
Public Art Committee

Lynne Brown, Chair
Audrey Rumsby, Vice Chair

Elizabeth Alvarez
Trami Cron
Bryce Lynch

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Public Art Advisory Committee
Karen Gauss, Heidi Lubin, Chloe Shipp

MINUTES: Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 5:30 PM

San José City Hall
Online Meeting

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

- A. Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Commissioners Lynne Brown, Trami Cron, Bryce Lynch, Audrey Rumsby
PAAC Members: Heidi Lubin, Chloe Shipp

ABSENT: Commissioner Elizabeth Alvarez, PAAC member Karen Gauss

STAFF: Public Art Director Michael Ogilvie, Sr. Project Manager Lynn Rogers, Sr.
Project Manager Mary Rubin, Sr. Art Coordinator Emily Sevier

Guest Presenters: Steve Borkenhagen of Urban Confluence, artist Alfonso Salazar, Jen Ahn of
Empire 7/PowWow, Mel Sarmento of Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

II. Public Record

None.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval the Minutes for the Regular Meeting on February 2, 2021.
Mvd/2nd: A. Rumsby/B. Lynch; 4 Yes (Brown, Cron, Lynch, Rumsby); 0 No

V. Reports

- A. Chair – Chair Lynne Brown reported on:
1. The plan for deaccession of the Fallon statue will be heard in a special Study Session on Tuesday, May 4 at 5:30 PM. Public input at that meeting will be limited to 1-2 minutes per person. Public input can be provided to Chair Brown or Public Art Director Michael Ogilvie in writing via letter or email in advance of the meeting.

B. Public Art director Michael Ogilvie reported on:

1. Additional information about the Fallon statue deaccession process, clarifying the steps and the process for evaluation, with comments and other background information compiled and presented to the PAC. The review and recommendation of the PAC will then be forwarded to the Arts Commission, after which it will go to City Council. Dates for these steps are yet to be finalized.

VI. **New Business**

I. **New Business**

A. Reports & Presentations

1. PRESENTATION

REPORT: The PAC received the staff report on the Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Project (Citywide) including:

- (1) The jury recommended rankings of the three finalists; and
- (2) The work plan for next phases of the project.

Presented by: Public Art Director Michael Ogilvie, with Steve Borkenhagen of the Urban Confluence Light Tower project.

Discussion: In response to questions from the PAC, S. Borkenhagen clarified that the cost will be somewhere between \$100 million - \$200 million dollars, provided information on the parking, transportation and access, and that the goal for completion is 2025.

Details about the design and structure were reviewed and discussed, noting that the winning design is comprised of 200' rods (that are 2 times as tall as the SAP Pavilion) and that, while the light show is part of the plan it will also be environmentally sound; there will be walkways.

The magnitude of the necessary capital fundraising project was discussed, particularly in context of the challenges resulting out of Covid19; it will require large gifts but it was noted that Silicon Valley is a place of extraordinary wealth.

Chair Brown noted that the Urban Confluence project is not part of the City public art process but it shares common interests with the City. S. Borkenhagen commended L. Brown and M. Ogilvie for their input on and support of the project.

2. REPORT

a. **REPORT: The PAC received the Director's report on the Public Art Maintenance Plan for FY 2021-2022** (Citywide)

Presented by Public Art Director Michael Ogilvie who shared a detailed report and images.

Discussion: M. Ogilvie noted that CIP funds cannot be used for ongoing maintenance so there is a small General Fund allocation that supports public art maintenance. Covid19 restrictions further added to the maintenance backlog. Less funding for maintenance is expected for the next fiscal year due to the City's decreased revenues because of Covid19, resulting in budget decreases.

Commissioner Cron noted that Olinder Community Center mural needs work; staff will follow up. Commissioner Rumsby asked where the est. \$175,000 to remove the Fallon statue would be funded from; M. Ogilvie clarified that there is special funding for that as it is considered an "emergency"; reinstalling it anywhere will cost considerably more.

