

**MINUTES
CITY OF FORT MYERS
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
WORKSHOP/MEETING
March 30, 2021**

The Public Art Committee of the City of Fort Myers, Florida, met in special session at Oscar M. Corbin Jr. City Hall, 2200 Second Street, its regular meeting place in the City of Fort Myers, FL, on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. Present were: Carolyn Gora, Chair, presiding, Committee Members, Bettye Middlebrooks, Betty Adams, William Taylor, Leila Mesdaghi, Patricia Collins (Arrived at 4:09 p.m.) and Ava Roeder. Also present were Grant W. Alley, City Attorney, Tom Hall, Art Consultant, Abraham Luna, Parks Senior Supervisor and Reva Daly, Public Works Fiscal Coordinator. Absent: David Meo.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gora called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Gora led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL - Taken by Reva Daly.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

REGULAR ITEMS

1. Call to Artist for FORUM PARK

Tom Hall, Art Consultant explained the purpose of the workshop/meeting to evaluate the submissions for The Forum Park Public Artwork that is to go in the roundabout in the new park that is being installed at the Forum. On behalf of the Public Art Committee Mr. Hall thanked each of those artists who submitted an application and stated that the time and effort put into uploading their material on CAFÉ was appreciated. He thanked all of the candidates for their interest in the project. He encouraged artists that if they did not advance, to keep creating, keep submitting and keep trying and sooner or later they'll meet with success. Mr. Hall presented the current results of scoring and explained that the selection committee members scored the artworks on CAFÉ with the results being depicted on two sheets that summarize those scores. Sheet one titled Round One Scoring Per Artwork and sheet two titled Round One Average Artist Score of All Three Artworks. Mr. Hall asked the committee where the cut off was in terms of how much time and how many artists the committee could go through.

MOTION: Committee Member Taylor moved to accept Artists average score from 3.5 scoring and above which would amount to 21 artists and move on to the second round; seconded by Committee Member Middlebrooks; motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

March 30, 2021

2 | Page

Mr. Hall reviewed the scoring method explaining that with each submission we were able to view three of your images and each committee member looked at each of those images from each of the artist and gave them a score. They either gave them a score of seven if they were interested in discussing their work in this meeting, a four if they were on the fence, “a maybe”, and a one if that particular image and that particular work did not comport with this particular art project. Mr. Hall explained the two lists stating that Café was able to provide us with a breakdown that lists each artwork individually and the assigned scores from each of the committee members and then we have a second sheet which is an Excel document of the composite score for each Artist based on all three individual images scored by the committee member. Mr. Hall explained that what the committee is resolving to do is to Not Advance any of the Artist that are below a composite score of 3.5 and that information would be available to a candidate upon request.

The Committee members discussed how they wanted to proceed with the next round of scoring. Mr. Hall confirmed the sense of the committee’s decision to go through and look at all 21 artists for a quick overview, and then go back through and eliminate certain works. The following Artists moved to *Round Two* for deliberation.

- Harry McDaniel
- Nathan Pierce
- Jeff Reed
- John Davis
- John Adduci
- Mickael Broth
- Emily Weiskopf
- Tyler FuQua
- Clayton Swartz
- C. Lueza
- Jenn Garrett
- Donald Gialanella
- Ryan Swanson
- Gail Simpson
- DiBari and Associates
- Austin Collins
- Luke Crawely
- Jim Gallucci
- Fitzhugh Karol
- Sally Rogers
- Michael Young

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

March 30, 2021

3 | Page

The Public Art Committee reviewed and deliberated each of the 21 artists in round two and individually voted to “Advance” or “Not Advance” an artist to round three. The majority vote would rule. The following Artists Advanced to *Round Three*.

- Harry McDaniel
- Nathan Pierce
- John Davis
- Mickael Broth
- Tyler FuQua
- Clayton Swartz
- C. Lueza
- Jenn Garrett
- Donald Gialanella
- Ryan Swanson
- Luke Crawley
- Fitzhugh Karol

The Public Art Committee revisited the specs and details outlined specifically in the Call to Artist and the five points of criteria that were specified in the Master Plan. The Committee decided to go through and rescore the 12 Artists to narrow down their selection to three finalists. The committee scored this round on a one, two, three ranking with three being the best. John Davis received the highest score of points followed by Nathan Pierce with the second highest score from the Committee. The following Artist tied for third during the finalist round.

- Harry McDaniel
- Mickael Broth
- Luke Crawley

The Public Art Committee conducted an additional round of voting on just the three artist that tied with the third highest scores to determine the third finalist. The Public Art Committee selected the following Artists as the three-finalist for the Forum Park Artwork.

1. John Davis
2. Nathan Pierce
3. Mickael Broth

Mr. Hall gave many thanks to every artist that submitted in this project.

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

March 30, 2021

4 | Page

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Chair Gora thanked everyone that was at yesterday's meeting for the new sculpture at the intersection of Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd. and Veronica S. Shoemaker Blvd. She stated that we had wonderful representation and thanked the committee for taking the time and showing that it is important to us. Committee Member Adams thanked Mr. Hall for his *Great* presentation.

Committee Member Taylor inquired the number of women that made it to round three of scoring. With there being two of twelve, Mr. Taylor asked Grant Alley, City Attorney if there was any way in the future to have some sort of representation of women or a person of color when we get to this finalist stage, asking if that was something that we are allowed to do and create our own call for a women or person of color. Mr. Alley responded the importance to tread carefully when you are basing decisions on gender or race, thus suggesting effective and legal techniques giving more opportunities for artists to participate by marketing specific groups. Committee Member Taylor recapped that making it part of the guidelines is a no. Mr. Alley stated that it is a delicate matter and would take some time. Chair Gora stated that the Sculptor of Clemente Park was a black female and that it just worked out that way.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Committee Member Adams; seconded by Committee Member Collins; to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 p.m.