

**MINUTES OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING
CARNEGIE TOWN HALL
September 18, 2007**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jerry Hauck, Stacey McMahan, Lary Etten, Anita Kealey, Lyle Pudwill, Kris Carmody Reaves.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Jim Clark, Darwin Wolf, Dave Fischer (Parks & Rec), Margie Roling, TJ Roling, Margie Roling, Sondra L. Jonson, Russ Sorenson, Planning Office Staff Liaison.

Chairperson Jerry Hauck called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEM 1. APPROVAL of the June 19, 2007 and August 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Stacey McMahan made a motion to approve the June 19, 2007 and August 7, 2007 meeting minutes, as presented. Commissioner Anita Kealey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 2. REVIEW & ACTION on Sculpture Placement on City Park Property – 2006 People’s Choice “For Which It Stands” at Falls Park.

Presenter(s): Jim Clark, SculptureWalk

Staff Liaison, Russ Sorenson referenced the completed presentation application and associated documentation for this art placement proposal. Mr. Sorenson introduced Commission guest, Mr. Jim Clark, SculptureWalk, who presented this item. Mr. Clark indicated this sculpture, known as “For Which It Stands”, was part of 2006 SculptureWalk and was selected by the public as the 2006 People’s Choice. The bronze cast sculpture depicts two young children, with hands over their hearts, pledging allegiance to a distant flag. The proposed location for this particular sculpture is approximately 66’ west of the Falls Park Visitors Center’s U. S. flag pole, and 35’ north of the existing east/west sidewalk to the Visitor Center.

Russ Sorenson mentioned this sculpture placement proposal has been reviewed and supported by several city department representatives including: Engineering, Parks & Recreation, Planning & Building Services, Fire, Risk Management, and Human Services ADA. The sculpture placement proposal has also been presented to the Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation subcommittee, and full Parks & Recreation Board on August 21, 2007, and all are supportive.

The Commissioners expressed their enthusiasm and general support for the project, and its placement as proposed, at Falls Park.

There were no further public comments received.

Commissioner Lary Etten made a motion to recommend approval of the “For Which It Stands” sculpture, and its placement at near the Falls Park Visitors Center, as presented. Commissioner Kris Carmody Reaves seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3. REVIEW & ACTION on Sculpture Placement on City Park Property - “Going Home” at Veterans Memorial Park

Presenter(s): Roling Family; Dave Fischer, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation.

Commissioner, Lyle Pudwill, excused himself from the meeting for this agenda item.

Staff Liaison, Russ Sorenson referenced the completed presentation application and associated documentation for this art placement proposal. Mr. Sorenson introduced Commission guests, Mrs. Margie Roling, Mr. TJ Roling Margie Roling, and sculptor, Sondra L. Jonson, who presented this item. Mr. Roling commented that this sculpture art project has been commissioned by Staff Sergeant Robb L. Roling’s family, and is being sculpted by nationally known artist, Ms. Sondra L. Jonson. Mr. Roling mentioned that a smaller version of the “Going Home” sculpture is part of this year’s SculptureWalk Program and is generally located at the NE corner of 10th & Phillips Avenue.

Mr. Roling stated this sculpture honors and commemorates the fallen soldiers of this area who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. The sculpture depicts an angelic figure lifting a fallen soldier, thus symbolizing the victory of eternal life over the power of death.

Illustration drawings were presented by members of the Roling family to the Commissioners. The drawings depict the proposed new sculpture will be a bronze cast sculpture measuring approximately 8 – 10 feet high, and placed upon on a small pedestal.

The sculpture will be exhibited at the Sioux Falls Veterans Memorial Park (along West Bailey Street), and cited within a newly created outdoor and reverent space generally located midway, between the north park entrance and the citizens veterans plaza. This new space is associated with new landscaping, a circular walkway, bench seating, and accent lighting. It will also recognize United States military service branches, and include commemorative pedestal and plaque inscriptions and sponsorships. This is a proposed gift to the city and no public funds are involved.

Sculptor, Sondra L. Jonson, presented a narrative to the commissioners that describe her inspiration and sculpture details. She indicated the sculpture will take approximately 12 months to complete.

Assistant Director, Dave Fischer, acknowledged the proposed sculpture and placement meets the intent of the Veterans Memorial Park mission statement, has a military and patriotic theme, and conforms to the park’s master plan.

A commissioner expressed that it will be important for the new park tree plantings associated with the sculpture area to be pruned properly to provide high visibility for the sculpture. Dave Fischer, Assistant Director Parks & Recreation, responded that appropriate park tree maintenance would be done.

Russ Sorenson stated this sculpture placement proposal has been reviewed and supported by several city department representatives including: Engineering, Parks & Recreation, Planning & Building Services, Fire, Risk Management, and Human Services ADA and the Veterans Memorial Park Advisory Board on September 14, 2007, and all are supportive. Mr. Sorenson indicated the full Parks & Recreation Board will consider this proposal at their regular meeting scheduled for September 25, 2007.

