

December 16, 2015
8:30 A.M.
Newport, Oregon

The City of Newport Public Arts Committee met at the above date and time in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Bill Posner, Catherine Rickbone, Cynthia Jacobi, and Tom Webb. Also in attendance were City Council Liaison Ralph Busby, City Recorder/Special Projects Director Peggy Hawker, and Artist CJ Rensch (via telephone).

CALL TO ORDER

Rickbone called the December 16, 2015 meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 19, 2015

MOTION was made by Jacobi, seconded by Posner, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting, as presented. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

DISCUSS DETAILS OF PUBLIC ART AWARD (TO CJ RENCH) FOR THE AQUATIC CENTER

Rickbone reported that the two remaining issues were the selection of the kinetic elements and the sculpture color.

Kinetic Components

Webb suggested keeping the kinetic elements very simple. It was suggested that an obvious seam, or stitching, on the ball would denote the sports that occur at the Recreation Center. Posner agreed with a ball, if it was defined, and the kite. He also suggested a happy person, in a bright color, as the kinetic piece. Rickbone noted that she would like to see various color renderings for the sculpture.

Artist CJ Rensch joined the meeting, via telephone, at this point. Rickbone stated that the Committee was interested in discussing the kinetic components of the sculpture. Rensch explained that the kinetic elements work on a point loaded system or through a top loaded bearing or needle bearings. He stated that a point on point stainless steel loaded system is basically maintenance free. Posner asked what would happen in a heavy wind. Rensch reported that there are a couple of options for slowing movement, but that the elements are fairly heavy and can accommodate higher wind factors. Posner asked whether staff could use a pin to stop movement in a high wind. Rensch noted that this can be done by installing a set screw that can adjust the kinetic movement, adding that the kinetic element will adjust itself to the least amount of force. Webb asked whether there are noise issues with the pieces moving, and Rensch reported that there are no issues so far.

Further discussion ensued regarding the kinetic elements. Webb stated that he was in favor of a kite, but also favored more definition to the ball to make it appear to be a basketball, soccer ball, etc. Posner suggested a generic sports ball with engraved seams. Rench noted that he would prepare drawings of potential kinetic elements. Rickbone asked about the height of the ball, and Rench reported that it would be 12 - 14 feet high. Jacobi stated that she was comfortable with the kinetic elements being a kite and stylized ball representing a sports ball. A further discussion ensued regarding the movement of the “happy person” at the end of the sculpture. It was asked how much this kinetic piece would move, and Rench noted that it spins quite easily and would weigh approximately 45 - 50 pounds.

Pedestals

Rickbone noted that pedestals were discussed as a method of placing the sculpture higher. Rench noted that, as discussed, there would be three 18-inch concrete pedestals that touch the ground. Webb asked whether the pedestals provide a foothold for climbing, and whether they would raise the overall height of the sculpture. Rench suggested that a “no climbing” plaque could be placed on one of the pedestals. Jacobi suggested that the pedestals be oval so that there are no sharp edges. Rench noted that the corners of the rectangular pedestals could be rounded. Posner and Jacobi agreed that the corners should be rounded.

Color

Rickbone asked about color alternatives. Posner suggested that if the inner color complemented the outer color, it would provide greater depth. Rench stated that stainless disappears on gray days. He added that the Committee could look at one color for the exterior of the sculpture with different colors in the center cut-outs. Posner suggested that the people be one color, and the inside and the kinetic elements be another color, but the same color. Rench suggested obtaining Sherwin Williams samples, and added that he would send line drawings. Rickbone suggested that the figures be white with different colors on the inside. It was agreed that black, brown, taupe, sand, deep purple, and other colors would not work. Jacobi asked whether red is more prone to fading. She suggested using red, yellow, and blue for the inside of the people. Rickbone suggested adding green to the color palette. She also suggested that the mobile figure be the same color scheme as the upper kinetic elements. Rench asked whether there is a color theme to carry through inside and out. A discussion ensued regarding having the after school youth participants work with a line drawing of the sculpture. Rench offered to work with community youth on this project. Webb added that there are youth classes at the VAC. Rickbone asked Rench to provide color ideas from today’s discussion.

Further discussion ensued regarding involving community youth in the project planning. It was suggested that January 21 and February 18 are possible dates for youth participation. Rickbone noted that testing dates need to be determined so there would not be a conflict. Jacobi asked what age group is recommended for participation. Rench suggested K-6 grade children, and added that the project could be distributed to home room teachers. He noted that he has wooden “happy humans” that the children could take

home. Webb stated that the youth participation could be used as a photo opportunity for a press release, adding that it would generate momentum. Rench stated that if the teachers had the information in advance, he could visit several classrooms in one day. Webb suggested adding a “meet the artist” luncheon. Webb and Rench agreed to make contacts in the schools, and Webb noted that it would be beneficial to have a sketch prior to contacting teachers.

Rench agreed to participate in the next meeting which is scheduled for January 21.

Rickbone noted that the work with youth could be publicized in a press release. Webb suggested distributing copies of the rendering throughout the community; Rench would work in the classroom; press releases would be issued regarding this event; and an invitation to the community to a reception at City Hall.

Jacobi asked about the timeframe for installation, and it was noted that the sculpture would be installed in October or November of 2016.

PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM - DISCUSSION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROGRAM TO ALLOW FOR A DECREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE ALLOCATED FOR PUBLIC ART IF A PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECT IS OVER BUDGET

PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM - DISCUSSION REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE PROGRAM TO RENOVATION PROJECTS OF CITY-OWNED BUILDINGS

BAYFRONT MURAL PROGRAM

ESTABLISH NEXT AGENDA

It was agreed discuss the kinetic elements and colors of the Rench project, and the three items listed above at the next meeting, time permitting.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 8:30 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.