

**Columbus Art Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2015
50 W. Gay Street (Beacon Building)**

Commissioners Present: Sarah Rogers, Diane Nance, David Barker, Malcolm Cochran , Chip Santer, and Barbara Nicholson

Commissioners Absent: DeeDee Glimcher

Planning Division Staff: Kevin Wheeler

- I. **Call to Order** – 5:00 p. m.
Chairman Nance welcomed guests and called the meeting to order.
- II. **Next Scheduled Commission Business Meeting** – March 11, 2015 at 8:30 a.m., King Arts Complex
- III. **Next Scheduled Commission Hearing** – March 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., 50 W. Gay Street (Beacon Building)
- IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - January minutes to be provided for review at March meeting.
- V. **Applications**

CAC Application # 15-02-01

Project: *Fermentor Bike Rack*

Location: 171 N. 4th Street (public right-of-way)

Applicant: Dick Stevens, owner, Elevator Brewing Company and Tap Room

Presenter: Dick Stevens, Owner

Applicant has designed a bike rack for placement in the right-of-way in front of his Tap Room at 171 N. 4th Street. The location, building plans and foundation have been approved by the Department of Public Service, which is ready to grant an encroachment easement pending design and placement approval by the Columbus Art Commission.

Discussion: Mr. Stevens explained the proposal, indicating he'd gotten the idea from the public art bike rack project. The rack will be stainless steel and lettering will be perforated. He will own and maintain the rack. Kevin Wheeler indicated that the Downtown Commission had approved the placement earlier that day.

Action Requested:

Approval of the design and placement of the *Fermentor* public art bike rack per Code Chapter 3115.04 (A & B)

Commission Action:

Motion made to approve final design and placement of the *Fermentor* bike rack as presented. **Nicholson/Santer 6-0-0**

CAC Application # 15-02-02

Project: *Monarch (On the Wings of Change)*

Location: Westgate Park – south side of rain garden

Applicant: Patricia Von Niessen, Event Coordinator, Summer Jam

Presenters: Patricia Von Niessen, Event Coordinator, Summer Jam
Rachel Pace, artist, Stealing Copper Metal Studio

Summer Jam is an annual art and music festival held at Westgate Park. The festival theme for 2015 is the Monarch Butterfly. Summer Jam has raised the funds and retained an artist to design a butterfly sculpture to be sited at the south side of the rain garden at Westgate Park. Applicant had originally intended to gift the art to Recreation and Parks (CRPD),

but at the request of CRPD, they will retain ownership. Applicant has entered into a Memo of Understanding with CRPD regarding the care and placement of the art. The piece has letters of support from Friends of Westgate Park, the Greater Hilltop Area Commission and Friends of the Hilltop.

Discussion: Patricia Von Niessen explained the broader Summer Jam initiative and impetus for the sculpture. Artist Rachel Pace explained the placement and design of the sculpture. The lowest point of the piece will be about eight feet above grade to minimize damage and the butterfly's wingspan will be four to five feet. The finished piece will have more stainless steel and less copper than the illustration. Joe Lamothe, a Westgate contractor, will install the sculpture. Installation will include a concrete base and structural supports. Mollie O'Donnell of Columbus Recreation and Parks, in attendance for another matter, confirmed the MOU arrangements with Summer Jam. The commission encouraged the applicant to include educational signage in association with identification of the piece.

Action Requested:

Approval of the design and placement of the *On the Wings of Change* public art piece per Code Chapter 3115.04

Commission Action:

Motion made to approve final design and placement of the *On the Wings of Change* public art piece as presented.

Cochran/Nicholson 6-0-0

IV. Other Business

Preliminary Project Discussion: TREEmendous (name may change)

Following the success of the Keebler "Little Doors" project in city parks last year, the Recreation and Parks Department (CRPD) is considering another, different way of engaging artists and encouraging the public to visit parks. Director McKnight will be in attendance to brief Art Commissioners on the project.

Presenter: Mollie O'Donnell

Discussion: Ms. O'Donnell, attending in place of Director McKnight, distributed a project outline and concept sketch. The plan calls for temporary treehouse-themed installations in five different parks. An RFQ process is proposed to select five artists, each of whom will design a unique piece. This approach, to be funded by sponsors, is intended to encourage variety in materials and design. The goal is to have artists selected by April, so that pieces can be placed this summer, remaining into fall. Artists would be paid \$700 to design and construct the installation, plus another \$300 to maintain it for the installation period. Selected artist designs would return to the Art Commission for review and approval.

The commission was supportive of the concept, but provided the following suggestions:

- Timeframe is very tight and may be challenging to meet, particularly in attracting wide participation.
- CRPD should actively assist with placement of finished works. This is important the anticipated height of tree placement. Logistics can be challenging, particularly given the limited budget.
- Extend the timeframe when the pieces will be in place. Consider leaving them through winter.

Action Requested: None required. Consensus support expressed.

VI. Other Business

- Public – None
- Commissioners – Commissioners discussed the pattern of applications and potential adjustment of criteria for what should come for review. Also discussed was the need to promote public art education for individuals and community groups who are pursuing public art. Development of a short video, workshops, and role of the Neighborhood Design Center, among other ideas were mentioned as potential strategies. Continued emphasis should also be placed on use of conceptual review early in project development to allow for commission input and potential resource identification.

- Staff – Scioto Lounge II – Completion of the Installation (Rich Street Bridge)
Kevin Wheeler indicated that legislation authorizing a contract with Terry Allen to fabricate and install the final piece of the Scioto Lounge installation had been submitted, with anticipated action on March 9.

VII. Adjournment