

- Former Committee Member and Chair, Dave Gordon resigned a couple of months before the expiration of his term.
- In addition to Mr. Gordon, the term of Chair Vertz and Committee Member Arnold is set to expire at the end of 2019. The City has posted for these openings on the Public Arts Committee.
- Encouraged Chair Vertz and Committee Member Arnold to reapply.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Public Arts Committee may apply.

7. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Update on Ned Kahn Sculpture and draft Caltrans Maintenance Agreement

Director Svanstrom provided an update.

Committee Member Arnold asked Director Svanstrom if she anticipates any maintenance needs due to there not being a budget for maintenance.

Director Svanstrom responded that she did not anticipate the need for much maintenance, if any.

Committee Member Arnold recalled that the Committee had agreed to set aside 5% of the contract amount for future maintenance needs for the artwork.

Director Svanstrom responded that she would look into that.

Committee Member Arnold commented that the Committee is eager to see this artwork installed and asked for an estimated timeframe for creation and installation once all permits have been issued.

The Committee concurred.

Chair Vertz asked Director Svanstrom if members of the Committee or Mr. Kahn should attend the Council meeting where the contract is to be approved.

Director Svanstrom responded that that would not be necessary and commented that she would be able to report to the Council on having met and gone over this with the Committee today.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Concern regarding Caltrans.
- May not be an issue due to this artwork requiring little to no maintenance.
- The contract states that any maintenance needs should be addressed by the City within 30 days.
 - Because an Encroachment Permit through Caltrans would also be required, 30-days does not seem realistic.

The Committee concurred.

Director Svanstrom responded that she would work on clarifying that.

Committee Member Arnold asked for an update on the Library artwork.

Director Svanstrom responded:

- The City sent the contract to the artist, indemnification language is being worked out.
 - Once that is completed the City will execute the contract and the artist will begin to work on the artwork.

Committee Member Arnold asked for an estimate timeline.

Director Svanstrom responded that it would likely occur sometime this winter.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Continued discussion of potential mobile app for Sebastopol Art

Committee Member Mills-Thysen noted that Director Svanstrom indicated that the Committee could also discuss the community sculpture garden under this item as well.

Director Svanstrom commented that she could provide an update on the community sculpture garden during agenda item number 9.

Director Svanstrom asked to hear from the Committee on the potential mobile app for Sebastopol Art.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented that she checked with Buffie Harris, and somebody that she referred to her, and neither of them work on projects like this one.

Director Svanstrom provided an explanation of the various handouts that she had provided to the Committee at the start of the meeting and discussed likely steps for developing a mobile app.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen asked Director Svanstrom about the possibility of adding a QR code, or other reference to existing signage in town that could direct people to the app once developed.

Commissioner Arnold commented:

- Questioned using Art In-Lieu Funds to pay for the mobile app.
- The Committee started out doing sculptures, murals and other public projects.
- The language in the ordinance does not cover using funds in this way.

Director Svanstrom responded:

- Believes funds could be used for this purpose as the mobile app would facilitate understanding and knowing where public art is, advertisement and education.

Commissioner Arnold responded:

- The Public Arts Committee is awaiting installation of two projects.
- While advertisement of other projects in town is useful, a lot of what has been talked about isn't *public* art, it's privately owned art (such as the artwork along Florence Avenue).
- The Committee is here to do public art.
- The mobile app seems more in line with a project that would be done by the Chamber of Commerce.
- Suggested teaming up with the Chamber of Commerce on development of the mobile app.

Chair Vertz and Committee Member Langberg concurred on partnering with the Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Vertz commented that, while on private property, the artwork along Florence Avenue is public art to the average member of the public.

Commissioner Arnold concurred.

Chair Vertz commented:

- Categorizing the artwork based on it being public, or privately owned, should be considered, however, those are technicalities.
- The mobile app should be for art in Sebastopol, regardless of the type.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- The Chamber of Commerce should be highly involved, if they want to be.
- The Public Arts Committee has a specific task and development of a mobile app isn't it.

Chair Vertz agreed with Committee Member Arnold in a technical sense.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- The Committee's role with the installation of publicly-owned art is clear.
- The Committee's role with education and promotion of publicly owned art is a question that needs to be answered.

Chair Vertz commented that Cittaslow Sebastopol also does projects like this, and they may want to partner on this if the Chamber of Commerce doesn't.

Director Svanstrom responded:

- Cittaslow gets a certain amount of funding from the City.
- Cittaslow is a partner to the City in terms of working on projects.
- Cittaslow is transitioning as an organization at this time.
- This seems like the type of project that Cittaslow would be interested.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Suggested that a subcommittee of the Public Arts Committee be created to approach the Chamber of Commerce about partnering up on the mobile app.

Chair Vertz commented:

- The Committee needs to gain an understanding of the average cost for this type of mobile app.

