

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023
ATRIUM CONFERENCE ROOM – 500 CASTRO STREET
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Jesse Cupp.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Cliff Bryant, Toni Hsu, Regina Sakols, Tootoo Thomson, Don Whitebread, Vice Chair Susi Merhar, and Chair Jesse Cupp.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Faryal Saiidnia, Senior Project Manager; and Ed Arango, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes of the August 9, 2023 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Whitebread/Sakols—Carried 7-0—To approve the minutes of the August 9, 2023 meeting as presented.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC—None.

5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS—None.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 CIP PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

- Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center (CIP Project 18-38): All artist coordination has now commenced with the design team. Staff is working with artist Liz Hickok on the hanging mechanism for art installation. Masako Miki and team have purchased materials to produce the benches.

- Fayette Park (CIP Project 20-48): Construction has commenced. Artist has completed fabrication of all the art and is on track for anticipated installation in June. Construction delays have resulted in the art benches being delayed for installation.
- Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings (CIP Project 21-48): This project will be discussed as part of Item 6.2.
- Transit Center Grade Separation and Access Project (CIP Project 21-35): The selected artist has met with City staff and recently met with the architect of the project. Work on a contract will begin shortly for City Council consideration.
- Evelyn Park (CIP Project 21-60). The Call for Artists has been issued. So far there are only eight artist submissions. Will push out another reminder about the call for artists and extend submission deadline by one week.

Public Comment: None.

6.2 **RENGSTORFF PARK MAINTENANCE AND TENNIS BUILDINGS (CIP PROJECT 21-35)**

Staff provided the VAC with an overview of the process to date. The process included having the two selected artists (Fernanda Martinez and Harumo Sato) meet with the Youth Advisory and Senior Advisory Committees for input on a design concept. From the feedback from the two Committees, the artists were to develop some themes which would result in three concept murals. The three concept murals by each artist would be evaluated by the VAC. The VAC is to select one mural concept from each artist. Staff will then return to the Youth Advisory and Senior Advisory Committees on the selected renderings.

The VAC deliberated the three concepts by each artist and conducted a straw poll for all three mural concepts by each artist to determine which concept to move forward. For the three renderings proposed by artist Fernanda Martinez, the VAC selected Concept Three. The VAC would like staff to engage the artist to see if there is an ability to maintain the stick figure within the mural but if the artist would be able to modify the figures to show greater diversity. For the three renderings proposed by artist, Harumo Sato, the VAC selected Concept 2 and would prefer the more vivid color palette associated with people, fauna, and flora in the artists' proposal.

Public Comment: None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 VILLA PARK (VILLA-CHIQUITA PARK) (CIP PROJECT 21-61) AND SYLVAN PARK PUBLIC ART BENCH (CIP PROJECT 21-46)

Villa Park

Staff sought feedback from the VAC on any potential themes or any other considerations before issuing a Call for Artists for Villa Park. Staff highlighted the various features of the park along with multiple locations for inclusion of art. The Parks and Recreation Commission had expressed to Public Works suggestions for public art, including:

- A star theme, as “Estrella” translated from Spanish means star.
- A Mexican-American theme.
- Integrated into the park’s perimeter fencing.
- As an art and play piece.

The VAC directed that the call should be for local artists and that they would like to see a statement of intention for the art piece. In addition, the call should include information about Club Estrella to reflect the relevant historical culture of the area.

Sylvan Park

Staff sought feedback from the VAC on establishing a call for artists in the amount of \$9,000 for some artist benches. Based upon past experiences with artistic benches, the VAC discussed the viability of conducting a successful call for artists given the budget and the City Council’s interest in artist benches. The VAC’s direction to staff was return to Council seeking two options. The priority action would be to request for additional funding support the successful call for artists for artistic benches. The VAC’s experience with artistic benches exceeds \$10,000. The alternative action would propose purchasing benches that would better accommodate being modified with the inclusion of art (addition of tile, paint, or other materials).

Public Comment: None.

8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff thanked Member Bryant for gathering public input on the goals and strategies of the public art strategy at a neighborhood community meeting.

Staff shared with the VAC a table was staffed at the Art and Wine Festival seeking feedback on the public art strategy.

The Ad Hoc Committee will meet to discuss the goals associated with the Public Art Strategy.

Public Comment: None.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

These Minutes are hereby submitted for approval by John Lang, Recording Secretary.

Approved on _____.

~~JL/4/CDD~~

~~819-09-13-23mn~~