
MEETING MINUTES

Public Arts Advisory Board Regular Meeting

5:00 PM; Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Taylor City Hall Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Casey Anderson, Cayla Cardiff, Janetta McCoy, Nathan Gray, Richard Stone, and Lois Duncan (arrived at 5:58 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryan Ritchie

STAFF PRESENT: Jan Harris, Main Street Manager

GUESTS PRESENT: Jeff Ripple, Caleb Ripple, Ernest Ariola Jr, Annette Maruska, Johnnie Werner, John Youngblood, Jeff Sciarretta, Kim Spinner, Laura Parker, and Councilman Robert Garcia.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARE A QUORUM:

Chairman Richard Stone called the meeting to order at 5.05 and noted that a quorum was present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

III. REVIEW / DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

A. Approve the Minutes from the Public Arts Advisory Board meeting from March 23, 2022:

MOTION: To approve the minutes as presented. **J McCOY / N GRAY / UNANIMOUS**

B. Receive and approve the financial report for April 2022:

MOTION: To receive the Financial Report as information by the board. **N GRAY / J McCOY / UNANIMOUS**

C. New Business:

1. Election of a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the 22-23 term:

Chairman: Richard Stone.

MOTION: To close the nominations. **N GRAY / C CARDIFF / UNANIMOUS**

MOTION: To approve R Stone as chairman by acclamation. **J McCOY / N GRAY / UNANIMOUS**

Vice Chairman: Janetta McCoy

MOTION: To close the nominations. **R STONE / N GRAY / UNANIMOUS**

MOTION: To approve J McCoy as Vice Chairman by acclamation. **N GRAY / C CARDIFF / UNANIMOUS**

2. Crosswalks as Public Art

a. Review presentation by Richard Stone regarding crosswalks as public art and discuss how to approach such a program here in Taylor:

Richard reviewed the information he had gathered from other cities and organizations with those present. No action was taken.

b. Receive packet of information regarding a proposed crosswalk from Crossroad Assembly of God:

- Jeff Ripple presented a proposal for a crosswalk design for W. 2nd Street at Talbot Street. The medium to be used would be acrylic paint with a longevity of about a year before touch ups would be necessary. He noted that they had an artist who would paint the crosswalk free of charge.
- Janetta McCoy noted that the subject matter for their crosswalk was specifically Pentecost and asked if they would consider doing the crosswalk in chalk and changing the subject matter to relate to the changing liturgical seasons.
- Jeff Ripple responded that while he was amenable to the liturgical calendar, he felt the design they presented fit across all seasons.
- When asked by the board whether they would consider a different crosswalk in Taylor due to the limited number of crosswalks available. Jeff Ripple responded no that they wanted to use the crosswalk at W. 2nd and Talbot.

- Annette Maruska asked whether the PAAB had funding to help pay for the project.
- Ernest Ariola, Jr. asked who approves which proposals for crosswalks are to be installed in one location or another.
- Janetta McCoy responded that the PAAB would not assign a crosswalk but that groups would get the site they asked for in the application.
- Nathan Gray pointed out that no one opposes the concept of painting the crosswalk but a location must be identified for the project. While the PAAB does not have funding available for underwriting the crosswalk project, he would contribute money personally if asked. He further said that the PAAB would do all they can to be accommodating.
- Janetta McCoy added that the PAB will do all it can to support the community.
- Caleb Ripple asked for a working definition of “art.”
- Richard Stone responded that art is not hate speech, misogyny, nudity, nor cursing and that there are ideological lines that will not be crossed but that the PAAB does not have as a group any ideological litmus test.
- C. Ripple then asked what hate speech was because from his perspective and that of the members of the Crossroads Assembly of God, homosexuality was considered wrong and to promote it was an anathema.
- Casey Anderson noted that any crosswalk design which illustrated a statement that was profoundly anti-anything would not be considered. The topics for crosswalks should remain positive in their presentation.
- Caleb Ripple sought a definition of hate speech from the board and asked where the middle ground of that issue lay in their opinion.
- John Youngblood noted that the group appearing before the PAAB represented the cultures of people here in Taylor.
- Jeff Sciarretta said that safety was his priority when it came to painted crosswalks. He urged that no visual disruptions such as art on crosswalks should be allowed because they distracted drivers and were dangerous. He said that the NTSB wants all crosswalks to look the same.
- Johnnie Werner asked whether painted crosswalks would result in distracted driving.
- Annette Maruska asked whether the art in Potters Alley or the mural on 74 Man Store also caused distracted driving.
- Janetta McCoy pointed out that the PAAB’s job was about art but that they will take issues of safety into account.
- Kim Spinner reiterated the idea of crosswalks as something to pay attention to while driving but not to turn them into artforms which could be distracting.
- Laura Parker noted that art is important and there are places to express it. She asked how many crosswalks there were to be developed?

Discussion was closed.

MOTION: To recommend to the City Council that a task force be appointed to study and promulgate guidelines for crosswalk art. **C CARDIFF / C ANDERSON / UNANIMOUS**

D. Continuing Business:

1. Public Art Master Plan

- Report on progress on map of existing public art in Taylor:**
Tabled until a later meeting.
- Establish a subcommittee to develop dates and locations for public meetings regarding public art in Taylor:**
Tabled until a later meeting.

2. Portal Project:

- Receive report detailing progress made with the painting of the portals:**
Tabled until a later meeting.

3. Music on Main Concert Series update:

- Receive report on April 21 concert and progress on the remaining concerts:**
Janetta reported that the concert was well attended, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

b. Receive report on committee activities for fundraising for the fall season of concerts:

Janetta reported that while there was little funding left in the budget for the fall season of concerts, she was talking with 2 people who may agree to be benefactors. Richard Stone reported that he gave a proposal to Samsung asking for \$5,000.

ACTION ITEM: Richard volunteered to go through the email list to ask for funding for the concerts.

c. Discuss and recommend the purchase of advertising (including print advertising and Facebook adverts) for the May Concert. Richard pointed out that there seems to be no promotions on either the Taylor Press website or on their Facebook page. He said this was part of the advertising agreement between the paper and the Music on Main Committee.

4. Potter's Alley Mural Project:

a. Receive report detailing responses to the Call for Artists:

The board has received responses from 10 artists for 8 panels in Potters Alley. Seven were chosen: Ashley Rose, Michele Primeaux-Johnson, Abel Saldana, Matthew Bisacca, Cody Sigmund, Rachel Martin, and Diana Goetting.

Jean Paul Mejia, J D Trejo-Maya, and Maria Josephine Murphy will be asked for more information regarding their subject material and how they would translate their proposals onto the wall.

MOTION: Accept the Potter's Alley report as presented. **N GRAY / L DUNCAN / UNANIMOUS.**

b. Establish a committee to oversee the Potter's Alley Mural Project:

Tabled until a later meeting.

5. Mural Reimbursement Grant Project:

a. Receive report on progress made to establish guidelines for a Mural Reimbursement Grant Program to guide and assist local property owners who wish to install a mural on their properties.

Tabled until a later meeting.

6. Items for the April agenda

IV. ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan Harris
Main Street Manager