

**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION, CITY OF AMES
MEETING MINUTES – February 7th, 2023
AMES CITY HALL, ROOM 135**

Attending: Erica Briest, Sahar Kassi, Kyle Hauswirth, Angie DeWaard (By Phone), Joe Merchant, Mohammad Rashid

Called to order at 5:50

- **Consent Agenda-**
 - Motion to Approve: Hauswirth
 - Second: Kassi
 - Passed Unanimously
- **No Guests**
- **Chair's Report**
 - **Last month's meeting didn't happen due to not reaching quorum, but thank you to Sahar and Joe for attending the meeting.**
- **City Liason's Report**
 - City is going over budget for this year, expected amount for PAC is \$46,000 and PAC will carry over any unspent money.
 - Subcommittee has met for neighborhood art, there just isn't a final consensus yet.
 - A lot up in the air right now as to city financing and state legislature, PAC is funded through City Options Sales Tax, but no changes should happen to PAC, but we might wait a little longer to get the money in the account
- **Status Updates**
 - Art in the Parks
 - Joe has contacted Parks and Rec about Hira Park.
 - Met with Keith Abraham about the Park in West Ames, and he pointed out areas that he thought the Art could go for the park. He said that the Hira's had some ideas of what they would like to see in the park, and he said that they might contribute money if we asked them and went with their theme.
 - Theme was Children from different background/cultures coming together.
 - The Hira's would like the art in the park to be interactive and informative.
 - Are we ready to write an RFP that would tie in the requested themes.
 - Hope is that because we haven't done an Art in the Parks for a while that we could do a little bit bigger piece for the park.
 - Question was asked if we were also doing the Ice Arena for the Art in the Parks , but the Art in the Parks budget is at 35000 and if the Arena Mural is going to be 10,000, then there would be \$25000 for the Hira Park.
 - The police don't' want art to obscure the park.
 - There might be an existing pad that would work for Art in Hira Park as well.

- There is a small hill that might make the Art a focal point.
 - Motion from Erica to approve 20000 for Art in the Parks for Hira Park
 - Second: Hauswirth
 - Passed Unanimously
 - What to do with Public Art
 - Angie believes that Taylor has that completed and has emailed it out.
 - Taylor might be not re-applying for PAC, but Angie believes that she has send out the information.
 - Solar Lighting
 - Sahar and Candace have located art they would like to propose for the project.
 - None of these pieces have lighting near them right now.
 - Question was asked as to how long the bulbs last in the lights.
 - Sahar referred to the email from the company.
 - Concerns on maintenance on the statues, and maintenance on the lights would add a lot to this.
 - Concerns were raised about maintenance, cost and vandalism to the lights.
 - PAC doesn't have a process to routinely go around and examine art and look at art for wear and tear.
 - Beliefs are that we should be examining all pieces on a regular basis.
 - Motion Angie:
 - Limit the scope of the Solar Lighting project as a pilot to the Roundabout Project that is ongoing.
 - Erica: second
 - Passed Unanimously
- **New and Continuing Business**
 - Ice Arena
 - Met with Parks and Rec staff, and we have a few prospective places where the mural might go.
 - \$10,000 RFP for a Mural from the Art in the Parks Budget
 - Draft RFP in Minutes
 - It was decided that the stairwell would be the more optimal area for the Mural.
 - Motion: Approve the RFP and the budget.
 - Merchant
 - Second: Angie DeWaard
 - Motion Passed Unanimously
 - Roundabout Subcommittee Updates
 - There have been no meetings due to illness.
 - AMES-
 - No updates on this.
 - No people from CyRide have shown interest as of right now.
 - PAC Booth Items
 - Company:
 - Ridiculously Low Priced Banner
 - One Tent

- Two Chairs
 - Two Stand Up Banners
 - Pens
 - Stickers
 - Rubber Bracelets
 - Small Display for AAOSE
- Come with Ideas for next meeting.
- Problem Pedestals
 - These pedestals along 5th street are a safety issue.
 - Difficult for anything with wheels.
 - Blocking access coming out of the street.
 - Proposal is to move them back away from the walking path.
 - It was proposed to remove the Reliefs from the pedestals, and display them somewhere.
 - It was asked if the commission would be comfortable with reaching out to Main Street on the logistics of removing them and moving them elsewhere.
 - Three Proposals
 - Leave them in- Unfavorable Option
 - Move them
 - Preserve the Relief
 - Moved to Empower Angie to reach out to Main Street to discuss the above three options and judge their temperament on the options.
- **Motion to Adjourn- Hauswirth**
 - Adjourned at 7:30