

CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING REPORT
Wednesday, November 11, 2015
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

1. Call to Order/Introduction of Guests (Dan Cefalo, Chair)

Members Present: Daniel Cefalo, Chair; Emily Kass, Vice Chair; Peter Bosman; Amanda Brown; Claire Drysdale; Jean Michel; Mary Norkus; Josh Rosenstein; Sally Stollmack; Laura Williams; Kat Wilson.

Guests: Anne Tract, ConsultArt Inc.; Robert Winkler, artist; Jeff Furman, Cousins Properties; Mary Stone Lamb & Nerys Levy, FRANK Gallery; Heidi Kim.

Council Liaison: Lee Storrow. **Staff Present:** Linda Smith, Assistant Director Parks & Recreation; Jeff York (Liaison), Cultural Arts Administrator; Steve Wright, Public Art Coordinator

2. Approve October 2015 Action Report (Dan – Action Item – document distributed)

With one correction - change title of Man Ray work that was Brown's inspiration from *The Eyes* to *The Lovers*, the action report was unanimously approved as written.

3. Modification of Note-Taking Procedure – Cefalo moved, Kass seconded, and the Commission unanimously voted to request that staff take more detailed notes of Commission meetings (to be known as Meeting Reports), that provide more information than simply Motions, Votes and Actions as required by the Town for its Action Reports. As Action Reports are required by the Town's Communications and Public Affairs Department, they will still be written along with the more detailed Meeting Reports until this duplication can be better resolved.

4. Storrow Announcement - Storrow bid farewell to Arts Commission, thanked them, and asked for input to communicate to the new mayor and council regarding next liaison.

5. Courtesy Review for Carolina Square (guest – Robert Winkler, artist; Anne Tract, ConsultArt, Inc., Jeff Furman, Cousins Properties)

Tract introduced project. Winkler showed examples of previous work, then discussed proposed piece. Piece is intended to serve as a backdrop for dance performances; Winkler has designed pieces for dance settings also. Size and orange color intended to provide visibility, designed to be integrated into area and greenspace, will use uplighting. Sun moving across sky will provide a different array of shadows throughout the day. Piece is 7-8' tall, 12' wide, 37' long, and is situated to not impede traffic flow across the green space. Fabricated orange steel is hollow "tubing" (as opposed to solid steel) with rounded corners so no sharp edges; actual sample steel piece provided. Weighs 14 pounds per foot. 1/6 scale orange maquette was shown.

Questions & Comments: "Looks very inviting to climb." Artist says there's nothing to do to stop that. Will steel get hot in summer? Yes and heat will prevent people from climbing on it. Paints are same paint used for water towers; warrantee lasts 15 years, durable, easy to clean graffiti, can be pressure washed. Paint specs provided for the three different paints to be used. What was process to select artist? Tract said many artists were looked at by selection committee, two artists were invited to submit proposals. Winkler was selected. Final design is 3rd iteration, height was scaled down. Goal was to do something dramatic, dimensional, vibrant, scientific & technical. Color is bright, cheerful,

youthful. How does developer feel about safety, climbing, has developer talked about that? Furman said safety and liability are primary, and that security guards will be there night and day watching. There may be a "break-in period". Piece is partially on grass, partially on hardscape, sited right in front of security office on purpose. Images of sculpture views in situ were shown, and in plan. Footings easily clear sewer lines. The six footings will be on concrete pads.

Piece will be ready for install summer 2017. Design will be finalized now, then put on hold until November of 2016 when fabrication will begin, closer to the construction date. Next step is engineering review; they've already looked at it, but will do official computer generated report, they will design the footings in consideration of frost lines.

Will bollards be needed to prevent car from ramming into sculpture? "Good idea." Do you have a maintenance plan? "Yes, this is a big investment and artwork will be incorporated into larger maintenance plan for the site, to which project is legally bound to follow." Artist will deliver maintenance plan upon final acceptance of the piece. A similar piece w/ same paints is 3 years old and is just now needing its first powerwash.

"Everyone happy with it?" Commission concurs. Thanks to the presenters.

6. Karen Youth Group Project by FRANK (guest -Mary Stone Lamb, Nerys Levy)

Lamb said an outreach group at FRANK has been working with a refugee group of Karen youth that meets twice a week, once at gallery and once at Transplanting Traditions farm, encouraging their art talents in painting, drawing, photography, and English language skills. The group has been working on a bilingual book project with a children's book author and book designer from Algonquin books. Book topic is the farm. Book will be translated into Karen, though children aren't literate in Karen (yet)... text is aimed at a 2nd grade reading level. Parents mostly work as UNC housecleaning working night shift. Volunteers also cook meals for the youth. When finished book will be distributed to local libraries, schools, kids, other Karen groups in the state. This area has 1,000 Karen families. Levy passed a draft of the book around the table, and noted the children also work on the farm as farmers and grow Karen vegetables as well as North Carolina vegetables. Book will be something youth can put on their resumes. Youth also go on field trips in the community, see art exhibits, go on the art studio tour.

10-12 students currently are working on this project but they want to expand. Project is requesting from Town use of Rogers Road community center as a location to hold program. FRANK is embarking on a closer relationship with Town of Chapel Hill. A list of supplies was presented, as well as other books that have been created. FRANK is asking to be considered for the Into the Streets Community Art Project program. Selling books could provide future funding for the program. So far program has been funded by OCAG, Stroud Roses, and volunteers' own money.

