

December 2016 Staff Reports and Project Updates

New or Now

- Arts Plan

Report to be given at 12/21/16 meeting. Draft plan is in place.

- Arts & Economic Impact Study

The study concluded November 30, 2016.

Herzenberg Memorial Bench Project

The Friends of Parks & Recreation funded artist-designed bench in honor of Joe Herzenberg, a former town council member and activist for CH environmental, racial and other causes is being created by Mike Waller & Leah Foushee (Hillsborough). The artist's construction drawings were reviewed and accepted by the design review committee. The bench when completed will be installed on the new section of the Bolin Creek Trail in late march or early April 2017.

- Brown Mural Restorations

Michael Brown completed restoration of the "Hands" mural on Franklin St. and "Paint by Number" mural on IPantana Bob's building in early December. The mural look like new.

- Americans for the Arts Membership (AFTA)

An organizational membership has been set ordered in the name of the Chapel Hill Cultural Arts Commission. All Commissioners and Council liaison will receive basic privileges and access to a variety of list serves. AFTA takes a few weeks for membership to be processed. Membership should take effect in January.

- Shimmer: Art of Light Exhibition

A more detailed report for Shimmer is included a part of the meeting agenda

Due to health reasons, the organizer of the Shimmer event has had to step away. She has provide staff with lots of documentation and notes for where she is in the planning process. Staff will assume the responsibility of organizing the 2017 Shimmer event. Shimmer will take place in Chapel Hill and Carrboro simultaneously on February 10, 2017. 27 artists were selected and venues have been assigned. Locations who have given permission include

- Several locations at 300EMain (5-6) - interior Artscenter new
- Cafe Carrboro
- Public Impact
- Kalisher - new
- Vinyl Perk
- Bowbarr
- Visitors Bureau, CH
- Chapel Hill Tire – new, CH
- Greenbridge (Light Art & Design, Rosemary entry), CH
- St Paul AME, CH
- Midway Community Kitchen, CH
- Rivers Agency, CH
- The Baxter, CH
- Beer Study, CH

- Al's Burger Shack, CH
- (hopefully) Passport Motors, CH - new
- (hopefully) space on Franklin on red brick, CH – new

Not necessarily all of those spaces will be used.

With the contracted curator stepping aside, additional support will be necessary and it is hoped Cultural Arts Commissioners will be able to assist in a number of night of volunteer duties. Moving forward the Shimmer event will need to be evaluated and a decision made to permanently make it a Town sponsored event.

On-Going

- Crosswalk Project

The joint project with traffic engineering, public works, police and the Bike and Ped planning team for 5-artist-designed cross walks remains on hold. The crosswalks at the intersections of Cameron/Country Club may need to be rescheduled long-range due to a 1-2 year out plan to resurface that roadway. Cameron & Wilson, W. Rosemary Street projects at Henderson; and mid- block between Church and Mitchell have been approved to move forward. They are tentatively scheduled to be installed 12/29. Due to hotel construction, crosswalks at Church will need to wait until fall of 2017.

- Community Clay Studio

Fall Session B classes are on holiday break 12/19-1/1 and these classes end mid-January. Winter / Spring registration opens 1/3 and WS Session A classes begin 1/17. A contract with ArtsCenter is being drafted for April collaborative masters' workshops. Details are being finalized for a new Ceramics class for participants with low vision and blindness, to be held for six weeks in March and April.

- Northside Community Wall

Staff continues to work with the designer and the community representative to include 8 photo etched panels to the wall. Estimates have been received. The next step is to select the photographs and wording and to design the panels.

- Vets Memorial

The memorial concept to fit the new Orange Co. proposed site in Chapel Hill was approved by the Orange County Commission. The committee has been meeting to discuss fundraising strategies

Committee Reports

Exhibitions Committee

The paintings of Charlotte-based artist Abigail Ditesheim are now on display at the Library. Town Hall is exhibiting the photography of Frank Myers and the sculptures of May Britton. In January Commissioners will meet to continue to discuss how the Sculpture Visions program may be improved for the upcoming exhibit. The SV call is usually issued in February.

Artist in School Residency

The first teacher workshop with Donovan Zimmerman of Paperhand Puppet Intervention was held on 8/24. 11 teachers from CHCCS elementary schools attended. The teachers learned rod puppet making

techniques and started creating their own puppets that will be completed at the January 23, 2017 workshop. They will in turn teach their students puppet making.

Into the Streets: Community Art Project (CAP)

Project proposals were submitted and reviewed November 1 by a selection committee. Two projects have been recommended for funding support (to be detailed by commission member at the Nov. meeting). The beautiful Children's book written and illustrated by ESL students and children from the Rogers Road CC produced as part of the neighbor to Neighbor project P & R sponsored last spring has been published (copies will be passed around). The can be purchased for \$20 from PORCH or from FRANK.

Creative Projects Program

Project proposals for this new program offering commissions of up to \$1,000 for projects that directly benefit the Chapel Hill community were submitted and reviewed on Nov. 3 and one project has been recommended for support.

Permanent Collection

The misting pump of the Exhale sculpture at 140 West was shut off and winterized in mid-November. Lights will continue to function through the mid-April reactivation.

Events

The events staff has been extraordinarily busy with a number of public and internal events in December and for planning future sponsored and co-sponsored programs.

The annual CH Holiday Parade, sponsored by the Raleigh JC's, but organized and staffed by CH Parks & Recreation was held on Dec. 10. Despite the colder weather there was a good crowd on hand all along the parade route.

Submissions for the 6th annual *WORD* employee poetry contest in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. were received Dec. 12. The winners will be announced on January 13 at the employee MLK celebration. Small cash awards are offered to the winners and winning poems appear on transit buses and in town hall. New this year is an employee family poet and family teen poet awards. Events team also serves on the planning committee for this event and will be handling set up.

Planning continues for the *LIGHTUP Lantern Festival* (<http://www.chlightup.org>) to be held Saturday, January 28, 2017 at University Place from 11 - 6. Fletcher and Wright met with organizers to review their plans and discuss publicity to disseminate through Town channels. Involved organizations include FRANK, Kidzu, The Confucius Institute, UNC and Duke Asian Studies Departments, Chapel Hill Chinese Language & Culture School, RedApple Learning Campus, and Cary Chinese School.

Events is also working on a new food truck concept called "Rodeo on Rosemary" potentially to take place in March.

Also, planning for the 2017 Council Retreat, Egg Hunt, Science Expo and Employee Appreciation event has begun.

Amanda Fletcher will be attending year 2 of "Event Management School" produced by the International Festivals and Events Association in mid-January. She will earn her professional Event Management certificate.