

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

October 8, 2019

12:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, Community Development Building

305 SW A Street, Bentonville, AR



MINUTES

Attendance

Voting Members		Ex Officio	Staff
✓ Brittany Braithwaite	✓ Johnetta Dexter	✓ Tim Robinson (city council)	✓ Shelli Kerr
✓ Dylan Turk	Lauren Haynes	Kalene Griffith (VB)	David Wright
✓ Jerris Palmer	✓ Steven Baker		Danielle Semsrott

1. Minutes from September 10, 2019 meeting. No recommended changes.

Motion: Steven made a motion to approve; Johnetta seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes 5-0.

PROPOSALS

2. Bright Road Roundabout Proposals.

The city received twenty-one proposals for the Bright Road Roundabout display site. Shelli read the description of the project and reminded the committee that they decided to seek a second round of proposals because they were looking to diversify the current public art inventory. Tim mentioned that in the area of this site is a planned nature park and dog park/animal shelter. The following are comments regarding each submittal, reviewed in no particular order.

Universal Inseparability by Ben Pierce – The committee likes the artwork, but feel it does not provide a connection to the site or the surrounding schools. They would like to keep this piece on a list to consider for a future display site.

Inertia by Don Lawler – The concrete material and design feels more institutional and does not contribute to a welcome and warm environment, which is what they prefer near the schools.

Bear in a Tree by Jim Collins – The committee feels that the scale of this piece is not a good fit for the roundabout site.

Native Landscape by Kevin Shaffer – The committee likes the concept and artist portfolio, but with the image provided, it is unclear what the final piece will look like.

The Bronsons by Steve Reddell – The committee likes the artwork but feels it is not at the correct scale for the site and is better suited in a more walkable, urban setting. They will add this piece to a list to consider for a future display site.

Love Arch by Andy Denton – The committee unanimously likes this artwork. They feel that the narrative offers a good message. However, with the design as an arch, it could encourage play underneath and the committee feels it would not be safe for placement in a roundabout. Since the committee likes the piece, they placed it for consideration at the Corner at Park Springs Park display site.

Choctaw One by Terry and Maritza Bean – The committee feels that the city has an abstract sculpture piece with Sunkissed and are looking for artwork that provides variety to the current inventory.

It's All About Electricity by Richard Herzog – Several on the committee like this piece, but do not feel strongly enough about its placement at this site.

Purley Platonic by Jake Balcom – The committee likes the concept of this piece, but feels it would encourage people to go into the roundabout to get a closer look. A park location where landscaping can be installed to encourage interaction with the piece is a more suitable location. They will add this piece to a list to consider for a future display site.

Standing Freedom by Paul Reimer – The committee likes this piece, but did not find the desired connection with the surrounding schools or the roundabout display area.

Unity by Lanre Buraimoh – The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an acceptable method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it without knowing exactly what it will look like when completed.

Dog by Lanre Buraimoh and Dotun Popula – The committee really likes this piece, but does not feel it provides the desired connection with the schools. It should be viewed up close to see the detail, which is not a good fit for a roundabout display site.

Ascend by Nathan Pierce – The committee likes this piece and even the way the artist superimposed it into the roundabout. However, one of the more recent pieces in the city's inventory is a monarch butterfly, which is too similar subject matter.

Low-Poly Open Heart by Matthew Duffy – The entire committee likes this artwork. It relates to the school district embracing the "Choose Love" movement. They are concerned about the scale. They asked Shelli to reach out to the artist about cost associated with making it larger or if he can create a pedestal to add height.

Roundabout Monument by Office Kovaks – The committee is concerned that this piece might be too large for the site and create some visibility issues. They also mentioned that there is an existing silo nearby and that people would think that a silo had been moved to the site.

Metal Tree by Pontus Willfors – Crystal Bridges has a similar metal tree in front of its parking drop off area and the committee feels this proposal is too similar to the existing piece.

Feather Forest by Kurt Seese – The committee does not see a clear relationship to the surrounding schools. Furthermore, a temporary stained glass piece was part of the committee's initial project and they want more diversity in the inventory.

Feather Spiral by Kurt Seese - The committee does not see a clear relationship to the surrounding schools. Furthermore, a temporary stained glass piece was part of the committee's initial project and they want more diversity in the inventory.

Yellow #10 by Timothy Carter - The committee feels that the city has an abstract sculpture piece with Sunkissed and are looking for a piece different than the current inventory.

Singing Sculpture by Colt Hall and Joann Lacey – The committee does not see a clear relationship to the surrounding schools, are concerned about the noise level and possible distraction for surrounding schools, and feels the scale is too large for the site.

Salubrious by Jordan Jones – The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an accepted method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it not knowing exactly what it would look like when completed.

Johnetta made a motion to select the “Low-Poly Open Heart” for the Bright Road display site and reach out to the artist regarding a possible larger size or installation on a pedestal. Dylan seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion passes 5-0.

