MEETING MINUTES
Public Art Committee
Tuesday May 14, 2013
6:15 p.m.
Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes Street, Studio 106

Members Present: Ryan Hall – Chair, Josh Barney, Judith Cohen, David Geary, Deborah Hirshfield, Gay Riseborough

Members Absent: Mariah DeForest, David Forte, Jenifer McCartney, Amanda Wood

Staff Present: Jeff Cory, Cultural Arts/Arts Council Director; Mr. Walter Hallen, Plan Review and Permits Supervisor; Jill Silverman, Secretary II Cultural Arts Division

Declaration of Quorum
With a quorum present, Mr. Hall called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of date of previous meeting
It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the April 2013 meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

FARM HOUSE PRESENTATION – Mr. Cory reported that a mural being planned for the exterior of Farmhouse restaurant, which will be located in the Hilton Orrington building. The proposal was brought to the Sign Committee, which felt that the project more closely resembled a public art mural than a traditional sign, so it was suggested that the project be brought to the Public Art Committee for a recommendation. Mr. Callahan, owner of Farmhouse, mentioned that the Sign Committee has approved an “animals on parade” depiction on the south entrance, because the animal image serves as a corporate logo for the restaurant and therefore better fit the parameters of being a “sign.” The proposed mural would be on the east face of the building, on salvaged barn wood barn doors that will cover existing windows. Mural artist Mr. Peter Hurley shared concept drawings for the mural, with a landscape scene the preferred choice of the artist and the restaurant. Mr. Barney moved to recommend approval of the proposed landscape painting scene for a mural on the east side of the building. Ms. Hirshfield seconded the motion. Mr. Barney noted the recommendation does not necessarily embrace the project as “public art” per se. The motion carried unanimously (6-0). Mr. Cory mentioned the committee may want to continue a discussion about the review process for murals on private property. Ms. Riseborough noted that the PAC should be part of the approval process for any project proposed on the public way. After a brief discussion, the committee decided to review projects proposed on private property on a case-by-case basis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Washington National TIF #4 – Artist Mr. B.J. Krivanek is currently in China working on a different project, so there is no update on the project for the downtown Sherman Plaza garage in Evanston.
STAFF REPORTS
Ten Thousand Ripples – Mr. Cory reported the Buddha head sculpture on Howard was moved one block east, and the neighbors are now pleased with the location. A community event with art workshops and drumming will take place at Twiggs Park on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Cory noted seven of the 10 heads have been installed. One of the remaining sculptures will be placed in the Ladd Arboretum. The artist has offered to donate five Buddha heads for permanent display in Evanston; but the locations have not been selected.
evanstArts – Mr. Cory noted that a follow-up meeting is scheduled the first week of June to expand the working group and prepare for next steps in the planning process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Youth Job Center Mural – Mr. Cory distributed an updated image of the tree mural that was provided by YJC. Ms. Riseborough said she would like to see the white spaced filled in. Ms. Hirshfield agreed, suggesting balancing out the top and bottom of the tree. Ms. Riseborough made a motion to recommend approval of the mural, with a non-binding recommendation that the leaves and roots of the tree be expanded to more completely fill the wall space. Ms. Cohen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0).
Two-year work plan – Presentation to the Rules Committee has been postponed indefinitely. Mr. Cory will ask the City Manager when the presentation will occur.

NEW BUSINESS
Ladd Arboretum Day, June 15 – Ms. Virginia Beatty, chair of the Ladd Arboretum Committee, has invited the PAC and Arts Council to participate in Ladd Arboretum Day, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 15. An information table will be available for the PAC and Arts Council to use. Staff will follow up with members for this opportunity as well as volunteer opportunities at other summer events.

COMMUNICATIONS
Street Pianos – Mr. Hall asked for comments on the street piano concept that was submitted by an Evanston resident. Members felt it was a great idea but cost prohibitive. The project was conceived by a London artist, and commissioning an installation would cost in excess of $20,000.
Chicago Sculpture International – Mr. Cory reported that Ms. Jill King, Evanston artist and member of CSI, proposed a sculpture exhibit at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center. Mr. Cory inquired about the possibility of a temporary outdoor sculpture display, and Chicago sculptor Mr. Terry Karpowicz responded with a letter outlining costs and time frames involved with such an endeavor. There was discussion about whether this could be tied to the Evanston 150 celebration, though time would be very tight. The Village of Oak Park is currently working on a project with CSI. Mr. Hall offered to work with Mr. Cory develop a proposal for City Council. Mr. Geary suggested a call should target Evanston artists.

ADJOURNMENT
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Silverman
Secretary II, Parks Recreation & Community Services