

## June 2015 Staff Reports and Project Updates

- 140 West Art Plaza

There have been issues with the mist fountain and it had to be shut down mid-July. Multiple actuator valves failed. After much negotiation the manufacture is sending all new valves, as they should not have failed. Hopefully the new valves will be installed soon. The fall Friday evening concerts, dance and other art events at the 140 West plaza will resume August 28th. There will not be a concert on Sept. 4 or 11 due to the Labor Day holiday weekend and a tar Heel Downtown event on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Library % for Art Projects

Todd Frahm unveiled his four 3.5' x 3.5' limestone animal sculptures titled the *Grand Intimate* on the exterior plaza of the Library to the delight of about 250+ people on July 25<sup>th</sup> with a special family celebration. The project was funded with funds from the Library and the % for art Library funds. Erik Carlson, the selected artist for an interactive video project for the main interior, after gathering images of Chapel Hill and its people is now working on editing the images he will use for his *Unbound* installation. The work is scheduled to be completed and installed in mid-November with a big media push and grand opening.

- Library Art Trail

Two new Sculpture Visions pieces will be installed along the Library: one is already installed on pad #2, and new pad #3 is set to be poured this week.

- Banned Book Trading Card Project

The Office is again partnering with the CH Library to find artist for the 3rd Banned Book Trading Card Project. Deadline for submission is August 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Arts Plan

Planning is underway for hosting a number of input sessions, The Chapel Hill Arts Tomorrow (CHAT) campaign will be kicked off with a plaza event and interactive engagement event. Thanks to Commissioner Jean Michele and others, a survey has been produced that will be distributed for public response before returning to present to Council in the fall. A petition was presented to Council regarding changing the Commission's name to the Cultural Arts Commission. Appropriate ordinance amendment and resolution are being prepared.

- Arts & Entertainment District Research

Our attempt at receiving funding from the NEA to work on further research and implementation of a joint Town/UNC arts project/district was not funded. The project steering committee will be meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> to talk about either resubmitting for 2016-17 or moving forward in another way.

- Community Clay Studio

The fifth and final session of morning and afternoon clay camps began Monday with full enrollments. Adult summer classes ended last week. With end of summer camps Aug. 21, the Studio will not hold any programs until beginning of fall session Sept. 28.

- Downtown Art Program

The four art benches previously located on the 100 block of East Franklin St. that were relocated to the 300-400 block of West Franklin St. have been cleaned. Most of the grime, stickers and graffiti has been removed. There are some area that did not come clean and may need professional conservation treatment.

A new, joint project with traffic engineering, public works, police and the bike and ped planning team for artist-designed cross walks at the intersections of Cameron/Country Club and Raleigh Rd. and Church and W. Rosemary Sts. And mid- block between Church and Mitchell Sts. On Rosemary is underway. We received 27 proposals. A selection committee, including commissioners Kass and Michel met on August 10 and selected three artists for the project

The Office of Public & Cultural Arts is working with an independent curator Sarah Wolfe on an exciting night-time exhibition/street fair for February of 2016. *Shimmer*, will feature illuminated art, video, and projections and will take place simultaneously in CH and Carrboro at the intersection of the two communities. The project is jointly funded by the Office of Public Arts/Town of CH, Town of Carrboro, CH Downtown Partnership, Orange Co. Visitor Center. Additional funding is being sought.

- Vets Memorial

The Committee has been revitalized with 4 new veteran members and the real possibility of a joint Chapel Hill and Orange Co. Memorial at the Orange Co. Southern Human Services Center site in CH. A fundraising chair was appointed at the May meeting and a site visit was held with the group and the landscape architect who designed the original memorial for the cemetery. Some alterations in the design will be required for the new site.

- Solar Trailer Project

Solar panels and equipment have been installed. A floral wrap design with hidden energy images by Andria Linn was selected and is in final design process. Wrap will be installed by the trailer's debut at Festifall, Oct. 4.

### **Committee Reports**

- Sculpture Visions/Juried Exhibitions Series

11 of the 12 pieces selected for Sculpture Visions 2015-2016 have been installed. The final piece to be installed awaits the creation of a new pad on the Library trail (scheduled for this week). 11 artists were recently selected for the 2015-2016 Juried Exhibitions Series, wherein each artist will exhibit for 2-3 months at the Chapel Hill Public Library or Chapel Hill Town Hall. Photographer Peter Aitken is the first artist of this group, now on display at the Library now through October.

- Permanent Collection

Southern Community Park's Air Circle was sprayed to kill weeds and plant purchase and schedule will be determined upon receipt of new budget at the beginning of the fiscal year; also the SCP artists have been asked to make recommendations on a number of issues with the art elements. Planning is under way to move *Promethean Honor Guard* from Fire Station #5 to Fire Station #1. A local artist was hired to re-weld a broken piece back on to *Magnolia Exotica* and that work has been successfully completed.

- Artist in School Residency

Commissioner Kat Wilson is looking into developing an elementary school drama program with a number of theater artists. If this gets organized, this will replace our traditional school residency program for the coming year.

- Into the Streets: Community Art Project (CAP)

Planning and a Call to Artists for the Spring 2016 CAP should begin soon.

- Scrapel Hill

Plans for the Scrapel Hill VI exhibition at U Mall in the fall are under way. Eleven artists and 17 artworks will be exhibited.