Shelli reminded the committee that the Transportation Department must approve the artwork before proceeding to City Council for approval.

3. Corner at Park Springs Park Proposals. The city received twenty proposals for the Corner at Park Springs Park display site. The following are comments regarding each submittal, reviewed in no particular order.

Human Life Growing by Bhanu Dudat – The committee likes the artwork and the representation of Hindu mythology offers the variety and cultural diversity desired. However, they feel it is not suitable to the site or an outdoor location.

Skyward by Ben Pierce – The committee does not feel this proposal provides the desired relationship to the site or the park.

Bird Tree by Marguerite de Messieres and Tsvetomir Naydenov – The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an acceptable method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it not knowing exactly what it would look like when completed.

River Music Bench by Don Lawler – The committee does not feel this proposal provides the desired relationship to the site or the park.

Hill Climb by Jim Collins – The committee likes this piece. However, so much of the current inventory is bicycle related. They also feel that it is not the right piece for this site. They will add this piece to a list to consider for a future display site.

3 Rings and a Bell by Steve Reddell – The committee does not feel this proposal provides the desired relationship to the site or the park.

Native Grasses by Kevin Shaffer – The committee likes the concept and artist portfolio, but with the image provided, it is unclear what the final piece will look like.

Wind to the Dove by Andy Denton – The committee does not feel this proposal provides the desired relationship to the site or the park.

Choctaw Two by Terry and Maritza Bean – The committee feels that the city has an abstract sculpture piece with Sunkissed and are looking for artwork that provides variety to the current inventory.

Springs Flowers by Richard Herzog – The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an acceptable method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it not knowing exactly what it would look like when completed.

The Gathering Place by Molly Keen – The committee likes the concept of this proposal and spent some time discussing. It offers opportunities for interaction and creativity. The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an acceptable method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it not knowing exactly what it would look like when completed. However, they want to explore this piece further for a possible project in 2020.

Mysterious Ozark Coral by Will Vannerson – The color of this piece is too similar to Sunkissed and does not provide the desired relationship with the site.

Horse by Lanre Buraimoh and Dotun Popula – The committee likes this piece, but it does not have the desired relationship or connection with the park or the site.

Low-Poly Open Heart by Matthew Duffy – Since the committee selected this piece for the roundabout, they removed it from consideration at this site.

Feather Crown by Kurt Seese – The committee does not see a clear relationship to the site or history of the park. Furthermore, a temporary stained glass piece was part of the committee's initial project and they want more diversity in the inventory.

Yellow #9 by Timothy Carter – As with *Yellow #10* submitted for Bright Road, the committee feels that the city has an abstract sculpture piece with Sunkissed and are looking for artwork that diversifies the inventory.

Salubrious by Jordan Jones – The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an accepted method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it not knowing exactly what it would look like when completed.

Once in a Blue Moon by Joann Lacey – The committee is unclear on the final appearance of this proposal and does not feel it provides the desired connection or relationship to the site.

Mushroom Lamps by Elise Gilbert - The artist submitted this proposal as a sketch. While this is an acceptable method for submittal, based on past experience, the committee does not feel strongly enough to pursue it not knowing exactly what it would look like when completed.

Love Arch by Andy Denton – The committee agreed to move this proposal from the Bright Road to the Corner at Park Springs Park display site. They feel the narrative offers a good message, it can be viewed from different angles and perspectives, is interactive, and coordinates well with the selection of the Open Heart selected for Bright Road.

Steve made a motion to select Love Arch for the Corner at Park Springs Park display site. Johnetta seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion passes 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

- 4. Vote on new Sassy location.** At the September meeting, the committee agreed to make a final decision on a new location for Sassy at this meeting. Three sites are under consideration: the parking lot at Cub Drive, the turnaround at Applegate Trail, or along the Applegate Trail.

Brittany recommends that Sassy be relocated to the Cub Drive parking lot location rather than the Applegate location. She feels the site is safely and easily accessible via the parking lot; is not highly visible from Tiger Boulevard (accommodating resident concerns presented to the committee), and the proximity to the trail is appropriate. At the last meeting, the committee was hesitant to relocate the piece a few blocks from its current location. However, the committee agrees since it is not as visible from the roadway but still easily accessible, the location meets the goals for relocation.

Brittany made a motion to relocate Sassy to the Cub Drive parking lot location. Dylan seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion passes 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS – No new business.

PROJECT UPDATES – No project updates.

OTHER

The committee asked that Shelli invite a representative from the school district or the Choose Love movement to attend the next committee meeting to discuss the Open Heart installation. They also want to meet with the Tree and Landscape Committee to discuss developing a landscape plan for the Bright Road display site.

The committee agreed to postpone discussions with the University of Arkansas art program until January since they have agreed to seek opportunities with *The Gathering Place* piece in 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.