

**WEST DES MOINES PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS**  
**Thursday, October 24, 2019**

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, October 24, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Crane.

<b>Commission</b>	Jeff Phillip <i>Vice Chair</i>	Brenda Sedlacek <i>Secretary</i>	Tamara Kenworthy	Ryan Crane <i>Chair</i>	Rita Luther
<b>Present</b>	X	X		X	X Arrived 5:31pm
<b>Commission</b>	Diane Boyd	Jed Gammell			
<b>Present</b>	X				

<b>Staff</b>	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks &amp; Recreation</i>	Ryan Penning <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i>	Allison Ullestad <i>Arts, Culture, and Enrichment Supervisor</i>	Miranda Kurtt <i>Secretary</i>	John Mickelson <i>Council Liaison</i>
<b>Present</b>	X			X	

**On Item 1. Approval of Agenda**

Phillips moved to approve the agenda as presented. Boyd seconded. Motion carried, 4 yes.

**On Item 2. Citizen Forum**

None.

**On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of August 22, 2019, Meeting**

Phillips moved to approve the minutes as presented. Sedlacek seconded. Motion carried, 4 yes.

**On Item 4. Old Business**

No report.

**New Business**

**On Item 5A. Motion – Approval of Recommendation to City Council – FY20-21 Budget Request**

Ortgies confirmed that everyone had the correct budget since a new version was sent out reflecting the reduction of \$19,000 allocated incorrectly to the Public Arts Advisory Commission Trust Fund. Sedlacek questioned where the funds are coming from for the Amphitheater Public Art project. Ortgies stated the Amphitheater Art Project funding consists of a \$50,000 Bravo Grant and \$100,000 from the FY19/20 Public Arts Advisory Commission budget. After consulting with the Project Work Group, staff is recommending an additional \$30,000 for the artist to use towards a robust community engagement process. Sedlacek questioned how soon this process could begin. Ortgies stated that the Request for Qualification (RFQ) is planned to go out around December 1; qualifications will be submitted by January 31; selection of finalists will take place in February; finalists will be interviewed; and a contract will be presented to the Commission in April 2020 for approval. The installation would be completed by May 2021. Sedlacek questioned if a consultant will be used. Ortgies stated that the mechanics of this project are similar to past projects, and staff feels that they can guide the process. This way more of the budget can go towards the artwork. Ortgies stated the Commission will have a chance to review and approve the RFQ at the November meeting. Ortgies stated that \$15,000 was budgeted for Illumifest for temporary art before Blossoms on the Water was planned to take place at Illumifest. Since funding for Blossoms on the Water is elsewhere in the budget, all but approximately \$1,300 of the Illumifest Temporary Art Project funds will roll back into the trust fund. The \$1,300 will be used for the chalk artist that has been rescheduled for the Earth Day event. Boyd commented the additional \$30,000 for community engagement

seems to be an excessive portion of future revenue from Hotel/Motel tax when those funds could be used for the unveiling of the Amphitheater Art piece. Ortgies stated the Art on the Campus Opening/10 Year Anniversary Celebration line item was proposed to be increased to \$7,000. These events may be combined and include the Amphitheater Art unveiling. Phillips commented that the \$30,000 is valuable to ensure that the Amphitheater Art piece will be part of the community and is an investment well spent.

Sedlacek moved to approve the Recommendation to City Council – FY20-21 Budget Request as presented. Luther seconded. Motion carried, 5 yes.

**On Item 5b. Motion – Establish Date of November/December Commission Meetings – November 14, 2019**

Phillips moved to approve Establish Date of November/December Commission Meetings – November 14, 2019 as presented. Luther seconded. Motion carried, 5 yes.

