

City of Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board Meeting

June 7 2016

Present:

Board Members: Anna Socrates, John Drago, Charlette Wilson, Mark Granfors-Hunt

Members absent with prior notice: Tatiana Ausema, Oliver Gaycken

Members absent without prior notice:

Staff Liaison: Nicole DeWald

Council Liaison: Judith Davis

Guest(s):

The meeting started at 7:08 pm

- I. Meeting began by members reviewing background information forwarded by Tatiana for AAB review regarding the newspaper box project.**
- II. A quorum was verified: four out of six current AAB board members were present.**
- III. Additional Items for the agenda: J. Davis has information and an update on the tree**
- IV. Conversation began regarding Elizabeth Barber's Newspaper box proposal.**

Six month trial period? When does the six month period begin? Should be after the project is completed and publicly available. Chicken and the egg, they will design if given permission, but the city may want to see a design before giving permission. They may want to simply paint the box and get it into use before making any design for the box to get it into use. Should we recommend putting it into use before it is designed? Concerns about interrupting usage if it is taken out of service once placed to repaint with a design. Are the newspaper boxes secured currently? The box needs to be secured if it isn't now to avoid city responsibility and liability. One person responsible for stocking. Is that a good idea? Perhaps Greenbelter's will simply pitch in to keep it going. J Davis: Public works will take care of securing the box, no problem. But if the box is not maintained the city would take the box out. What about the future plans, how will it be maintained? What is the periodic conservation plan? What will happen if the box is damaged due to severe weather (snow). How would a work of art be maintained? Will the design be maintainable? Should permission be predicated on an acceptable design, a phased acceptance? Three sister project as a model. Initial approval included as a precedent. Ask for the technical specs. Make a Maintenance agreement with public works. MOU Memorandum of Understanding. Who will be monitoring what kind of magazines will be available? What kind of censorship could/should there be? Maybe we could wait to see if it becomes an issue before worrying about censorship.

They are not asking the city for funds, simply for permission and support from public works. Should they have the support of an organization to assist in keeping the

project going? How will the project be managed in the future? Friends of Greenbelt Library perhaps? Barbara Simon is a member of FOGL.

Motion: Charlette Wilson moved and John Drago seconded a motion to endorse the five recommendations Nicole has written out of our conversation during this meeting. The motion passed by acclamation.

V. J. Davis presented information to the AAB as follows:

She was not present for contribution group discussions to remain impartial, since the groups will be coming before city council for approval.

Have we considered the NEA Our Town Grant? Yes, very time consuming application process.

Mosaic done on a bike tunnel in Cleveland. We have tunnels. RHS art dept has painted three of their trailers. Is there some way to funnel youth talent into design work on murals for the underpasses? Are the underpasses on the arts placement list that AAB has put together? Have we (AAB) considered proposing an idea of our own? Such as creating a plan to get a mural in the underpass, contacting the youth advisory group and sitting down with them to brainstorm. Is the city considering a revolving fund of some sort?

Tree update: Joe Stebbing (did a bunch of stuff in Cheverly) is the tree still something that can still be carved? Or the willow oak by crescent road and the library is dying. Perhaps that tree could be used. Jim Calder from Takoma Park is another possible artist. J. Davis circulated several photos of work by both artists for board consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

The next regularly schedule AAB meeting will be Tuesday, July 5th, 2016.