The Committee discussed various potential funding sources for the mobile app.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Would rather try to get private donations that put money from the Art In-Lieu fund into the mobile app.
- Monies in the Art In-Lieu fund should be put towards creation of another piece of art.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Concurred with Committee Member Mills-Thysen on the Committee's role having to do with public art, in general.
- The mobile app would help facilitate the Committee's role.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- The issue of whether the Committee is just responsible for the installation of specific public art, or if supporting public art is also a role of the Committee that may involve different elements, is an important discussion for a later time.
- She and Committee Member Arnold are on the subcommittee for the sculpture garden which has been tasked with approaching the Center for the Arts on the idea.
- Suggested that Chair Vertz and Committee Member Langberg serve on a subcommittee for the mobile app which will be tasked with approaching the Chamber of Commerce and/or Cittaslow on the idea.

Committee Member Arnold and Chair Vertz commented that it would be helpful to find out the cost of a mobile app first.

Director Svanstrom concurred.

Chair Vertz and Committee Member Langberg commented that they would be willing to serve on a subcommittee for the mobile app and commented that they could research the cost for said app as part of their work.

In response to a question, Director Svanstrom mentioned having reached out to Creative Sonoma and while not currently budgeted or planned for, they could be a potential partner on the mobile app. She added that Creative Sonoma recently announced a grant program and commented that she would look into that.

Committee Member Langberg noted that the mobile app subcommittee could reach out to Creative Sonoma as well.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented that Creative Sonoma staff may be able to refer an app developer to the City as well.

Chair Vertz and Committee Member Langberg commented that the subcommittee for the mobile app will initially look into ballpark pricing for the app, ideas for the app, examples of similar apps, and a possible outline of the app.

Chair Vertz commented that collaborator outreach should happen later, after it is defined by the Public Arts Committee.

Committee Member Langberg concurred.

Chair Vertz asked to hear from the subcommittee on the potential community sculpture garden.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- She and Committee Member Arnold visited the site that the Committee had been discussing.
- Described an alternative location within Ives Park.

Director Svanstrom commented that the alternative location as identified by Committee Member Mills-Thysen is slated for something else in the Ives Park Master Plan.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- It is important to know who owns the landscape strip where the community sculpture garden may go.

Director Svanstrom explained ownership of the landscape strip (part is owned by the City and part by the County) and commented that she could speak with County staff on the potential project.

Committee Member Arnold suggested that the Art Center be approached before the County.

Director Svanstrom concurred.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Is not looking to spend monies from the City's Art In-Lieu Fund on this project either.
- Wants to meet with the Center for the Arts to ensure that they're on board, then get the City on board.
- Wants the sculpture garden to be a show, where the Center for the Arts charges an entrance fee to the artist who pays to showcase their work.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- Wanted this to be a place for the public to display their non-commissioned art.
- Having this type of art in one place, rather than scattered throughout town will give it context.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Some form of curation should be involved.

Committee Member Mills-Thysen commented:

- There already is a curation process for community art (such as Sculpture Jam).
- Imagines some melding between the City and Center for the Arts for the art that is contained in the community sculpture garden.
- Feels a community sculpture garden would be a great contribution of the Public Arts Committee.

Chair Vertz suggested that the subcommittee approach the Center for the Arts about this idea.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- The subcommittee needs its talking points first, before approaching the Center for the Arts.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Safety is an important aspect to consider as well.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- Will include an opportunity for updates from both the community sculpture garden and mobile app subcommittee on the regular Public Arts Committee meeting agenda.
- The next regularly scheduled Public Arts Committee meeting will be held on November 6, 2019.
- Asked the Committee what platform they're looking to have the mobile app available on, Android or Apple.

The Committee agreed that having the mobile app available on both Android and Apple would be ideal.

Director Svanstrom listed Columbus Art Fest and MyArtWalk as a couple of art-related applications for the subcommittee to look into.

9. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Update on Future Agendas, Action of Other Boards and City Council)

- Referred to the Ives Park Master Plan and provided an overview of the ADA upgrade to the pathways that is planned.

Chair Vertz commented that performance art can also be considered public art.

Committee Member Arnold commented that the funding of performance art is not in the ordinance.

Director Svanstrom read from the ordinance.

Director Svanstrom updated the Committee on the following:

- Recent City Council action including preliminary review of a request to add an additional retail cannabis dispensary as well as some ancillary cannabis uses at the old Amerigas site on the northside of town, as well as consideration of a tax on cannabis to support improvements at Ives Park.
- Spoke on the utilization of State funding through Prop 68 for Ives Park pathway upgrades and playground equipment replacement at Libby Park.
- Recent Planning Commission action including approval of a Time Extension request for a Use Permit that was granted to Hotel Sebastopol.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Vertz adjourned the meeting of the Sebastopol Public Arts Committee at 11:51 a.m. The next regularly scheduled Public Arts Committee meeting will be held on November 06, 2019 at 10:30 a.m., at Sebastopol City Hall, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kari Svanstrom
Planning Director