MEETING MINUTES
Public Art Committee
Tuesday, April 11, 2014
6:15 pm
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Room 2402

Members Present: Mariah de Forest, Deborah Hirshfield, Ryan Hall, Gay Riseborough, David Geary
Members Absent: Jenifer McCartney, Ryan Hall, Judith Cohen

Staff Present: Jennifer Lasik (Cultural Arts Coordinator)

DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, Co-Chairman Mr. Jason Brown called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT
No public comment.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 2013
Ms. Hirshfield moved to approve March meeting minutes with stated corrections. It was seconded by Ms. Riseborough. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS
Ms. Lasik reported the following:

• Outlined her roles at the City in her new position of Cultural Arts Coordinator.
• Discussed working with the City to implement public art within public works projects.
• Explained some of the staffing changes that have taken place in the Cultural Arts Division and City Manager’s Office and acknowledged that the transition has been an adjustment for everyone.
• Discussed recent action on the 10,000 Ripples project. (The Human Services Committee voted to allow the purchase of a 6th sculpture for Ward 2. The matter will go before the City Council. It may come back to the Public Art Committee for funding allocation.)
• Relayed recent discussions about private developers including public art in their community giving plans.
• Updated the committee on the student artwork displayed in the Civic Center and on the textile mural in the Civic Center lobby.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
A. 10,000 Ripples: Mr. Geary would like to see more Public Art Committee involvement moving forward, especially on future projects that impact public art in Evanston. Ms. Riseborough expressed that two committee members had concerns early on in the project because of the religious overtones of the project.
B. Green Bay Road Mural: Ms. Lasik stated that the original artist is no longer available to re-do the mural. Mr. Geary said that a positive aspect of the original mural was that it was a good demonstration of diversity. Mr. Brown said that there are questions about the budget and how neighborhood public art project funds are accessed. Ms. Lasik suggested a meeting with Mr. Bob
Dorneker and also offered to create a spreadsheet of current budget line items that concern the Public Art Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Noyes Gallery Process: Mr. Geary and Ms. Riseborough have volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Meeting planned for 4/14/14. Ms. Riseborough stated that more budget monies are needed for installation and receptions. Ms. Lasik stated that she needs direction from the subcommittee on artist selection and curating policies.

B. New Members: Ms. Riseborough’s term has ended. She said she was willing to stay on until a replacement can be found. The committee expressed appreciation. Ms. de Forest is moving to Portland as of early May and will have to step down from the Public Art Committee. Mr. Brown stated the committee members should encourage good candidates to apply for the positions. Ms. Lasik suggested using the social media sites and city’s e-news systems to let people know the positions were open. Ms. Riseborough expressed that getting another muralist would be a good addition, especially in consideration of the knowledge and experience Ms. de Forest brought to the group. Ms. Riseborough also suggested advertising in places other than the City website, such as the Evanston Review, Evanston Patch, Evanston Roundtable, etc.

C. The committee members reviewed “When I Grow Up” project, which was submitted via email by Mr. Joshua Barney. There were questions about who actually wrote the proposal, since it was lacking any name, but was self-identified as a “mother of two”. Mr. Brown suggested we invite them to the next meeting. Ms. Riseborough asked if more appropriate funding would be through the school system, since most of the participants and the artists would be the students. Mr. Geary agreed it would be good for the proposal writer(s) to meet with the Public Art Committee so that committee members could pose questions about the project to them.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hirshfield moved to adjourn. Ms. Riseborough seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.