



KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL

MAYOR

Salem Public Art Commission
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Public Art Commission Special Meeting
July 28, 2022, 5:30pm
Meeting held via Remote Participation

MEETING MINUTES

Note: All proposals, presentations, and/or documentation to be reviewed and discussed at this meeting can be viewed online at the following link: <https://bit.ly/SalemPACProposals>

- **The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm.**
- **Roll Call PAC:** Janine Liberty, Norene Gachignard, Catherine Bertrand, & John Andrews, in attendance. Absent: Kurt Ankeny Beauchamp, & Carly Dwyer-Naik

- **Drain Mural Proposal-**

Maggy Tran and group is here to present on behalf of Salem Sound Coastwatch. SSCW has successfully orchestrated and painted 26 murals on the streets of Salem, and this year SSCW is proposing 4 murals based outside of the downtown area. Isabella Cunha is the artist conducting the mock murals and would like to paint 3 of the murals herself. She suggested spaces by the Willows, Forest River, & Jefferson Ave (by Salem State), and then the programs community mural would be by the St. Mary's school. The community mural would be a "paint by numbers" type project, where all kinds can be involved. Isabella would be conducting this starting next weekend if approved, and then the large mural would be at the end of the program next month.

SSCW plans to use concrete paint this time as they recognise the paint does fade, and the supplies are very limited this year. The program plans to use a lot of paint and a lot of sealant. Julie explained the plan by PAC about the blanket agreement of the mural project, with a few stipulations, one being no trash painted on the ground, and a plan to either seal or remove the paint after it gets worn and fading. The committee has come to agree that "trash painted in action" is perfectly fine, but lone water bottles, trash bags and cigarette butts are unwanted. PAC has agreed to make a vote in the next full meeting for a blanket agreement to have SSCW to not have to come to us each year in exchange for a few stipulations after reviewing with SSCW as well.

Norene motioned to approve the murals. John moved. Catherine has seconded. Motion has been approved unanimously.

- **Chris Pappan, Naumkeag Portrait Review-**

The portrait artist is having some issues with communication with the tribe about the figure of Squaw Sachem (female figure) in the portrait. Chris plans to add ancestral figures in the portrait without making it “look too cheesy” and after brainstorming he has a plan to paint. Multiple submissions have proved to have made the tribe unhappy with the facial features of Squaw Sachem. However the face of Nanipeshamet (male figure) is “getting there”. This particular draft has been submitted yesterday, and he is waiting to hear back on it. Julie asked about the final design, and Chris thinks that he will be able to complete the design by September, if the tribe can agree and approve of this design. The portrait is approximately 36 sq in.

Norene entertained a motion to approve the draft thus far. John motioned, Catherine seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Ken Reker Temporary Public Art Proposal-**

Ken brings to the commission a large frame sculpture to be displayed in the back of the OTH and top of the terrace at Derby Square. This frame is about 12 ft wide by 72 in tall. It is anchored by sand filled bottles and concrete blocks. This piece disassembles, the corner pieces are removable for easy disassembly and to move. This sculpture, if approved, would be up for the duration of the ASH exhibition from August 17th through September 15th. This would also be here during the farmer markets, and Julie recommended talking to Kylie Sullivan about the proper placement as to not interfere with that program. Sculpture is weather proof. John entertained a motion, Norene motioned, and Catherine seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

- **Little Free Art Gallery Proposal-**

Brianna Richardson brings the PAC the idea of a free library but for artwork. Their idea brings the community together by connecting people with artwork. They feature shelving for all mediums and glass to showcase the art inside. They would like to install the piece in Derby Square right outside of Old Town Hall. This wouldn't be the first time that Brianna has installed free galleries, as they have installed a few in the Salem State campus. John mentioned his concerns about the October season and having this structure out in the open with plenty of inebriated folks celebrating. John suggested removing it through the fall/winter season if it is a “screw in” it should come out easily.

Catherine asked about Brianna's request for funding, but it seems it was a miscommunication and she is looking for funding to implement. The vote had to be tabled for now since we weren't expecting to fund this, but the PAC was confident in the idea and would like to vote on funding this come September.

- **Public Comments-**

None

- **Adjourn-** Norene motioned to adjourn. Moved by John, seconded by Catherine. **The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.**

Salem ADA Coordinator, as soon as possible and no less than 2 business days before the meeting, program, or event.

Know your rights under the Open Meeting Law M.G.L. c. 30A § 18-25 and City Ordinance § 2-2028 through § 2-2033.