

## January 2016 Staff Reports and Project Updates

### New

#### Arts & Economic Impact Study

Phase I of the local arts and humanities impact study with Americans for the Arts (AFA) that identified 116 non-profit arts and humanities groups in CH has been completed. Information on these non-profits organizations in CH and at UNC is being gathered. Phase II involves collecting more data and hundreds of audience surveys taken at many different programs and events. AFA will analyze the data and a report will be issue in May 2017.

#### Herzenberg Memorial Bench Project

The Friends of Parks & Recreation is funding an artist-designed bench in honor of former town council member and activist for CH environmental, racial and other causes. 14 artists from the original group that received an invitation to submit a proposal did so. The bench when completed will be placed on the new section of the Bolin Creek Trail scheduled to open at the end of 2016.

- 140 West Art Plaza

A new schedule of concerts and interactive art events will commence on April 1, 2016. It includes a special teen night and several UNC affiliated groups.

- Festifall 2016 Planning

Behind the scenes planning has already begun for Festifall 2016. Part of the planning includes considering a Saturday date with a Sunday rain date. As such a change will impact merchants, bus schedules, and others effected by Festifall, dialog is being held with a number of stakeholder groups before a final decision will be made.

### On-Going

- Arts Plan

Planning is underway for hosting a number of public input sessions to be held 2/23 at FRANK, 2/27 at the CH Library and 3/14 at Flyleaf Books. The CH Library hosted an art book display throughout January where our Arts Plan survey was available. On-line access can also be attained form the Public Arts web pages and social media sites.

#### Library % for Art Project

All is being readied for the unveiling of Erik Carlson's multi-media artwork Unbound at the CH Library. 3/11 is the date. Invitations are going out and the Library is assisting in the marketing and promotions efforts..

- Crosswalk Project

A joint project with traffic engineering, public works, police and the bike and ped planning team for 5-artist-designed cross walks at the intersections of Cameron/Country Club and Raleigh Rd. Cameron & Wilson; Church and W. Rosemary Sts.; Church & Henderson; and mid- block between Church and Mitchell Sts. On Rosemary is underway. 27 proposals were received and 5 artist were selected by a committee including UNC art professors to incorporate their designs into the crosswalks. Four contracts have been initiated. Implementation of the pilot project will be early spring of 2016 with the others to follow in July or August.

- Arts & Entertainment District Research

Dialog with Carolina Performing Arts is being held about the New Carolina Arts Innovation space at Carolina Square and how the town might partner.

- Community Clay Studio

Winter / Spring Session A began last week – 15 classes, 110 participants, \$12,743 in revenue for 8 weeks.

- Vets Memorial

Orange County allocated funds for a re-design of the memorial concept to fit the new Orange Co. proposed site in Chapel Hill. The landscape architect is under contract

### **Completed**

- Shimmer Light Art Project

*The Shimmer* event took place as scheduled on 2/12 it featured 22 illuminated art, video and projections, along an 8-block area on the border between CH & Carrboro. The event seemed popular with a steady stream of people visiting each display throughout the night. Nearby restaurants and bars seems busy and there was a quite a bit more vehicular traffic than usual. The project was jointly funded by the Office of Public Arts/Town of CH, Town of Carrboro, CH Downtown Partnership, Orange Co. Visitor Center, Orange Co. Arts Commission, Duke Energy Foundation, Coca-Cola, and 140 West. Additional funding is being sought.

### **Committee Reports**

- Exhibitions

The drawings of Mary Anderson are now on display at the Library. Poster of the Word Project are on display in Town hall along with an educational exhibition on the life of Howard Lee (01/19-02/19/2016)

- Artist in School Residency

The Drama Club Project is underway at Phillips Middle School. Contractors have been selected. See attached report submitted by the chair.

- Into the Streets: Community Art Project (CAP)

A project selection committee met 2/4 and selected two projects for the Into the Streets commissions. One project is working with the two artists, Mary Lamb and Nerys Levy to publish a dual language book illustrated by Karen youth about family and farming. The second project connects artist Peg Gignoux with art risk youth also in the Roger Road neighborhood to provide after school art classes with the goal of an illustrated book.

- Sculpture Visions and Permanent Collection

Several meetings have been held to rethink Sculpture Visions. Ideas were discussed, but nothing was changed for the coming year. A call to artist has been released with some minor changes and a request for natural element of ecological art proposals. Other meetings occurred to consider a memorial gift of art. Further information will be provided by the committee chairs on both of these items.

Parks Maintenance staff will soon purchase and plant new muhley grass for the Air Circle art feature at Southern Community Park.