

Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting

January 18, 2023

The regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Committee was held at the Recreation & Aquatic Center at 6:30pm on Wednesday, January 18, 2023. Board Members Anna Mae McNally, Kelly Smallwood, George Romagnoli, Chairman Richard Melton, Kimberly Brust, Beth Fregger, Eric Mullins, and staff liaison Terri Moore were in attendance. Bertell Butler attended as a guest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- November 16, 2022 – The Minutes were unanimously approved.

VOX POP:

- Beth Fregger said she brought some children to the Dino and Dragons exhibit at Schwettman Educational Center and they had a wonderful experience there. Bertell Butler introduced himself, said he works with the school system, has worked and been a volunteer with the Parks & Recreation Department, is volunteering at the Dino and Dragons exhibit, was invited to the CAC meeting, is a resident of the City, and wants to be involved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Ideas for Budget Year 2022-2023 – Kim said she would like the CAC to continue with Murals in the City. There was discussion about the past proposed Mural Ordinance revisions; that the discussion had been tabled by City Council for future discussion, and that they would like to re-visit the subject. George motioned that Rich write a letter asking that the proposed Mural Ordinance revisions be discussed and approved, and everyone voted unanimously in favor.
- Design Committee Ideas for 100 Year Anniversary – There was brief discussion about Murals; some would like to see Poetry Readings and similar things in the Parks; and questions were asked if the Theater can be utilized for Cultural activities?
- Sculpture Walk Project for 100 Year Celebration – The locations for the Sculpture Walk, that the CAC put together a few years ago, have already been approved. Ideas were exchanged regarding the type of sculptures to have along the walk. One idea was to use

a mold; for example, a scallop, (other cities/towns have used dolphins, mermaids, turtles, etc.) and put a rendering on one side of the sculpture that could represent history of the City (i. e. the Golf Course, the Mail Boat, the Fire House, etc.). The Historical Society could provide such pictures for the renderings. The CAC wants to work out details such as, if one large piece is desirable, or if several smaller ones are preferred. Kim said she attended a CRA meeting and that the Civil Engineers wanted community feedback to tell what they want to see regarding Public Art. *(Side note: Main Street has invited the Pasco Fine Arts Council, the NPR Historical Society, the Cultural Affairs Committee, and the Richey Suncoast Theater to meet together at the Hacienda on January 31, 2023 at 5:30pm.) Other ideas exchanged were doing a film reel to represent movies, if businesses should be asked to subsidize the sculptures, and if going to businesses other than downtown – such as Trinity, or the beach - would be allowed. Sculptures that tie in with the historical significance of the building could be posted in front of the business, similar to the Fire Hose bicycle rack in front of Ordinance One. A map of the Sculpture Walk could be created, and a QR Code containing the historical significance of each sculpture could be put on the back of each sculpture, as well as on the map. Kelly would like to see more color in the City and suggested that each scallop, or other sculpture, could be painted any color, or with any colorful rendering and not just brown. Terri asked if the CAC has considered having a planning consultant to work with; to provide a road map for their projects, and help bring everything together. Some of the CAC members expressed that previous planning consultants that have worked with the City have not been able to follow through on the ideas/plans.

NEW BUSINESS:

- FRPA – Creative Activation of Public Spaces – Terri shared some packets of a presentation by the City of Ocala. All CAC members would like to have Terri email it to them. Terri also shared some examples of “Living” Murals (made by plants & florals) and said there is a maintenance element to them.
- More ideas were discussed regarding the Sculpture Walk – Sculptures have been installed in other cities/towns on a two-year rotation. Sometimes the sponsors will purchase them and they can become a permanent sculpture (Have a sign on it “Sponsored by...”). There needs to be a “Call for Artists”, as well as a call for “Sponsorships for Art in the City”. A question was asked about how much is available in the Public Art Fund? On each City Project, (like the parking lot) project, a certain percent of funds are to be allocated for the Public Art Fund. The CAC would like to know what the ordinance says regarding the percentage that is to be allocated from projects for the Public Art Fund and how much money is there. A motion was made that Rich, as Chairman for the CAC, write a letter to the City Manager and the Account Manager, to make inquiry into reviewing the ordinance, and ask for the Public Art Fund amount. Everyone voted unanimously in favor.

- Upcoming Citizen's Academy & CAC Meeting Schedule – Rich has applied to attend the Citizen's Academy and their meetings are on Wednesday evenings, which are on the same nights as the CAC meetings. One solution offered was to have the CAC meetings on a different night. Donna could email everyone to let them know the date and time of the meeting.
- Not on Agenda – Eric asked about the Richey Suncoast Theater and mentioned concerns he has with the physical safety of attendees there.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Hallmark

Recreation Administrative Assistant

amm:dch