

**Chapel Hill Public Arts Commission  
Meeting Summary – September 8, 2010**

Present: Jerry Bolas, Chair; Andrew Gerschutz; Enid Handler; Megan Johnson; Amanda Miller; Scott Radway; Whit Rummel; George Small; Jennifer Wales; Steve Wright, Public Art Coordinator; Jeff York, Public Art Administrator; Leslie Bride, guest

Absent: Banu Valladares

**I. Call to Order / Introduction of Guests**

Bolas called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm and invited those present to introduce themselves.

**II. Approval of Minutes of July 2010**

The July 2010 minutes were approved.

**III. Nominations and Election of Officers**

Bolas was nominated to serve as Commission Chair for the current fiscal year. The nomination was seconded, no other nominations were made, and nominations were closed. Bolas was unanimously elected to serve as Chair.

Bolas suggested the CHPAC use a Nominating Committee for the election of a Vice Chair and future elections. Nominations and self-nominations should be submitted to the committee in the next two weeks and the election of the Vice Chair will occur at the October CHPAC meeting. Handler volunteered to Chair the Nominating Committee and Gerschutz volunteered to serve on the committee.

**IV. Strategic Planning Consultant Report Revision and Discussion of Next Steps and Commission Name**

Bolas asked Commissioners to discuss possible names for the new Commission, revise the planning document before them, and develop a shortlist of 12 – 15 stakeholders for the consultant to interview. Commissioners discussed possible meanings of “arts”, “culture”, “Cultural Arts”, “Public Art” and more. Commissioners felt that “Chapel Hill” was an important part of the brand. A shortlist of possible of future Commission names was created and voted upon. The top three potential names were “Chapel Hill Arts Commission” (10 votes), “Chapel Hill Commission for the Arts” (9 votes), and “Chapel Hill Cultural Arts Commission” (6 votes). The document “Chapel Hill Arts and Culture Commission” was reviewed and Commissioners were requested to submit edits of this document to York in the upcoming week. Commissioners were also asked to submit specific names of possible stakeholders for the consultant to interview.

**V. Public Art Administrator’s Quick Reports**

Scrapel Hill II – York announced that the exhibit will open at University Mall October 16. Wright showed photographs of selected work to be displayed.

Sculpture Visions – Wright displayed images of the 14 pieces selected for the 2010-2011 exhibit. De-installations of the current exhibit should be complete by the end of September, contracting and scheduling of the upcoming exhibit are occurring now, and installations are being scheduled for October.

Festfall – 174 artists’ applications have been received and 120 have been selected to exhibit at Festfall on October 3, up from 75 artists who exhibited last year. Arts Commissioner volunteers are requested for 3-hour shifts for the event between noon and 6 p.m.

Artwork Conservation Report – Wright showed images of the bronze pieces of Larry Kirkland’s “In Our Hands”, which are in need of conservation. Carl Regutti, a local sculptor familiar with bronze who also maintains Cary’s collection, has been contracted to clean and conserve the pieces. He will begin work next week.

New York Foundation for the Arts Career Building Workshop report – 70 artists attended the July 24 daytime event, 35 attended the evening lecture, and 20 artists participated in one-on-one consultations.

Percent For Art letter – A citizen’s recent letter to the editor regarding Percent For Art projects gave incorrect information. The correct data for the projects in question are as follows: public art planned for 140 West is not funded by the Town but by Ram Development Company, which is providing an additional \$200,000 to the Town for event

programming in the plaza; of the funds spent on public art at the Town Operations Center, \$220,000 were federal grant monies that had to be spent on-site. This information has been provided to the Mayor's Office, which may write an op-ed piece to correct the misinformation. Commissioners are also welcome to write letters of clarification.

Old Library Building – The Chapel Hill Museum will vacate the building by October 15; the Historical Society will remain in a portion of the basement. York has submitted a 15-page report on options for short- and long-term use of the space.

140 West Percent For Art Project – Project artist Mikyoung Kim is back under contract and in the Construction Drawings phase. Ram Development Company may break ground in October. Radway suggested finding a way to use the construction barriers as canvasses for art projects by local students.

## **VI. Committee Reports**

Permanent Collection – Handler reported that she, Johnson, Wales and Wright reviewed photos of artwork in the Town's possession and that many were of unknown origin. The following motion was made, seconded and unanimously endorsed by the Commission: "The Chapel Hill Public Arts Commission recommends Town Council recognize items in Attachment A identified as "recommended for Permanent Collection" and "already considered a part of the Permanent Collection" as the Town's Permanent Collection." York said a conservation and maintenance account line will be included in the next fiscal year's budget.

Greenways Percent For Art Project – Wright reported that the prototypes will be inspected by the Town tomorrow, and that if the pieces pass inspection then the project will be complete save for final paperwork, the installation of one more sentinel at MLK Jr. Blvd. at Bolin Creek, and a dedication ceremony. York invited Commissioners to a tour of the prototypes this coming Monday, September 13 at 5:30 p.m., starting at 200 Plant Road. Members of the Greenways and Parks & Recreation Commissions will also participate.

Community Art Project – Miller showed a broadsheet from the recent Presence is Progress project and described the schedule and selection process for the upcoming *Into The Streets* project(s). By September 17 Finalists will be selected for interviews, and the selected project(s) will occur between mid-October and the end of May 2011.

## **VII. Committee Descriptions and Selections**

The following committee assignments were determined:

Artist in Residence – Johnson, Chair; Small; Wales

Community Art Project / *Into The Streets* – Miller, Chair; Rummel; Valladares

Exhibitions / *Sculpture Visions* – Radway, Chair; Gerschutz; Handler

Permanent Collections – Handler, Chair; Johnson; Wales

## **VIII. Other Announcements / Public Comment**

No announcements or comments were offered.

## **IX. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.