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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE
 CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
 MINUTES OF February 07, 2018

SEBASTOPOL CITY HALL
 7120 BODEGA AVENUE
 10:30 a.m.

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE:

The notice of the meeting was posted on February 01, 2018.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Chair Gordon acknowledged new Committee Member, Lars Langberg. Committee Member Langberg was accepted as the Design Review Board’s liaison to the Public Arts Committee by the City Council at their meeting last night.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present:	Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg and Mills-Thysen
Absent:	None
Staff:	Kenyon Webster, Planning Director Rebecca Mansour, Planning Technician

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 03, 2018

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

Committee Member Vertz seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes:	Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg And Mills-Thysen
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None

4. PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST:

Director Webster updated the Committee on the following:

- Last night, the City Council considered purchase of, ‘The Door’ sculpture.
 - The majority of the Council agreed with the Committee’s recommendation to not purchase the sculpture due to precedent.
 - The Council expressed a desire to retain the sculpture, if possible.

- Requested that staff look into a community campaign in hopes of collecting enough donations to be able to retain the sculpture without having to use City funds, or working with the Center for the Arts on a campaign.
- The artist has indicated he is okay with such an effort.
- On February 20, the Council will consider a comprehensive cannabis ordinance.

The Committee asked questions of Director Webster.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: There were none.

6. STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: There were none.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR: There were none.

8. REGULAR AGENDA: There were none.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. UPDATE ON HIGHWAY 12 BRIDGE PUBLIC ART PROJECT, NED KAHN, ARTIST: Per direction from the City Council, the artist and Planning staff have been working with Caltrans to address requirements for placement of public art at the planned location on existing piers to the sides of the bridge. As a result of Caltrans' requirements, the design has been revised. The artist will present the revised design to the Committee.

Director Webster provided a brief introduction.

Mr. Kahn gave a presentation.

The Committee asked questions of Director Webster and Mr. Kahn throughout their discussion.

With no members of the public present, the Committee discussed the revised design.

Chair Gordon commented:

- The proposal is fantastic.
- Expressed being much happier with this proposal that he was with the prior design.
- Would like for it to run more perpendicular to the plane.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Suggested that the arc be larger, like a half-circle.
- The linear quality of it will change with more of an arc.

Mr. Kahn invited Committee members to come to his shop in Santa Rosa to see it for themselves.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Suggested tilting it to the horizontal plane slightly.
- Liked Committee Member Arnold's suggestion about making the arc larger.

Committee Member Vertz commented:

- Loved the redesign.
- The view from inside the arc was especially mesmerizing.
- Agreed with the suggestion to have more of an arc.

Mr. Kahn commented that the arc could be hanging from two cables to give it greater movement.

The Committee expressed support for that idea.

Chair Gordon asked Mr. Kahn for his preference in terms of color.

Mr. Kahn expressed a preference for silver as it is subdued, looks really beautiful and picks up colors from its surroundings.

Chair Gordon commented:

- This is a significant piece for Sebastopol.
- Reiterated his support for the redesigned artwork.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- The more abstract this gets the better it is.
- Going horizontal would be less interesting.
- Liked the idea of making the arc more dramatic.
- Truck traffic will bring a lot of movement to it as well.
- The proposal is awesome.
- The idea of a gateway at this entry has been a goal for quite some time.
 - This is a great opportunity get exactly that.
- This will be wonderful.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Agreed with Committee Member Langberg.
- It would be nice to see a rendering of the design and any possible changes now that Mr. Kahn has heard from the Committee.
 - Expressed being torn on whether or not the Committee should ask Mr. Kahn to return once more before forwarding it on to Council.

Mr. Kahn provided a quick sketch of the 'before and after' in response to Committee comments.

Committee Member Arnold noted that the poles are at different heights on either side of the road and asked Mr. Kahn if he was planning to adjust for that to make them even.

Mr. Kahn responded that he was not sure about that and expressed a willingness to either make them the same height, or to acknowledge the topography by not adjusting for the difference.

Committee Member Arnold expressed being in support of forwarding this on for Council consideration.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Expressed being in support of forwarding this on for Council consideration.
- Preferred that the artwork be silver in color.

Chair Gordon commented:

- Expressed being in support of forwarding this on for Council consideration.
- Supports use of the silver color.
- Mr. Kahn's explanation is sufficient.
- This has been a long process.
 - Caltrans is a collaborator here because the project is different as a result of their input.
- The end result will be an interesting art piece.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Supports forwarding the described artwork on for Council consideration.
- Expressed appreciation for the time and effort of Mr. Kahn and Director Webster.
- Suggested consideration of a long 'S' shape rather than a simple curve.

Mr. Kahn responded that he would take that into consideration, but was not sure if that was desirable.

Committee Member Vertz commented:

- This has gone in an amazing direction.
- Loves the proposal.
- Trusts Mr. Kahn's creative direction.
- Loves the silver color.
- Supports forwarding this on for Council consideration.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to forward the revised proposal, as discussed during this meeting, on to the City Council for their consideration.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Ayes:	Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg And Mills-Thysen
	Noes:	None
	Abstain:	None

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- City representatives were recently able to put a halt to a Caltrans project having to do with ADA and sidewalks due to several concerns.
- Expressed being encouraged by Mr. Kahn's ability to work with Caltrans on this.
- After many, many years of this not being the case, he expressed being happy to see that progress is being made in working with Caltrans.

Committee Member Arnold asked Mr. Kahn what his anticipated timeline was.

Mr. Kahn commented that he hoped to have it installed by the end of the year.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented that it would be nice to run an article in the paper once an installation date is known.

Director Webster responded in the affirmative.

The Committee thanked Mr. Kahn for coming before the Committee with this revised design.

B. DISCUSSION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC ART

PROJECT: With a planned site of the Bodega-fronting wall of the Sebastopol Library, the Committee will continue discussion of a Request for Proposals draft.

Director Webster presented the staff report.

The Committee asked questions of Director Webster.

The Committee agreed to revise the third sentence under, 'Selection Criteria,' as follows: 'Practicality of the fabrication process; reasonableness of the project budget; and schedule may also be factors in the selection.'

A Committee Member suggested that the word, 'feasibility' could be used in place of the word, 'practicality' and deferred to staff on final wording.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to forward the revised RFP, as discussed during this meeting, on to the City Council for their consideration.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to forward the revised proposal, as discussed during this meeting, on to the City Council for their consideration.

Committee Member Vertz seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Ayes:	Chair Gordon and Committee Members Arnold, Vertz, Langberg And Mills-Thysen
	Noes:	None
	Abstain:	None

10. REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEE/STAFF: Depending on when the draft Request for Proposals goes before the Council, is it possible that the PAC meeting in March would be canceled.

11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: There were none.

12. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Gordon adjourned the meeting of the Sebastopol Public Arts Committee at 11:35 a.m. to the regular Public Arts Committee Meeting to be held March 07, 2018 at 10:30 a.m., at the City Hall Conference Room, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kenyon Webster
Planning Director