

CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING REPORT

Wednesday, 2/17, 2016

5:30 p.m. – 6:55 p.m.

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

Members Present: Daniel Cefalo, Chair; Peter Bosman; Claire Drysdale; Jean Michel; Josh Rosenstein; Sally Stollmack; Laura Williams; Kat Wilson.

Members Absent: Emily Kass; Mary Norkus

Guests: Keith Knight; Bevan Ramsey, Carrboro Arts Commission

Staff Present: Jim Orr, Director Parks & Recreation; Linda Smith, Assistant Director Parks & Recreation; Jeff York (Liaison), Cultural Arts Administrator; Steve Wright, Public Art Coordinator

2. Approve January 2016 Action Report

The action report was unanimously approved as written.

3. Sculpture Visions – New Ideas

Cefalo described recent program tour and meetings, and the desire to centralize pieces more toward one site, possibly Library sculpture trail. Greene pointed out Library is located in Pritchard Park and many over the year have hoped to improve the park with art. Commissioners are asked to think of new ideas for the future. Upcoming program's call issued recently.

4. Arts Plan Public Input Sessions

Dates and process of input events reviewed: Tues. 2/23 5:30 -7 pm @ FRANK Gallery, Sat. 1:30 – 3 pm 2/27 @ CH Library, Mon. 3/14 5:30 – 7 pm @ Flyleaf Books. Getting more surveys completed at upcoming art events is important. Williams suggested printing small info cards about the survey would be good to have on hand (at SHIMMER, opening reception for Erik Carlson 3/11, at Flyleaf before the event?).

5. Memorial Gift or Loan

Bosman discussed possible gift or loan of sculpture from Herman family and its referral to the Naming committee that considers memorial gifts.

6. Goals Progress Check-In

4 goals submitted to Mayor's Office including Courtesy Review, touring Old Town Hall as possible Arts Center, passing Arts Plan. Courtesy Review process discussed.

7. Chair Reports, Committee & Staff Updates

Brown discussed 2nd Friday Artwalk with Carrboro Arts Committee representatives and they will meet again. Rosenstein said special events group will meet soon with Carrboro Arts Committee representatives.

Commissioners said SHIMMER was a success, many people attended. Suggestions for volunteer management and other issues were offered. Drysdale reported that volunteer process needs improvement, there weren't enough volunteers and the shifts were too long. More professional help was needed. Volunteers need to be more invested and have more instructions, know more about the art pieces, and have more interaction with crowd. The organizer was good with organizing art aspects but not so good with running volunteers. Ramsey said it was great for local businesses, paying "volunteers" may help. The projection on side of Ackland was up at 5pm but artist took it down at 9 pm.

Pieces were coming down at 10:30 but show was advertised for being up til 11. Quieter power sources needed – generators too loud. York said he and Meg McGurk will hold a debriefing with event organizer and will share comments. Cefalo asked Orr if Department could get more involved. Orr expressed interested in how the event could improved, and thought as a first time event it was phenomenal and Department would be interested in assisting in the future.

Post-meeting Drysdale provided via email this written assessment of SHIMMER: “Myself and a few other UNC students worked closely with Sarah [Wolfe, event organizer] on Volunteer Management, Marketing, and Artist Liaison-ing. From our perspective, there were many ways that the organization of the event could have gone better. All of us felt ill-equipped to do the jobs we were in charge of, and Sarah was resistant to taking our advice and feedback. For example, both myself and another student suggested that we shorten the volunteer time slots to make people more willing to sign up, and she refused to change her plan, saying that she’s done this many times before and it works. I also know that the student in charge of artist liason-ing was overwhelmed by demands by artists, particularly on the day of the event, when she was in class. Moving forward, I’d like to suggest that the role of volunteer coordinator and artist liaison be paid positions held by people with experience in this type of field. Additionally, there needs to be more buy-in for the volunteers, whether they simply have to volunteer for less hours, are paid a small allowance for their time, or are more involved in the planning of the event.

All of this being said, I think that the event was great in the end, and I heard almost all positive feedback from people that I spoke to there. I definitely think that this should be an annual thing for both towns, and if anything, it could be pushed even farther, with more carnival-esque aspects like street performers or food-trucks.”

Rosenstein reported on Into The Streets selection of Levy & Lamb book project (\$2,000) with Karen community and Peg Gignoux and Table’s book project (\$3,000). York announced 3/11 7 pm opening of UNBOUND at Library

9. Other Announcements

Knight asked about open studio, pop-up studio possibilities. CHPAC also talked about need for artists’ studio space.

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.