**Committee Reports**

**On Item 6A. Events Committee**

Sedlacek stated that the Even Water Event was a success and the weather cooperated. Art on the Campus Grand Opening will not be held in 2020 due to construction. In 2021, there will be a celebration for the 10 year anniversary of the Public Art Advisory Commission formation, Art on the Campus Grand Opening, and the unveiling of the Amphitheater piece. Blossoms on the Water and the Chalk Artist exhibit will take place at the Earth Day Event on Saturday, April 25, from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Ortgies stated that there has been discussion with Bounnak Thammavong on how to get community involvement to complete the required 1,000 watercolor pieces to create Aqua Strata. Ullestad is researching possible options including working with area elementary schools and incorporating the water quality aspect as it was originally intended. She has also contacted the Learning Resource Center. Thammavong would like to stay on track with his original scheduled completion date in February. Aqua Strata could be potentially be unveiled at the Earth Day Event.

**On Item 6B. Communications Committee**

Ortgies stated the Committee has not met however there has been email communication regarding the draft of the Even Water brochure. Ullestad and Melanie Perry, Parks and Recreation Department Naturalist, will work together to create a learning piece for children. Sedlacek questioned if an Otocast piece will be created for Even Waters. Ortgies stated Cliff Garten is aware of this aspect and is willing to do a recording. Boyd suggested recording future artist presentations.

**On Item 6C. Exhibition Committee**

Ortgies stated an Exhibition Committee meeting is scheduled for November 11. The agenda includes: a Valley Junction Foundation presentation on the Valley Junction Lighting project, location for Aqua Strata, and the People's Choice Award for the 2019 Art on the Campus exhibit. The Committee will also discuss a process for the Traffic Signal Box Art project including the identification of possible Work Group members. Commission members were asked to send names of any suggested Work Group members to Ullestad.

**Project Work Group Reports**

**On Item 7A. Water Quality Community Service Public Art Project**

Ortgies stated the final invoice is being paid in October to Garten. Blossoms on the Water will occur at the Earth Day Event.

**On Item 7B. Amphitheater Public Art**

Crane and Phillips met with the Work Group. The Amphitheater itself is moving forward and footings for the stage will hopefully be installed in the next several weeks. Sedlacek questioned if the Art on the

Campus number will eventually return to thirteen pieces. Ortgies stated that the goal is to get back to the original number following the completion of the Amphitheater.

**Staff Reports**

**On Item AB. Recreation Program/Facility Supervisor**

No report.

**On Item 8B. Director of Parks and Recreation**

No report.

**On Item 9. Other Matters**

Luther stated that there was a selection of ten pieces for the 2020 Art on the Campus exhibit out of the 42 applications submitted. Phillips questioned if there were more regional submissions. Ortgies stated that there were five from out of state and 4 of the 10 selected were from out of state. Uillestad did a \$100 Facebook boost which may have generated the larger number of applications. Boyd stated we are paying the highest amount for this type of work in the state which could have also generated interest. The Committee's recommendations will come to the Commission for approval on November 14.

Sedlacek questioned if there is an easy way to communicate what collections of artwork are within City. Phillips stated that all of the pieces are on the Parks and Recreation website. Ortgies encouraged everyone to view it. A brochure may potentially be useful.

Phillips questioned if there's been any communication regarding the DART bus shelter art. Crane stated he would follow up with Matt Harris from DART. West Des Moines will be the first suburb to have these. Ortgies stated that DART will have to work with different departments within the City to get this approved and this process can be time consuming.

Ortgies stated that the search for a facilitator for the Master Plan Update is ongoing. Staff has a meeting scheduled with Brian Bonnano at Sedlacek's recommendation. Staff will also be contacting a person recommended by Kenworthy.

**Receive, File and/or Refer**

August 5: Resolution – Order Construction and Notice of Public Hearing on Plans, Specification, Form of Contract, Estimate of Cost, and Direct Advertisement of Bids – City Campus Amphitheater

Luther moved to adjourn the meeting. Boyd seconded. Motion carried, 5 yes. The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Miranda Kurtt  
Parks & Recreation Secretary

11-14-19

ATTEST:



Brenda Sedlacek  
Advisory Commission Secretary

1/23/2020