**Arts Commission – Outdoor Public Art Committee Agenda**

**Monday, August 1, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

**Kirkwood Performing Arts Center**

**Draft Meeting Minutes**

Zoe Perkins, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

In Attendance: Jonathan Raiche, Donna Poe, Rick Duplisse, Rachel Brandt, Dana Turkovic, April Morris, Art McDonnell, Andy Palombo, Agnes Garino, Ellen Edman, Kyle Henke

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** No citizen comments

**APPROVAL OF June 22, 2002 MEETING MINUTES**

Minor edits suggested. Art McDonnell made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by April Morris and the minutes were unanimously accepted.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Donna Poe volunteered to take the meeting minutes.

**KPAC outdoor site update —** No updates

**Whittaker Foundation update —** Zoe and April worked on a letter of inquiry and submitted it to the Whitaker Foundation for the east entrance sculpture project.

**Potential artists update —** No report

**Developer brochure update** (vision and mission statement needed) Dana reported that she and Rachel met to discuss information for inclusion and resources for the brochure. Progress is being made. Rachel will help select images of various options which underscore the broad definition of public art.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Farmer Sculpture —** Zoe showed images of the condition of the sculpture. Donna Poe presented a history of this piece that is located in the Famers Market. It was given to the City in 2011 by Brother Mel. A dedication ceremony was held. At that time, it was agreed with the artist to paint it green. Bright blue was the original color. The function of the piece was discussed to determine if it acts as way finder/identifier vs art work since the piece is decorated seasonally. Brian classified it as folk art. Zoe referenced the Visual Artist Rights Act which protects the original intent of the artist. Zoe obtained an estimate from Blasco Painting of $5,500 for repainting based on photos only. (Thus, could be higher once seen). It would ideally be treated in place to eliminate transportation and re-installation costs. Zoe requested a review of other upcoming projects before committing to repainting project for this budget year. Kyle indicated that some of the $16,000 the city has allotted for KAC was already spent. Zoe added that there may be other, higher priority projects that require funding.

**Gateway Foundation Inventory —** Zoe reported on her resent communications with the Gateway Foundation. She contacted the Gateway Foundation after hearing of a sculpture by Masayuki Nagare (1923-2018) entitled, “Bachi” (1999) that may be available for long term loan. It is currently on display at UMSL near the Touhill Theater. The administrator, Jennifer Sweet suggested a meeting with herself and another staff member. Both parties asked questions regarding placement and installation. Zoe said she needed to inform the OPAC about this potential long term long as part of our process. The Nagare is a steel sculpture, 20 feet tall, weighing approximately 10,000 pounds. Gateway pays for all costs including transportation, installation and maintenance.

Discussion included possible sites to install this piece. Zoe proposed the area across from the train station since a large sculpture is a priority for the prominent area. It was determined that at site visit to this area would be needed to better judge scale. The east entrance of KPAC was also suggested as a possible location. Zoe referenced our inquiry to support from the Whitaker Foundation for a possible permanent artwork at that site. Whitaker funding would not be available for other sites within the City. Agnes suggested Kirkwood Park. Zoe felt the piece could be vulnerable to damage in the park, it being a secluded area, particularly at night. She also pointed out that Corten steel is very difficult to repair if the surface is subjected to graffiti. Gateway may be less likely to approve the placement if it foresees high maintenance expenses. Images of the sculpture were shown.

**Mural project** — Discussion focused on the pros and cons of doing a mural project. All agreed that the fencing around the Commerce Bank site would not be up long enough to make the effort worthwhile. The UMB site will be up until the 3rd to 4th quarter of 2023. Many members felt the site was very narrow and that a series of murals may be distracting to drivers. Additionally, the construction fence was not conducive to a mural project since the fence had a top border of mesh fabric surmounted by orange fabric and was blocked at the bottom by concrete barriers. Therefore, the remaining visual area would be truncated (wide and narrow). To reduce driver distraction, it was recommended that a repeating design with no detail might be best rather than individual panels. Some felt it better to not do this project. Others felt it was a way to build community. Art volunteered to contact the head of the art department at Kirkwood High to see if this would be an appropriate school project that could get done in a workable amount of time. Otherwise, a professional artist could design. Regarding costs, Jonathan reiterated that while the developer expressed interest in hosting a project, there was no commitment to funding it. Additionally, construction fencing is always being moved to accommodate various aspects of the project.

Zoe expressed concern that this may not be the best use of KAC funding given the other projects in preliminary stages. And that we should wait until the developer brochure on public art is completed and approach the developer with a different, perhaps larger. One-time project. April commented that due to the number of new projects currently undertaken by KAC, many commissioners already have a full plate. Images of both sites were presented to assist in discussion.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:** The meeting was very productive.

**ADJOURNMENT: 6:35 p.m.**