

Minutes

The City of Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board January 3, 2012

Present: Board members Tatiana Ausema (Chair), Anna Socrates (Vice Chair), John Drago, Shane Wisdom, Mark Granfors-Hunt, and Gale Martineau; Nicole DeWald (staff liaison); Konrad Herling (Council liaison)

Members absent with prior notice: Tiahna Nugent, Ginny Zanner

Tatiana Ausema opened the meeting at 7:15pm.

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the December meeting, as amended, by acclamation.

The discussion of indoor public arts spaces was continued with a focus on Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Konrad Herling reported that he had not had an opportunity to walk through during December; Shane Wisdom volunteered to do a walk-through in January and report back to the board at the February meeting.

The group discussed the status of the arts policy and what steps were required to move the project along. Nicole DeWald indicated that the spreadsheet of proposed public art sites needed to be updated with current notes and locations; no board members volunteered to take on this task at this time.

Ms. DeWald also reminded the board that she had received comments from the City Manager on the current Public Art Policy draft. Comments included suggestion for a 5th section of the draft that would include implementation details such as where, when, why, and how the city might incorporate public art. The board discussed if such a narrative was best suited for the Policy, or if a memo to the city might be more appropriate. Mark Granfors-Hunt also wondered if the City Manager was looking for procedures that artists would follow when creating/submitting art or if the city was looking for procedures for selecting art.

Board members also discussed whether the AAB was the correct body for implementing specific policy and procedures for public art. Anna Socrates and Tatiana Ausema suggested that the AAB might suggest broad guidelines, but that the recreation department should draft specific protocol for soliciting artwork and art selection, as they would be the likely organizers and caretakers of any installations. Mr. Granfors-Hunt suggested that the procedures would be very different for permanent versus temporary installations of public art.

Ms. Ausema suggested that non-permanent installations of public art could be handled much in the same way that the community center gallery space is run, and Ms. DeWald provided the board members with an overview of current procedures for that space. Ms. DeWald also presented an overview of how the more permanent installation "Faces of Greenbelt" was conceived and installed.

The board approved adding a 5th section to the proposed Public Arts Policy which would be titled "Procedural Recommendations," but did not feel that it would be appropriate to set specific policy for this area. This section will contain three parts:

1. A statement from the AAB indicating that we believe each public art project is unique and requires careful consideration by various city staff and volunteers, particularly when the work is to be permanently installed. (To be drafted by Mark Granfors-Hunt)
2. General guidelines for how an artist might contact and apply to the city if he/she were interested in submitting artwork. (To be drafted by Nicole DeWald)
3. Items the city should consider when evaluating public art, such as which departments might need to be involved, funding sources, length of display, maintenance, etc. (To be drafted by Tatiana Ausema)

Board members working on these items will report back to the board in February.

Ms. DeWald closed the meeting by discussing the new emergency cards located throughout the community center. The board responded enthusiastically to the new cards and procedures.

Ms. Ausema adjourned the meeting at 8:34pm, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Socrates and Mr. Granfors-Hunt.

Minutes approved by acclamation at the 3/6/12 meeting