission voted to adjourn. The Chairman declared the motion passed.



Attest: Kelly Kresser, Clerk
Date: 9/27/18



Cable Steinemann, Chairman
Date: 9/27/18