



Scottsdale Arts – Scottsdale Public Art Advisory Board
August 9, 2023, at noon
Mezzanine Conference Room (MCR)
7380 E. 2nd Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Directions/Information: Scottsdale Public Art, 480-874-4640

MINUTES

Members Present: Jessicah Amrine*, Allison Colwell, Kathy Duley, Russell Grossman*, Christine Kovach*, Bryanna McHenry, Jeff Miller, Elan Mizrahi, Jaime Neufer, Janet Priset Sandino, Melody Salamo, Miho Schoettker*

*via Zoom

Members Excused Absent: Mark Carroll, Dennis Robbins, Cassandra Saba

Members Unexcused Absence: None

Staff Present: Kiara Brown, Talia De La Garza, Tanya Galin, Wendy Raisanen, Victoria Sajadi

1. **CALL TO ORDER-** Meeting was called to order at 12:04pm
2. **CONSENT AGENDA-**

2a. Consider Motion to Approve June 14, 2023, Minutes

A motion was made by Jaime Neufer and seconded by Kathy Duley to approve the consent agenda, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

3a. Consider Motion to Approve AIPD Stage 1: The Artisan – Victoria Sajadi, Public Art Coordinator

Victoria introduced Josh Stroot, who is the VP and COO of Sub4 Development, the general contractor for the project, in addition to being part of Jackson Dearborn, the development company for the project. Josh introduced Todd True and Chris McKibben, both from Swaback Architecture. The Artisan includes 81 residential units and 5,000 square feet of commercial space for office tenants. The budget for the artwork is \$310,000. Fabrication is estimated to begin in Winter/Spring 2024, with artwork installation in Summer 2026. Victoria introduced the artist that The Artisan team proposed to move forward with, artist Jaci Willis who joined the meeting via Zoom. Willis is based in Illinois and has been creating public art since 2011, utilizing bronze, stainless steel, and multi-colored glass to create artworks geared toward positive societal growth. The artwork proposed for The Artisan includes one piece on the north side of The Artisan Public Plaza and three other pieces on the south side of the building. The artwork intends

to create sculptures that reflect Scottsdale as a “vacation destination because of the city's sunshine, entertainment, and relaxation offerings.” Utilizing glass in the sculptures would create significant visual effects and bursts of color as the day progresses. Water would be the main theme of the sculptures because water is essential to the desert for survival, growth, relaxation, and play. To invoke the sense of entertainment combined with water, abstract sailboats would be used as the form of the artwork. The North Plaza artwork entails one abstract sailboat sculpture of stainless steel, glass, and concrete, with seating at the base. The maximum height of the sculpture, including the base, is 14.5 feet. The abstract sphere would have dominant-colored glass and yellow glass in small circles. Using the existing curvature of the plaza, an organic base was developed consisting of three levels. Each level can be used for sitting or group photos. The South Plaza artwork entails three representational sailboat sculptures of stainless steel, glass, and concrete, each with a seating area at the base. The maximum height of the three sculptures, including the base, is 15 feet. The glass would be slumped in circles throughout. Each color combination would have a dominant color and two secondary colors. This would give the impression of stained glass and take advantage of the immense sunlight available. Both artworks on the north and south sides of the plaza require minimal maintenance. SPA's Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, Wendy Raisanen, asked Willis about the potential for the glass to start a fire with the sunlight shining through, to which Willis replied that the glass would be one inch thick and would not pose a fire hazard. The board asked Willis to clarify her reasoning for selecting the proposed sailboats in relation to Scottsdale. The board also raised attention to the fact that The Artisan would be used for residential units, so it does not align with the “vacation destination” element. The board additionally raised concern regarding the seating element of the artwork and that it could be potentially hazardous for the public to sit on or touch the stainless steel and concrete artwork in the summer when temperatures rise above 110 degrees. It was requested that Willis revise her preliminary art plan by making the representational sailboats on the south side of the plaza into a more abstract and locally inspired concept.

A motion was made by Jaime Neuffer and seconded by Elan Mizrahi to approve the preliminary art concept, as amended with recommendations that the south sculptures make use of a more abstract and locally inspired concept, and that lighting be added to give the sculptures a nighttime presence. The motion passed unanimously.

4. UPDATES

4a. September SPA Advisory Board Retreat

Board members were encouraged to attend the retreat meeting on Friday, September 22nd, at 1 p.m. at the Community Design Studio Nave. The SPA Advisory Board Retreat will focus on team building; reviewing, updating, and strategizing Ordinance changes and Public Outreach meetings; reviewing SPA's project approval process; and reviewing project budgets and funds. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

4b. Windows to the West 50th Anniversary, The Desert's Garden Dedication, and City Hall Historic Designation Event

Board members were encouraged to save the date for the event celebrating 50 years of public art

with *Windows to the West's* 50th anniversary, dedicating The Desert's Garden as the newest public artwork, and designating City Hall as a historic building. The event will occur on Thursday, October 26th, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Scottsdale Civic Center, starting at *Windows to the West*. Festivities to include speeches, live music, a dance performance, food and drink, giveaways, photo opportunities, and more!

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Jeff Miller reported the following:

- SPA Director Kati Ballares will return to the office on Monday, September 11th.
- Jeff welcomed new SPA board members to their first meeting.

6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

- None

7. NEW/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- None

8. NEXT SPA BOARD MEETING: September 13, 2023, at noon in the Mezzanine Conference Room, Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts 7380 E. 2nd Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

9. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jeff Miller at 1:05pm