



City of Sebastopol
Incorporated 1902
Planning Department
7120 Bodega Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472
707-823-6167
707-823-1135 (Fax)
www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us

APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE
CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
MINUTES OF November 02, 2016
6:30 p.m.

SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS
282 SOUTH HIGH STREET

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE:

The notice of the meeting was posted on October 27, 2016.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Gordon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL:**

Present:	Chair Gordon, and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz and Mills-Thysen
Absent:	Committee Member Persinger (excused)
Staff:	Kenyon Webster, Planning Director
- 3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** There were none.
- 4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - A. REVIEW OF PUBLIC ART PROPOSALS:** Three artists were selected to proceed in the review process for a public art project in Sebastopol. Each artist will make a presentation, and there will also be opportunity for public comment. Written comments may also be submitted. The Public Arts Committee will not make a selection recommendation at this meeting, but is expected to do so at their December 7, 2016 meeting. Their recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council, who will make a final decision on the matter.
 - a. 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.: Open house, informal review of proposals
 - b. 6:30 p.m. Committee convenes
 - c. Provision of project background information by Committee Chair and Planning Director
 - d. Artist presentations. Each artist will have ten minutes to make a presentation. Committee members may ask clarifying questions.

Artists:

- i. Ilana Spector/Mark Grieve

- ii. Ned Kahn
- iii. Vickie Jo Sowell

- e. Break (15 minutes)
- f. Public Comment (the Chair will set a speaking limit)
- g. Closing comments by Committee Chair

Chair Gordon gave an introduction.

Director Webster gave an introduction.

Ilana Spector and Mark Grieve gave a presentation and were available for questions.

Ned Kahn gave a presentation and was available for questions.

Vickie Joe Sowell gave a presentation and was available for questions.

Chair Gordon asked if members of the public wished to comment or ask questions of the artists.

Linda Galletta commented:

- Congratulated the Committee because this is really a dream come true, a long time vision of starting a public art fund that started with her, Committee member Arnold and former City Manager, Dave Brennan many years ago.
- The Committee has done a great job.
- Thanked the Committee for inviting the public to be a part of this process.
- The three finalists that were selected are wonderful.
- The artist presentations were excellent.
- Mr. Kahn is a blessing to our community and a true Sebastopudlian.
- Has worked with Mr. Kahn on three art science tech exhibits that he did here in Sebastopol.
- Mr. Kahn is her favorite.
- Mr. Kahn is a world-renowned internationally and nationally known sculptor.
- Hopes to honor one of our own by having a piece of Mr. Kahn's work in our community.
- Thanked all three of the artists for their outstanding proposals.

An unidentified man commented:

- Likes all three of the proposals.
- Imagines all three proposals in places other than where they are being proposed.
- Asked if the location was changeable.

Chair Gordon responded that the location was changeable.

Committee member Mills-Thysen commented that members of the public were welcome to make location suggestions for any of the proposals.

Tasha Beauchamp asked Mr. Grieve and Ms. Spector if any of the elements were kinetic or generated sound and if not, if either of those possibilities had been explored.

Mr. Grieve and Ms. Spector responded:

- Those possibilities were explored.
- Concerned with maintenance issues and with it becoming too kinetic.

- Felt that low-maintenance was key.
- The tautness of the cable would present a challenge in terms of noise generation.
- Felt that those possibilities were not appropriate for several reasons.
- The cables may be able to be timed.

Marsha Sue Lustig asked Mr. Grieve and Ms. Spector for length of their piece.

Mr. Grieve responded that they were looking an approximate height of fourteen feet and noted that the length of the piece would be determined by its final location.

Ms. Lustig asked if Mr. Grieve and Ms. Spector would consider having their piece cross a street.

Mr. Grieve responded:

- They considered everything.
- The primary concerns were making the budget and providing a good visual impact.
- Crossing a street has a lot of unforeseen expenses.
- Because of the interactive nature of it, they thought it best as a pedestrian experience.

Chair Gordon encouraged public participation via written comments as well.

An unidentified woman commented that she liked them all, that they are great.

An unidentified woman asked Mr. Kahn if he'd considered placing one reduced version on each side of the road.

Mr. Kahn responded that he had pondered that and that he was open to it but noted that it would increase costs some.

An unidentified woman expressed being in support of all three pieces and commented that they are fabulous.

An unidentified man asked Mr. Kahn if he had done the sand piece at the Exploratorium.

Mr. Kahn responded in the affirmative.

An unidentified man asked Mr. Kahn about the maintenance of the panels.

Mr. Kahn responded:

- These can last for decades without maintenance.
- Has extensive experience with these materials.
- Recently reviewed a piece that was installed 21 years ago in San Francisco and it is still in good shape and the bearings show no signs of visible wear.
- This piece will be very fixable should something happen to it.

An unidentified woman commented:

- The plaza piece feels the most like Sebastopol. It is really joyful, colorful, and has a certain amount of drama.
- Admires the spire piece but it feels like something you would see in a big city.

An unidentified man asked if lighting for any of these pieces was envisioned and commented that lighting could be good to have.
Chair Gordon responded that lighting was not envisioned at this time.

Mr. Grieve, Mr. Kahn and Ms. Sowell commented:

- The nature of the pieces do not require lighting.
- There is lighting on and around the various sites.
- Adding lighting could raise budget and maintenance needs.

Hearing nothing further, Committee member Mills-Thysen encouraged those in attendance to talk to their friends, colleagues and Sebastopol citizens and encourage comments.

An unidentified woman asked about the timeline moving forward.

Chair Gordon responded that the Committee will hold a special meeting on November 16 to discuss the comments received thus far. The Committee expects to forward a recommendation to the City Council at their regular meeting on December 7.

Director Webster responded that the Committee's recommendation is currently set to go before the Council on December 20 although that date could change.

Ms. Spector comments that their maquette would be on display at the library.

Chair Gordon asked staff if the other maquette's would be on display.

Director Webster responded that a specific viewing area had not been arranged.

After further questions, Director Webster stated that he could look into arranging a viewing area for all three of the pieces.

- 5. ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Gordon adjourned the meeting of the Sebastopol Public Arts Committee at 7:30 p.m. to a special Public Arts Committee Meeting to be held November 16, 2016 at 10:30 a.m., at the Sebastopol City Hall, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kenyon Webster
Planning Director