What is funding need? FRANK would like \$10,000 to print 150/200 hardcopies of the book (including photography & production), and "\$2,500 right now to get going". Hope is to have book ready for publishing. Print run is limited by costs. 500-1,000 could serve all Libraries in state. Would like to put stamp of Chapel Hill on this book. This project has been going on for five years. Hardcover vs. softcover versions debated. Hardcover for libraries, softcovers for individual purchases? The Commission thanked Lamb and Levy for their presentation and will consider the project.

7. Shimmer Exhibition Proposal Update (guest -Sarah Wolfe, Smart Events & Programs, Inc.)
Wolfe had family emergency and couldn't be here. Norkus & Cefalo saw Wolfe's presentation to Town of Carrboro. At that meeting, Wolfe presented concept of a backup plan. York presented a document from Wolfe that shows \$29,000 in sponsorships. Re: bad weather, perhaps several interior installations could stay up longer but not the exterior ones unlikely due to security reason. Main notion is still that the exhibit is a "one shot deal"; this year is "thinking small" and then future programs will grow. Details related to Ackland and DSI were provided. Big change: sponsors (TOCH, Carrboro) don't think street closure are necessary. Footprint remains the same. CHPAC looked at Shimmer map. 20 venues noted. Cefalo voiced concern that event becomes "too stretched out". Artists are local and from out of town, some of their images on the website are what will be in the exhibit, others not.

Much depends on the marketing. A marketing agent has been hired. Any award money? No, but there's a small honorarium. Submission fee \$35. In budget, "municipal employee fees" likely police.

Kass made a motion that she is distressed that Wolfe can't be here two months in a row when invited to present to the project's biggest donor. Seconded by Wilson. Not voted on. Having Wolfe available to answer specific questions would engender more confidence.

Cefalo says "we are playing catchup"; a conversation needs to occur prior to next event with artist.

How will attendees experience this event / attend this event? Cefalo says hope is to piggyback on the 2nd Friday Art Walk scheduled for that night. Participating venues should have advance promotions available / on display. Carrboro asked, how will headcount be conducted? Wolfe told them local businesses will have to see a spike in business. Perhaps CHPAC can have a presence out there and conduct a count. Cefalo asks how will funds be given? If weather cancels event, how much funding is recoupable? These questions haven't been answered in budget – would like this information from Wolfe. What about particular prize money?

CHPAC would like Wolfe or her marketing person to attend its December meeting.

8. CHPAC Priorities for 2016 (Dan Cefalo & CHPAC, discussion and vote 11/20)
Four main priorities. Cefalo said York, he and Kass met to discuss priorities: 1. Arts Plan – more public Q&A, 2. Courtesy Review – give the process more teeth, 3. Old Town Hall – currently quasi-vacant w/ soup kitchen for 2-4 years, but Town interested in having Cultural Arts occupying building with partners, 4. Facility Development. Josh noted that other groups in town are interested in having presence in building. There have been conversations with Visitors Bureau, Downtown Partnership, Town Council Members, having Town Clay Studio and a painting studio in there as well. Discussions will occur with these groups. CHPAC has requested a tour from Jim Orr, York has requested a tour from Dwight Bassett. Priorities due to Town November 19th.

9. Festival in the Park, Nov. 14th Activity (Kat Wilson and CHPAC)
Festival in the Park will occur this weekend, noon – 4pm at Southern Community Park. CHPAC members will be there. Festival was put together to showcase sponsors, artists & performers who were scheduled for the cancelled Festifall. Michel and Wilson will be there to take surveys and film crowd. Commissioner shifts discussed. Carolina vs. Miami game is scheduled for 3:30 that day.

10. Chair Reports & Committee Updates

York is happy to meet to orient new commissioners. Special Events Committee of Josh, Mandey, Michel will meet with Meg McGurk on Nov. 18. Bosman reported Redwood is going to Woods Charter School in Chatham County; a meeting with Southern Village will be held tomorrow, with install early January. Wilson discussed upcoming Artist in Residence show at Phillips Elementary School, "Bronze Falcon Productions" that will include Talent Show, contracting technicians and teachers, One Art play. School system will be able to provide lead teacher, Jonathan Carlos, a small stipend. First Event is December 4th at 5 p.m., Commissioners are invited to bring one guest each complimentary.

1. Public and Cultural Arts Staff Reports and Updates (Staff, document distributed)

York said Art survey was issued today through our channels and OCAC, Chamber of Commerce, Visitor's Bureau. Orange County paid large fee for Arts Impact Study; for extra fee paid by Town, breakout analysis on Chapel Hill will be conducted. Carrboro and Orange County are also paying for their own breakout analyses.

Linda Smith, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation Department introduced herself and her past work at Town of Cary. Smith started in May with Town. Outlined 4 Divisions, Linda will oversee 4 Division Managers.

12. Other Announcements/Public Comments

Kass is interested in organizing a +1 holiday party for the CHPAC in December. All four Commission candidates recommend by the CHPAC were appointed by Council 11/9/15. Heidi Kathleen Kim is interested in learning about CHPAC committees: heidikim@email.unc.edu

13. Adjourn

Michel motioned to adjourn and Kass seconded, and the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.