

## **Salem Public Art Commission Meeting Minutes**

December 15, 2015

The Public Art Commission (PAC) was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015, in Room 313, Third Floor, at 120 Washington Street, Salem, MA.

Norene Gachignard called the meeting to order at 6:07pm.

### **Roll Call:**

Members Present: Norene Gachignard, Ellen Hardy, Claudia Paraschiv, Lillian Hsu, Victor Miguel Cruz and Deborah Greel, Public Art Planner

**Absent:** Juliette Fritsch, J. Michael Sullivan

### **Approval of November Minutes:**

Hardy made a motion to approve the minutes. Hsu seconded the motion.

Motion Passes: 4-0

### **Discuss and Vote on Public Art Work Plan for FY 2016**

**Documents and Exhibitions:** Salem Public Art Commission Work Plan - 2015/2016

*Discussion:* Hardy noted sponsoring boxes may change the program so that neighborhoods that can't afford a box would not have the option of sponsoring one. Hsu said that there is a program in place and if there is interest in the community that we identify locations that can be potentially sponsored. But she added that any proposed boxes go through the Artbox program. Paraschiv suggested that the sponsorship process of funding an Artbox be on the website. Greel noted that it is important that the program continue with both private and public funding.

Gachignard made a motion to approve the Salem Public Art Commission Work Plan 2015/2016

Hsu seconded the motion.

Motion passes: 5-0

### **Discuss and Vote on Call for Creative Entrepreneurs**

**Documents and Exhibitions:** Call for Creative Entrepreneurs and Application

*Discussion:* Hardy asked about the use of the area if the bathrooms are torn down. Greel said that the area would be used for programming. Hardy said if the bathrooms come down the money used to clean them could be used to upgrade the other buildings and to use the funds for landscaping and lighting. Hsu noted that the City should address the cleanliness issue on Artists' Row.

Hsu suggested that second paragraph in the Call to omit "in 2015". She also said that a timeline should be added to the call letting applications know the process at a glance. Greel said she will make these additions to the call.

Hsu made a motion to approve the call with modifications to include deleting "in 2015" and adding a timeline. Cruz seconded the motion.

Motion passes: 4-1 abstention

### **Discuss and Vote on RFQ for Public Art Project**

**Documents and Exhibitions:** CALL TO ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS – Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Public Art Installation in Salem, Massachusetts, Summer 2016

*Discussion:* Suggestions for expanding the pool of applications were made by sending the call to the vendor list for the South of Washington Avenue Market (SOWA), the Boston Society of Architects and The Greenway. Hsu noted that we need to consider where the artists are producing temporary art such as the Greenway. Hsu also suggested adding a timeline to the call including all of the dates from submission to installation. Greel will add the timeline.

Cruz made a motion to approve the CALL TO ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS – Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Public Art Installation with the modifications to include a timeline. Gachignard seconded the motion.

Motion passes: 5-0

### **Updates:**

#### **The Big Hammock:**

Hsu and Chris Burke from Salem's Park and Recreation Commission brought to my attention the Big Hammock. The Big Hammock is woven out of 100% recycled PET rope. The rope's length is 2550 feet (warp) and 1728 feet (weft), with a total of 4278 feet—which makes it 5.5 times longer than the Boston Hancock Tower is tall. Developed by Studio Luz, it was first installed on the Rose Kennedy Greenway. Presently The Big Hammock is run by a non-profit. Burke is following up with the ...to find out the logistics of bringing it to Salem. Greel suggested putting it over the temporarily filled in fountain in Museum Place turning the space into a mini-park.

#### **Artists' Row:**

Two tenants, Tommy Gagnon from Boston Woodturning and Sibel Alpaslan from Ceramics by Sibel asked permission to stay in their stalls through the winter. The City extended their leases through April 16, 2016. They will be open limited hours and are both interested in hosting classes. They are also interested in re-applying for the 2016 program.

#### **Train Mural Project:**

Beautification committee met to discuss the project. Greel gave them a project outline with the CAD drawing of the space. Waiting to hear back from the committee as to their interest in pursuing the project.

#### **Painted Stair Project:**

The project is on hold until the spring when the weather is warmer.

#### **Public Comments:**

There were no public comments.

#### **Adjourn:**

Paraschiv made a motion to adjourn.

Cruz seconded the motion.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:17