Another Commissioner expressed that when completed, this high quality sculpture will provide an incredible significance and appeal to everyone in our community and surrounding area.

The Commissioners respectfully expressed their condolences to the Roling family and general support for the "Going Home" sculpture and its placement as proposed, at Veterans Memorial Park.

There were no further public comments received.

Commissioner Stacey McMahan made a motion to recommend approval of the "Going Home" sculpture, and its placement at Veterans Memorial Park, as presented. Commissioner Anita Kealey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner, Lyle Pudwill, returned to the meeting.

ITEM 4. REVIEW & ACTION on Call for Art - Visual Art Wall

Presenter(s): Staff

Russ Sorenson, Staff Liaison stated the proposed project location is on public property, located on the west side of North Phillips Avenue to the Falls. The project, known as the Visual Art Wall, would celebrate our community's diversity. Mr. Sorenson indicated that at the Commission's March 2007 meeting, the Commissioners reviewed and approved a DRAFT "Request for Proposals for a Call for Art - Visual Art Wall", subject to project funding availability. Project funding in the amount of \$50,000 was approved by the City Council on August 13, 2007.

Mr. Sorenson stated that guidelines and requirements for submittal were explained in the DRAFT and follows the city's format for request for proposals. He mentioned that city staff including, Planning, Attorney's Office, and Finance have all reviewed and accepted the DRAFT.

Mr. Sorenson indicated that at the March 2007 meeting, the Commissioners discussed the importance of conducting a jury process for the project. At that time there was a general

consensus expressed that if there is a good response to this Call for Art to establish a separate jury panel, separate of the Commission, for this project.

Mr. Sorenson requested the Commission's consideration to:

- 1) Determine whether or not the Call for Art should be distributed to local (state-wide), regional, national artists;
- 2) Determine whether or not the Call for Art should be distributed via US Mail, internet website links, etc.
- 3) Establish a Visual Arts Commission Subcommittee to assist and oversee the Call for Art and jury selection processes;
- 4) Develop general Call for Art recipient list - i.e.: SEAC, SD Arts Council, SculptureWalk, Universities, Builders Exchange, Argus-Leader, SD Tourism, by requesting that their organization's website links be utilized; and
- 5) Establish a project time line.

A Commissioner expressed that with a diversity theme it is important to not limit ethnic applicants to respond to the Call for Art.

After discussion on the above topics the consensus of the Commission was to:

- 1) Only local artists (state-wide) are eligible for consideration for this Visual Art Wall project. Distribution of the Call for Art will be made to local artists (state-wide);
- 2) Possibly create a "post card" notice about the call for art that could be mailed out and/or posted to the Visual Arts Commission's website;
- 3) Explore and develop an electronic Call for Art recipient list utilizing SEAC, SD Arts Council, SculptureWalk, Universities, Builders Exchange, Argus-Leader, SD Tourism, by requesting that their organization's website be linked to the Visual Arts Commission website;
- 4) To conduct and conclude the Call for Art and jury selection processes in 2007.
- 5) Visual Arts Commissioners that volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to assist and oversee the Call for Art and jury selection processes include: Lary Etten, Anita Kealey, and Kris Carmody Reaves;

No further public comments were received.

ITEM 5.

PROJECT UPDATES

- **Phillips to the Falls Arch Gateway Panels – Benjamin Victor**
- **CommUnity Youth Mosaic – Phase II**
- **Main Library Project**
- **East Tenth Street Fire Station Student Art Project**

- **Phillips to the Falls Arch Gateway Panels – Benjamin Victor.**
Russ Sorenson reported that both panels have been bronze cast, with the exception of two small sections. Welding of the sections has begun. Application of patina would occur. The artist and foundry owner are working together on the project. The project is expected to be completed within the next couple of weeks.

- **CommUnity Youth Mosaic – Phase II.**
Russ Sorenson proudly announced that the mosaic wall, a privately funded project was completed by Syverson Tile employees, through donated labor. The capstones on top of the wall are being placed and new sod will be installed at the base of the wall. This donated labor is being done by Rock Garden Nursery and Landscaping and Nursery. An unveiling ceremony is scheduled at the wall site for Saturday, September 29, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. for students, parents, school officials; and community citizens.
- **Sculpture Placement on City Park Property – “Potato Man”.**
Russ Sorenson mentioned that since the City Council’s approval action on September 4, 2007, the Parks Dept. is working with the Irish organizers on a gifting agreement and the placement of the “Potato Man” sculpture at McKennan Park.
- **Downtown Main Library Project.**
Russ Sorenson presented copies of the Downtown Main Libraries recent “open house” building project information to the Commissioners.
- **East Tenth Street Fire Station Student Art Project.**
Russ Sorenson indicated that Fire Rescue and the architectural consulting firm are working together to designate and provide a future art space options as part of the Fire Station’s building renovation project.

ITEM 6. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no further input received from the public.

ITEM 7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:22 am.