

Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting

April 17, 2019

The regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Committee was called to order at the New Port Richey Recreation & Aquatic Center at 6:35pm on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. Board Members Richard Melton, Kelly Smallwood, Gina DiGregorio, Cynthia Contreras, Ruth Ann Jackson and staff liaison KC Quaretti were in attendance.* Glen Corp, Jeffrey DiSantos, Bob Smallwood, Liz Misemer, Natalie (from Ordinance One) and artist Zach attended as guests. *(CAC Member, Lisa Marie Dolcy arrived at the meeting at 7pm.)

There was discussion about the Minutes from the February and March meetings. There was no quorum until Lisa arrived at 7pm.

VOX POP:

- Bicycle Racks Downtown – Zach explained that he designed and would fabricate a 3D Firehose Bicycle rack that would hold 2 or 3 bicycles; to be put on the sidewalk in downtown. He said powder-coating it would make it sustainable; that it would look different from the real hydrants and hoses, and it would be firmly anchored in its location. He is able to make it relatively quickly (7 days) can stay within the budget due to sponsorships, and would like to have everything wrapped up with installation and payment before he moves out of state in June, 2019. The exact location is to be decided upon by the City. The written proposal will be submitted to the City Manager. The cost (\$3,000) for the project was already voted on and approved by the CAC in a past meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- The Minutes from the March 20 meeting were approved 3 to 1.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Five Year Plan – Ruth Ann made a spreadsheet and gave it to Rich with the planned projects, costs, timelines, preparations, etc. It needs a column added for who created the project. A public link will be posted, but the spreadsheet will be updated by the CAC at meetings.

- Florida Orchestra Update – It did not work out to have the performance at the Richey Suncoast Theatre, so the performance is now scheduled to be held at the Community Congregational Church on Circle Blvd. on December 21st at 2pm. Several locations for the performance were explored. This one has the same number of seats (300) as the Theatre. Music will possibly be projected out into the Park around Orange Lake, so many others will also be able to enjoy the holiday musical atmosphere. The CAC has recommended to donating \$375 to the Church as part of the funding already voted on for the event. Some things to think about and discuss at a future meeting:
 1. Recommendation on how to distribute tickets
 2. Where/How to project the music outside (video projector will possibly be on side of truck) (Can it reach to RR Square/Sims Park?)
 3. Contract and what it specifies (i.e. 1-hour performance with 12-15 musicians)
 4. If the Art Show will be re-scheduled to coincide with the event.
- Sculpture Walk Update – KC met with Barrett Doe with Public Works and there should not be any problem putting the bases on sidewalk locations. The City Manager wants a walk-through to give final okay on locations; after which the call can be put out to artists.
- Art Show Update – (The Art Show was not discussed.) The Smithsonian is leaving one week earlier than originally planned. The truck driving school which transports the exhibit for free had to schedule it to be picked up on 4/27 at 8am; so it needs to be ready to go. Volunteers will be needed to assist with packing everything up and getting it ready to go (Gina and Rich said they would assist); the exhibit will be closed after Saturday, April 20th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dept. of State Division of Cultural Affairs Meeting – Rich has been to multiple meetings and is trying to get funding for a Children’s Museum.
- Musical Christmas Tree Lighting Costs/Research (Cynthia) – Cynthia got a proposal from one company for a 30’ tree; cost \$32,000; lights and base would cost extra, but there are several options for payment, shipping lights back and forth each year, etc. A computer would be used to configure the display with different music and lights. City staff would have to put it together; the company charges \$1,500 to come out for a day. The tree comes with a manual showing how to put everything together. There is a one-year warranty for the tree. Ideas were exchanged about if the Chamber may want to assist with the project; also, if Dr. M. might want to donate; or if Main Street is interested in helping with it. Other ideas considered were getting other organizations to sponsor the project; if the City has any plans in place already; etc. Would like to table further discussion for a future meeting.
- Holiday Window Decorating Contests – 2019 – Committees need to be formed to facilitate going to the downtown businesses and seeing who is interested in participating. Improvements may be made on the way it was done last year; social media voting, etc.

Kelly stated that the CAC is supposed to advise the City to give funding for whatever, but not to do the actual work itself. Ruth Ann would like to do the contest again and would like to see more businesses get involved; perhaps even leading to some residents getting involved, as well.

- Photo Contest for Winter Arts Events – The meeting was running long, so agreement was made that the rest of the Agenda would be tabled for next month’s meeting.
- Judy, the City Clerk, will possibly be attending next month’s meeting to discuss the Sunshine Laws.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Hallmark

Acting Secretary

GD: dch