

Approved as submitted

Syracuse Public Art Commission
REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2021
WebEx video conference
5:30 p.m.

I. Attendance

Present: Ellen Blalock, Lauren Boldon, Emanuel Carter, Michael John Heagerty, Elias Gwinn, Jimmy Monto, Dan Ward, Anita Welych, Tina Zagya

Excused: Davana Robedee

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

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

The commission reviewed the minutes of February 9, 2021. J. Monto made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, which was seconded by A. Welych. The minutes passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

No Old Business

IV. New Business

SPAC 21-02: *Figure 8*, Steffani Jemison. Anneke Herre (Urban Video Project) presented the application for *Figure 8*, a new work by Steffani Jemison in collaboration with Alexis Page. The work will be shown from April 15 through June 5, 2021 at the Eversion UVP site. A. Herre shared biographical information about the artist and excerpts of the video. J. Monto made a motion to approve the application, which was seconded by A. Welych. The motion passed unanimously.

SPAC 21-03: *Erie Canal Themed Poster*, Syracuse Poster Project. Jim Emmons (Syracuse Poster Project) presented the application for a permanent installation of a large-format, Erie-Canal themed poster to be installed along the Onondaga Creekwalk between W. Fayette Street and W. Washington Street. The poster will be located on the south face of the stone retaining wall of the bridge that once carried the railroad over the creek at Washington Street.

The artwork was designed by artist Alexandra Grant and the poem is by Shari Hemsley. The Haiku reads:

*Travel the wide bank,
Follow Old Sal's towpath steps;
Eight worldly wonder*

In discussion, J. Emmons explained that the poster will be 4'x 6', laminated to a ¼-inch Omegabond panel. An informational text board approximately 17"x11" will be installed beside

the poster. The text will include the artist's statement and a credit to the funder of the project, Tomorrow's Neighborhoods Today. He also noted that the panels will be attached using masonry screws into the mortar joints between the stone blocks.

J. Monto made a motion to approve the application as submitted, which was seconded by E, Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Discussion

Marketing & Communications: No updates at this time.

Special Projects:

Downtown Mural Project. K. Auwaerter reported that Frank Malfitano is now in the fundraising and media communications stages of the project. She noted that she had helped to secure an agreement between the property owners of 333 E. Onondaga Street and F. Malfitano regarding the mural's installation on the building.

Art Loan Program. K. Auwaerter reported that the art loan program had received a \$600 TNT grant for the cost of transportation of the artwork from Cazenovia to Syracuse. In addition, she reported that the City's skilled trades department would build the base for the sculpture. The next step is to go back to the Syracuse Urban Renewal Agency board to get final approval and secure the funds to build the base.

City Hall Gallery. K. Auwaerter reported that D. Robedee and she would be meeting soon to discuss the logistics of the gallery program.

Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative. J. Monto informed the commission of Bloomberg Philanthropies' request for proposals for the next round of the Asphalt Art Initiative and suggested that it would be a good opportunity for a joint SPAC/TNT application. The commission discussed the program requirements and deadlines. T. Zagyva recommended the W. Fayette Street bridge underpass lighting project as a good candidate for the program. The lighting project was designed by a local artist to help improve the safety and aesthetics of the area and is partially funded through a small TNT grant. The commission was supportive of the proposal. K. Auwaerter said she would submit this idea to the mayor's office. A. Welych, M. Heagerty and D. Ward indicated that they would help develop the grant proposal as needed.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.