



CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION WORKSHOP MAY 24, 2022

ALPHARETTA ARTS CENTER
268 CANTON STREET | 6:00 PM

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I. WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENTS

This meeting agenda is for workshop purposes only. Items will be discussed by the members of the Board or Commission, but no formal action will be taken on today's agenda items.

II. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairwoman Smeal called the workshop to order at 6:05 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL

- Cultural Arts Commission Members
 - Dianna Smeal, Chairwoman
 - Melody Cookson, Commissioner
 - Michael Barksy, Commissioner
 - Sabine Genet, Commissioner
 - Alicia Burr, Alternate Commissioner
 - Francesca Connolly, Alternate Commissioner
- Staff
 - Morgan Rodgers, Director of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Services
 - Kim Zane Manning, Cultural Services Manager
 - Amber O'Dwyer, Administrative Office Coordinator

IV. WORKSHOP ITEMS

A. Street Performer Application / Options

- Chairwoman Smeal asked the members to discuss the pro's and con's upon review of City Council's discussion regarding street performers.
 - Con's included location concerns, timing, fear of negative image, lack of scaling, noise levels, acceptable genres, etc.
 - Pro's included exposure to new and eccentric acts which are not limited to music, support local performers, encouraging diversity, and inclusivity.

- It was agreed the Street Performer Sub-Committee should dive deeper into solutions and suggestions for timing, location, permitting, restrictions, etc.
- Sub-Committee encouraged to meet over the summer to bring the topic back before council before fall season.

B. Art Leader Groups Update

- Cultural Services Manager, Kim Zane-Manning, presented the item.
 - Staff is currently working to foster partnerships and collaboration with the other Art Leader organizations in the City.
 - The plan is to meet with the various groups to learn their needs, desires, and expectations and to see how the city can work to achieve those desires.
 - Looking to have meeting at end of July.

C. Public Art Application / Options

- Signage Vs. Mural
 - Chairwoman Smeal requested this item be discussed.
 - Working to coordinate a meeting with the Design Review Board for public art guidelines committee as murals such as the Nike and Lily Pulitzer artwork at Avalon are marketing-based and the concern if they classify as public art.
 - Vendors argue it is “art” not signage but if marketing is included, is it considered “art”? A gray area includes the mural at Studio Movie Grill.
 - Commissioners further discussed what constitutes the Cultural Arts Commission’s review. Is it public art only which then needs to be on public property?
 - Kim Zane-Manning states we should put in place our terms as to what is a “sign” versus “mural”. The process of approval currently involves applications going before Arts Alpharetta who struggle when the mural includes branding for a business.
 - Discussion further included developers using the term “monument” loosely for gate entrances, etc.
 - Chairwoman Smeal suggested perhaps the type of mural should be a category of its own for future review.
 - All agreed that the Mural Sub-Committee should discuss further and perhaps include Kathi Cook, Director of Community & Economic Development in the discussion for insight.
- “A” Sculpture
 - Cultural Services Manager, Kim Zane Manning, came forward to present this item.
 - The “A” was first piece of art and had a maintenance plan, but it was not maintained. Since then, the developer told the Teasley HOA they are responsible for the “A”. The HOA sought quotes for restoration and the pricing proved to be more than anticipated. At that point, the HOA agreed to gift the “A” to the City.
 - The “A” donation was accepted by the City Council. The decision is now before the Cultural Arts Commission to decide whether to restore or remove the sculpture.
 - The Commissioners discussed the cost benefit of restoring the “A” or having it removed. Based on their discussion of the cost to restore or the cost to remove it

and replace the sculpture with another, a vote to decide how to move forward will occur at the next Cultural Arts Commission Business Meeting.

D. FY2023 Budget Review

- Director of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services, Morgan Rodgers, came forward to present this item.
 - The Department anticipates an increased budget on account of inflation. Several of the FY23 initiatives requested by the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Services Department were approved including the Historic Preservation and Alpharetta Public Arts initiative.

V. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Chairwoman Smeal announced one of the fellow commissioners just had a baby boy.
- Commissioner Alicia Burr asked about the Art in Plein Air event.
 - Cultural Services Manager, Kim Zane-Manning – Responded that it went really well. Funding goes to Take-Out Art (to support kids with disabilities, etc.). Sold quite a bit of art and still selling throughout the month.
 - Commissioner Genet asked for a campaign info for neighborhood newsletter.
- Commissioner Barksy introduced a new pet project; murals with QR codes. He stated they can be found in other cities around the world. Such codes allow monetary donations to artists or intellectual property donations to the city. This may help resolve the “sign vs. mural” dilemma.
 - Commissioner Genet – Works with Cabbage Town and the Street Art Map. She suggested GPS located artwork and an app as opposed to QR codes.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- With there being no further business to hear or discuss, Chairwoman Smeal adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber O’Dwyer, Executive Office Coordinator