

## May 2017 Staff Reports and Project Updates

### New or Ongoing

- Percent for Art Priorities Plan

The plan will be reviewed and voted on at the May meeting.

- Herzenberg Memorial Bench Project/Merritt 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 bench, when completed, will be installed on the new section of the Bolin Creek Trail. An unveiling will occur June 3 as part of the National Trails Day Celebration and overall Trail dedication. A second bench funded by the Merritt family is being considered for Merritt pasture. The family has also selected Waller & Foushee to design the bench. The preliminary design, when submitted will be reviewed by the Arts Commission.

- Arts Intern

UNC Junior Lindsay Nevitt served as the Cultural Arts Division spring William Thorpe Undergraduate Intern. Lindsay learned about current arts programming and how it is communicated, and will make recommendations for improving these communication processes. She has also gathered collection data and submitted them to the National Public Art Database.

- Crosswalk Project

Three of the five artist design crosswalks at Cameron & Wilson, W. Rosemary Street at Henderson; and mid-block between Church and Mitchell have been completed. The crosswalks at the intersections of Cameron/Country Club has been rescheduled long-range due to a 1-2 year out plan to resurface that roadway. Due to hotel construction, crosswalks at Rosemary/Church will need to wait until fall of 2017.

- Police Headquarters Art Exhibition

A partnership between FRANK artists Nerys Levy, Mary Lamb and Dennis Szerszen has brought art into the Chapel Hill Police Headquarters. Paintings and photographs are being displayed in some of the administrative areas. A reception to announce an on-going partnership took place at police headquarters on April 25, about 30 people were in attendance. Plans for a second exhibition of Karin art are being made.

- Community Clay Studio

Winter/Spring Session B classes end this week. 129 participants enrolled in 16 classes and total income for this session is 30% greater than that session of 2016. A never-before offered Winter/Spring Session C will run two 4-week mini-classes from mid-May to mid-June (start of Summer Session): one class is already full and we anticipate the other one will also. The April masters' workshop collaboration with ArtsCenter led by Ronan Peterson was successfully held April 23 and 30 at the Community Clay Studio, with five of the seven participants being new to the studio program. Peterson and the ArtsCenter have expressed interest in holding a similar workshop again. Summer classes and camps are quickly filling up: four 8-week adult classes and ten 2-week ½-day camps are being offered.

- Northside Community Wall (Freedom Fighter Gateway)

Staff worked with Northside community representatives to complete the Freedom Fighters Gateway project. The wall includes 8 photo etched panels memorializing the civil right activities in CH and dedication plaques recognizing the community. A dedication was held on April 29 as part of the

Northside Community Festival. It was a day of community fellowship, fun and moving speeches. During the course of the event probably 750 were in attendance. And a few hundred participated in the dedication ceremony

- Orange Co. Vets Memorial

Plans are underway for a ground breaking ceremony for the Southern Human Services site. The committee has been doing behind the scenes fund raising.

## **Committee Reports**

### Exhibitions Committee

The photography of Durham-based artist JP Trostle are now on display at the Library through June. Town Hall is exhibiting ceramics made by recent adult participants from the Community Clay Studio through May and the prints of Vidabeth Bensen through mid-July.

Commissioners met to discuss how the Sculpture Visions program may be improved and made some recommendations. Staff also will make recommendations with everyone's interest in mind.

### Artist in School Residency

Workshops with Donovan Zimmerman of Paperhand Puppet Intervention taught 11 art teachers from CHCCS elementary schools the art of rod puppets. Teacher then instructed their classes in puppetmaking. A one night exhibition and reception was held at Kidzu on May 9 from 6-7:30 p.m. to showcase 80+ of the almost 1,000 puppets completed by the elementary students from the schools.

### Into the Streets: Community Art Projects (CAP) and Creative Projects Program

Planting has been completed on the Florafitti project by artist Carter Hubbard. At-risk teens from Boomerang and participants in the Art Therapy Institute worked with the artist to develop the words and plant the seeds. They are sprouting along Franklin St., the CH library and in other parking medians including E Main and Weaver Sts. In CarrboroVideo to be shown at the May 17 meeting.

The Into the Streets project coordinated by artist Hollie Taylor to conduct a series of 10 hands-on work sessions with a group (12-15) of youth from the Corner Teen Center and Volunteers for Youth Programs is near completion. The project will conclude with an exhibition and reception at Frank Gallery on May 27 (more information forthcoming)

The Creative Projects commission with Daniel LeClaire to paint signal boxes is underway. The artist has been slowly painting the box at Rosemary/Roberson, and will also paint the box at Rosemary and Henderson later in May.

### Permanent Collection

The Exhale sculpture at 140 West was reactivated on 4/7, along with the new season of arts & entertainment events on the plaza.

## **Events**

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

The Community Egg Hunt took place on April 8<sup>th</sup> at Southern Community Park. 2000 were in attendance.

The UNC Science Expo took place April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We provided a stage, several interactive art activities and stage shows in addition to 16 exhibitors. The theme was “art & design”. There were around 12,000 people in attendance.

The Northside Community Festival and dedication of the Freedom Fighter Memorial was held on April 29 on Rosemary St. between Graham and Robeson.

The town’s employee appreciation event will be on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Friday Center. Committee meetings and planning have commenced.

The Live & Local series for the plaza is underway:

**April 7th: Spring Fling.** Spring themed Stilt Walker, Spring Crafts; the Easter Bunny, Balloon Artists, Face Painter, and Games.

**April 21: Folk Exploration.** Folk/Americana music from Christiane; a Pinwheel Creation Station in celebration of Earth Day; and Games.

**May 5th: Cinco De Cycle:** Bluegrass music from Ellis Dyson & The Shambles

**May 12th: Cirque du Plaza.** Two (2) Aerialists from Down to Earth Aerials; a Caricature Artist; Face Painter; Balloon Artist; Crafts; and Games

**May 19th: Open Mic Teen Night.**

The “Movies Under the Stars” series is soon. The theme this year is “sports movies”. There will be an additional movie night at UNC’s Boshamer stadium to kick off the season on May 20<sup>th</sup> featuring “Field of Dreams”.

6/15: The Mighty Ducks

6/29: The Karate Kid

7/13: Kicking & Screaming

7/27: Cars

8/10: Space Jam

8/17: Remember the Titans

Festifall vendor and entertainer applications are up and are due May 31<sup>st</sup>. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual poster contest is also underway.

July 4<sup>th</sup> logistics and planning are underway.

We are assisting with the Neighborhood Night Out program and Hargraves Family Fun Day events happening later in the year.

Another “Rodeo on Rosemary” (food truck festival) is being planned for November 5<sup>th</sup>.