

INDIAN SHORES

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Arts Council Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

The Arts Council Ad hoc Committee convened at 10:02 a.m. Those present were: Councilor Bill Smith, Alice Lawrence, Starlyn Fikkert, Betsy Schoepf, Marcie Smith and Town Engineer Bob Brotherton.

Also, present: Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator and Darlyn Stockfisch Administrative Assistant.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Marcie Smith and seconded by Alice Lawrence to approve the May 22, 2018, agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

2. Public Comments on any Agenda Item

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes of April 4, 2018

Motion by Alice Lawrence and seconded by Starlyn Fikkert to approve the April 4, 2018, minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

4. Report and discussion of visit with Artist Mark Aeling (<http://www.mgasculpture.com>) by Councilor Smith and Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau and consideration of next steps.

Councilor Bill Smith went over his notes from the May 15, 2018, meeting he and Bonnie Dhonau had with Artist Mark Aeling. Bonnie gave Mark Aeling the current monument design package. Mark said he would be interested in creating his own rendition and partnering with his preferred General Contractor and Landscape Architect on

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Diantha Schear
Vice Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam
Director of Finance
and Personnel

Freddie G. Lozano
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

this project. Florida Statute 255.05 requires that a contractor be bonded and Mark is not, but the General Contractor or Landscape Architect he would work with would qualify.

At this meeting Mark explained that if this were his project, he would go with a more representational design.

Bonnie Dhonau reported on the St. Petersburg Police Department artistic piece Mark was working on but was not yet contracted for as being an example of his representational artwork (i.e. Gladiola flower with six petals representing the police department's creed.)

Betsy Shoepf mentioned that it appears that the town is already deeply invested in the Indian model as seen throughout the town unless we want to go with an entirely different concept.

Councilor Smith reported that Mark said he could put together a concept packet for \$2,500 in 30-60 days giving us 2-3 concepts and a budget.

Councilor Smith further explained that Mark is aware of the ballpark budget figure we are working with. However, landscaping would most likely be a separate entity.

Councilor Smith reported that Mark gave them other individuals to contact (Robin Nye, Elizabeth Brinklow and Anne Wykell) that could help us with this project. In addition, he gave us names of design-build firms to consider (Creative Arts and Mesh) to use to build what we have if we thought our design was complete as is.

If the Arts Council wants to wipe the artistic slate clean on this project, Mark could begin working on it now to create a new concept design.

Bonnie Dhonau reported that the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Streetscape Project's financials are still not finalized so we do not know how much of the Penny 3 money is left for this project.

Bonnie Dhonau reiterated that the Mayor had suggested getting the site prep on the park done and then use Penny 4 dollars to do the rest of the monument project. If the Arts Council moves forward with giving Mark a blank slate, Mark confirmed that he would make sure the components left of the Penny 3 would not be lost.

Councilor Smith asked for open and honest comments from the Arts Council on where we go from here.

Starlyn Fikkert expressed her passion for all that we have invested in the current monument design which includes the educational and interactive experience components. She feels like starting over would be taking steps backwards and that perhaps we should lean toward someone else building our design and what that would look like.

Marcie Smith reiterated that paying Mark Aeling the \$2,500 for the new concepts does not commit us to go with what he proposes. She believes that Mark Aeling knows what we have in mind and what we are trying to accomplish. He would use his creativity within the scope of what we have laid out in his renditions. She thought it seemed like a good deal getting 3 concepts and a budget for \$2,500.

Bonnie Dhonau mentioned that Mark Aeling's offer seems to commit his level of interest in the project.

Bonnie further explained that Mark talked about what his concept may bring out once he researches the history of the monument site. As mentioned, Mark uses a lot of symbolism that is relevant to its space and purpose.

Bob Brotherton inquired as to who would have to approve the \$2,500 spend and does that fit within the timeline and schedule of everything as we do not want to lose the Penny 3 money.

Bonnie Dhonau recapped that at the last Arts Council meeting the Mayor did say that if we give up Penny 3 money to another community to use, we will still get it back with the Penny 4 funding. The deadline to use up Penny 3 money remains a moving target but was last said to be September 30, 2019.

Marcie Smith advocated moving forward and addressing the site preparation portion of the project.

Starlyn Fikkert repeated the two options now before the Arts Committee: 1) The Arts Council could seriously talk about and vote on commissioning Mark Aeling knowing that he could help us take care of getting the site preparation portion taken care of with Penny 3 dollars, or 2) The concepts Mark Aeling submits is not what we

had in mind; therefore, we go out to bid. Either direction we go, we could do the site preparation work by the Penny 3 deadline so we are not losing anything by getting Mark Aeling's concepts for consideration.

Bob Brotherton likes the idea of going ahead and asking Mark Aeling to do the concepts with some form of agreement signed off on by the Mayor or Bonnie.

Betsy Schoepf reiterated what Ann Wykell had cautioned about that an artist of Mark Aeling's caliber would want more control of the artistic side of the project.

Bob Brotherton said the items that were important to us (the education and interactive components) are included in the Call to Artists that we can give him.

Motion by **Bob Brotherton** and **seconded** by **Alice Lawrence** to ask Mark Aeling to submit a proposal for \$2,500 to develop 2-3 monument concepts taking into consideration the important components highlighted in our Call to Artists. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Bonnie Dhonau will ask Mark Aeling to send over the proposal for her review and then get the Mayor's approval for the \$2,500 spend.

Bonnie Dhonau will report back to the Arts Council on the progress.

5. **Discussion regarding hiring Ann Wykell to assist with the project planning as well as review applicants for the project.** **Motion** by **Marcie Smith** and **seconded** by **Bob Brotherton** to table Agenda Item #5 Discussion regarding hiring Ann Wykell to assist with the project planning as well as review applicants for the project. **Motion carried 6-0.**

6. **Consideration of Change to Call to Artists/Design Build Process.**

Motion by **Marcie Smith** and **seconded** by **Bob Brotherton** to table Agenda Item #6 Consideration of Change to Call to Artists/Design Build Process. **Motion carried 6-0.**

7. **Consideration and Status of Draft Proposal for Project Management for Construction.**

Motion by **Bob Brotherton** and **seconded** by **Marcie Smith** to table Agenda Item #7 Consideration and Status of Draft Proposal for Project Management for Construction. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Bonnie Dhonau will have Town Clerk Freddie Lozano ask past Town Clerk and Records Custodian Elaine Jackson as to protocol on tabling agenda items and whether you need to have the same backup materials each time if the Arts Council agrees in advance on keeping copies to a minimum.

8. FYI item - "Poseidon to grace Tarpon sponge docks" newspaper article.

Bonnie Dhonau submitted this article on behalf of Councilor Hackerson involving the private funding of the Tarpon Springs monument.

9. Open Discussion

Marcie Smith recommended seeing the new James Museum in downtown St. Petersburg that features western and wildlife art.

Starlyn Fikkert mentioned that her neighbor does research into Indian cultures and had commented on how true our Indian model is to this area.

Marcie Smith gave credit to Sarah Mullins for making our Indian so authentic to this area.

10. Set time and date for next meeting.

The next meeting will tentatively take place on **Tuesday, August 7, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.**

The Arts Council Ad Hoc Committee adjourned at 11:30 a.m.