

Syracuse Public Art Commission
Special Meeting
July 16, 2024
Common Council Chambers
5:30 p.m.

I. Attendance

Present: Emanuel Carter, Bennie Guzman, Kelly Sickler, Anita Welych, Tina Zagya

Absent: Ellen Blalock, Elias Gwinn, Davana Robedee, Blondean Young

Staff: Anne Cofer

II. Special Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

III. Review Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of June 11, 2024. A. Welych made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by E. Carter. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes as submitted.

IV. Old Business

No Old Business

V. New Business

SPAC 24-08: *Unseen/forgotten, Paulina Velazquez Solis*. Anneka Herre, Program Director, Light Work Urban Video Project presented an application to install architectural projection on the northside of the Everson Museum of Art. The proposed installation will be on view July 18th- September 28th, 2024. The video explores post-industrial natural wonder, using extinct species in local herbaria to meditate on the tension between what persists and what has disappeared in a territory shaped by memory and transformation. The artist, Paulina Velazquez Solis was selected by a jury as part of the newly implemented regional commissions program and resides in Ithaca, New York. She works with emerging interactive technologies as well as more traditional forms of video production such as stop-motion, she is also an electronic music artist. Anneka Herre ensures that the commission have seen the video prior to the meeting and proceeds to show sections of the video to the commission rather than reviewing the video in its entirety. In discussion K. Sickler asks for clarification regarding the symbolism of the eye motif. Anneka Herre responds with an explanation that the eye motif symbolizes the artists interest in the humble landscape and the fate of plants that go unnoticed. There were no further questions for discussion. A.Welych motions to approve the application. E. Carter seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

SPAC 24-09: *Let's Build the Future, Tommy Lincoln*. The artist Tommy Lincoln presented an application to install a mural to be located on the headquarters of A Tiny Home for Good, located at 1220-22 South Avenue. The mural will be created in partnership with the United Way of Central New York as part of the annual day of caring. Ray Manassa, the Chief Marketing Officer from the United Way of Central New York presented background information on the project.

The mural will be positioned on the front portion of the south facing wall of the building and features images of construction tools and the text 'Lets Build the Future'. The artist will use Regal HB Exterior Primer, Regal HB Soft Gloss Exterior Paint and Montana 94 Aerosol Paint. All materials as well as the artists time will be donated to the project and any surplus materials will be set aside for one year for upkeep of the mural.

In discussion, B. Guzman asked for clarification regarding the design choice to not paint the line of brick adjacent to the front façade of the building. The artist explained the brick was an architectural feature and should remain separate from the mural and therefore not painted. B. Guzman motioned to approve the mural. The motion was seconded by K. Sickler. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Discussion

Anne Cofer introduced the review of the guidelines for SPAC meetings that was designed to welcome visitors and provide an overview to the vision and mission of the board. B. Guzman asked if the guidelines document would be printed out and circulated at each meeting. B. Guzman additionally asked about accessibility to the guide for non-English speakers. T. Zagyva requested that A. Cofer researched options for translation of SPAC documents. A. Welych commented that the document did not contain guidelines and therefore the title of the document was misleading and should be rephrased. T. Zagyva concluded that the guidelines for SPAC meetings document would be further revised by the taskforces before publication.

T. Zagyva introduced the discussion of the taskforce document and invited comments from the commissioners regarding changes that should be made to their mission and goals. E. Carter suggested that the Community Outreach taskforce should be retitled Project Planning and Community Outreach. Each commissioner identified the taskforce that they would like to participate in. A. Welych will focus on education. K. Sickler and E. Carter will focus on Project Planning and Outreach. B. Guzman will focus on social media. T. Zagyva will focus on funding as well as business partnerships. A provisional date of August 22 was set for the Syracuse Public Art Commission Open Planning Meeting.

Councilor Monto introduced an extension of the City As Canvas project citing the commissioning of two new murals. Councilor Monto also announced \$25,000 of funding for a public art project for Progress Park. This project will involve community outreach. Additionally, Councilor Monto offered his ongoing support and advocacy to promote and facilitate new public art in the city of Syracuse.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.