B. Action Items

1. DESIGN and DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

- a. **ACTION: Approved the design development proposal by local artist Alfonso Salazar, Pow!Wow! San Jose's artist in residence, that will be created as part of the Guadalupe River Art Walk project of POW!WOW! and the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy; the artwork will be sited on the Guadalupe River trail in the area of the San Fernando St. overpass. (District 3)**

Mvd/2nd: A. Rumsby/B. Lynch; 4 Yes (Brown, Cron, Lynch, Rumsby); 0 No

Presented by Artist Alfonso Salazar with Jen Ahn of Empire 7, Education Program Director Mel Sarmiento of Guadalupe River Park Conservancy and Sr. Public Art Project Manager Lynn Rogers

Discussion: L. Rogers noted that the design had been approved by PRNS and the San Jose Water District. Artist A. Salazar explained the mural will be ext. 531 sq. ft. He had previously painted a mural at El Tarasco that has been painted out. This mural is a tribute to the Tamien Ohlone and their creation myth. It was developed in consultation with local Ohlone representatives. The title is Makkin Mak Nommo/We Are Still Here.

PAAC member C. Shipp commended PowWow on the variety of artists, subject matter that they had brought forward as they develop the Guadalupe River Art Walk project. Commissioner Cron and Artist Salazar discussed the meaning of traditional symbols in the artwork including the hummingbird, eagle, coyote, basketry and the Ohlone woman. Commissioner Brown congratulated PowWow and artist, especially on the educational nature of the mural and how it honors and expands awareness of the indigenous Ohlone people. Commissioner Rumsby commented on how fascinating the source of inspiration is and inquired about if there will be an informational plaque; J.Ahn of PowWow/Empire 7 confirmed there will be a plaque. Rumsby noted it is important not to lose the meaning of the mural; Commissioner Lynch concurred with this, noting that it is important to remind people that the Ohlone people are still here. Commissioner Lynch noted it was good Alfonso Salazar is able to get his work before the public again after 30 years, noting the imagery is strong, striking. In response to question from Commissioner Brown. J. Ahn confirmed that the artist and videographer are compensated for their work. M. Ogilvie noted this will be a beautiful work of art that will use the space well and will be honored and protected, and that there had been especially meaningful outreach in the mural's development.

2. PUBLIC ART WORKPLAN – FY 2022 - 2027

- a. **ACTION: Review and take action on the recommendation to recommend the Public Art Workplan to the Arts Commission to take action to recommend it to City Council. (Citywide)**

Mvd/2nd: B. Lynch/A. Rumsby; Passed: 4 Yes; 0 No;

Presented by Public Art Director Michael Ogilvie, who presented the detailed plan.

Discussion included comments on the details of the Plan. Commissioner Cron inquired about status of the 2020 Black Lives Matter (BLM) mural and whether there were plans for a mural addressing anti-Asian hate crimes; M. Ogilvie noted the BLM mural will be up only until the 2021 Juneteenth Festival; T. Cron noted that something in support of non-violence towards the Asian community would be good. Commissioners Rumsby,

Lynch and Brown all commended the work of the public art staff and director on the impressive scale and scope of work/projects, especially when coupled with the work in public art maintenance, and the quality of the reporting on an ongoing basis. A. Rummy expressed hope that the funding for the maintenance will pan out.

C. Other Items None.

VII. Continuing/Old Business

- A. Updates were provided on continuing projects.
Written report highlighting updates on continuing projects was reviewed.

Presented by M. Ogilvie, Public Art Director with input from staff.

VIII. Meeting Schedule

The next regular meetings of the Public Art Committee are:

- Tuesday, May 4, 2021 and
Tuesday, June 1, 2021
Both will be online via Zoom.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

ATTEST:
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE SECRETARY

PRESIDING:
COMMITTEE CHAIR

Lynn Rogers

Recorded by LYNN ROGERS, SR. PROGRAM OFFICER

LYNNE BROWN