

Public Art Commission Meeting, May 14, 2014, 6pm

PAC Members: Alex Van Praagh, David De Celis, Hue Nguyen, Bertha Pentoja, Christopher Sokolowski

Staff: Lillian Hsu, Jeremy Gaucher, Rika McNally

1. Welcome Berta

Berta introduced herself as a Landscape Architect, and noted that she was on the city's Play Initiative Committee, and Let the Public Play exhibition team.

2. Review Minutes at Next Meeting

Remove David from April minutes

E-mail previous minutes from March and April to PAC for review.

3. Fern St

(handout project proposal)

Site committee of 16 people interviewed four artists and reviewed their site-specific proposals. Committee chose to get more information from the artistic team of Chat Travieso and Yeju Choi regarding their proposal, with conditions of certain changes. The proposal named "Touch and Go" was chosen. The concept featured texture, appearance, and sound along the street creating a path and wall pattern using these elements.

The concerns from city staff were with the settlement differential of these differing materials for a travel path. Staff had a conversation with the artists about these concerns and that there were very certain requirements for this path. And would they still be able to carry out this concept within these parameters – i.e. one material for the required travel path, then other elements could be introduced on the edges.

Suggestion is to use colored concrete for the travel path of four feet. Alex thought the pattern of the proposal was the strong point and wants to ensure that that spirit is kept going forward. Staff agrees and is working with artists on this point.

In a meeting with Lillian, Michael Muehe recommended looking into flexi-pave (see dog beach at Fresh Pond for an example of its use), rubberized asphalt (expensive), and likes metal diamond decking for texture.

PAC likes the differing materials/textures outside of the clear travel path. And that PAC needs to hold ground with this point. Example of possible materials at other locations can be seen at Carol Johnson's project outside CRLS theatre (plastic wood, etc), also Vassar Street (4 materials). Porous asphalt would be good around trees. Alex: find and research materials that can accommodate the vision, rather than having the request for a smooth 4' path be the driver of the project.

Staff is in the contracting process with City Legal. Artists will continue research development once contract is completed. Staff will present future drafts as available.

4. New Graphic Identity/website

Staff is thinking through changing the name “CAC Gallery”, in light of the change in new identity graphics (website, stationery, printed matter), and using “Cambridge Arts” rather than “Cambridge Arts Council” in most PR material.

PAC brainstorm: Forum, Arts at the Annex, Annex Art Space, Annex Gallery (Annex is ‘afterthought’), Space at 344, Room for Art, Art Room, Upstairs, The Room at 344, The Public Gallery, Gallery 344, 344

Staff will take these into consideration and determine a final name.

5. Joint Committee Tour

June, 17th is proposed, 6 – 8:30. The 11th works for many. 18th.

Lillian will coordinate with Jason.

6. 1% for Art Program Planning

Lillian discussed the complexity of the relationship between the 1% funding, the decrease in base value of \$100 (reflecting the cap on the 1%) over the years, and the Conservation budget for a larger and increasingly diverse (new technologies) and aging collection that requires more care.

PAC policy discussion will be added on a future agenda.

Alex stated that he believes the conversation on the 1% cap should be separate from the conversation about the other aspects of the program such as conservation funding, which is seeing cuts.

7. Other:

- Public Art Bike Tour May 17
- King Open is beginning to be planned for renovation (several years before demo)

Next meeting: Keep June 18, 2014 – may change for tour.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm