Public Art Commission Meeting Minutes

Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts
Public Art Commission
Meeting Minutes

Date: May 20, 2015

Approval of Minutes & Announcement
April 2015 minutes approved.

Following the approval of the minutes Commissioner the meeting started with program updates.

Program Updates:

Ryan Patterson answered the commission’s request of updated status on current projects including McKeldin Fountain. The commission requested UDARP information for McKeldin Fountain, a spreadsheet containing updated status on all of the projects and also a meeting notice for Druid Hill Park.

Project Presentation: Jonathan Latiano’s Cherry Hill Recreation Center Proposal
Location: Cherry Hill Aquatic Center
Presented by: Jonathan Latiano
Phase: Final Concept Approval

Overview:

Lou Joseph went over the timeline of the progress on Jonathan Latiano’s project.

Jonathan Latiano presented his final design proposal for Cherry Hill Aquatic Center. He provided GWWO architectural rendering and his proposal rendering. He also brought a maquette of a cherry tree branch and a model that shows the layers in the structure.

The artist highlighted the geographical location of the community recreation center as an important inspiration for the work. The proposed space for artwork lies in the center of the recreation center, which also lies in the center of the community. By using the cherry tree imagery for the design, he wanted to reclaim the history of what the community was named after. He wanted to focus on generational growth and building momentum within the Cherry Hill community. The design was finished and the artist was waiting for the approval to proceed into the fabrication phase.

Budget:
The Commission questioned if the budget is appropriate for the fabrication process. Jonathan Latiano answered he is comfortable with the budget.
Commissioner Comments:

- Elford Jackson requested a clarification on the artwork’s placement in the building.
  - Jonathan Latiano answered that the work will be attached to the arch frame on the ceiling and the ceiling tile will be custom cut around it.
- Mary Demory questioned the overall size of the artwork.
  - Jonathan Latiano answered it will be at least a hundred feet long, as long as the building itself.
- Kate Brower questioned if any BCRP representative was present at the community meeting and also commented on the interactive aspect of the artwork.
  - Jonathan Latiano answered there was no BCRP representative present at the meeting.
- Jeremy Rountree questioned about the hanging mechanism for the installation and also suggested experiment with shaping the acrylic petals into different shapes. He also commented that using regular white wall paint for the branches might cause special maintenance in the future.
  - Jonathan Latiano assured the rigidity and the lightness of the sculpture to hang from the ceiling.
- Sandra Abbott commented with her appreciation of the abstraction of cherry tree imagery. She also suggested considering a very inclusive maintenance plan.
- Elford Jackson commented on possibility of planting real cherry trees around the recreation center.
- Elissa Blount-Moorehead commented on the lighting as integral part of the sculpture, especially when there is no daylight.

Vote: Pass
Aye- Mary Dmory, Elford Jackson, Jeremy Rountree, Sandra Abbott, Elissa Blount-Moorehead
Nay- none Abstain- Frank Dittenhafer, Jann Rosen-Queralt, Scott Rykiel

Attending

PAC Commissioners:
Mary Demory
Elford Jackson
Jeremy Rountree
Sandra Abbott,
Elissa Blount-Moorehead

BOPA Staff: Ryan Patterson, Lou Joseph,

Baltimore City: Kate Brower (BCRP)