

City of Elmhurst
Public Arts Commission

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 21, 2019
2 p.m. – Elmhurst City Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman, Betsy Goltermann called the meeting of the City of Elmhurst, Public Arts Commission (EPAC) to order at 2:10 p.m. Roll call taken:

Present:

Commissioners: Betsy Goltermann, Chairwoman; Annette Armstrong, Gene Evans, Roz Long, John McKinnon, Chris Miller, Suellen Rocca, and Val Stewart

Absent: Kristin Sabatino

Guests: Eileen Franz – City Planner for Planning and Zoning, City of Elmhurst; Monica Fichtner – Office Manager, Elmhurst Art Museum

Ms. Goltermann welcomed everyone and expressed her appreciation for all present.

2. Approval of 1/19/19 Minutes

Meeting minutes for the January 19, 2019 meeting of EPAC were submitted for approval. No changes or additions. Gene Evans moved to approve the January 19, 2019 minutes as submitted. Seconded Val Stewart. Voice vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Commission Updates and Reports

Chairman's Comments

Goals for today's meeting:

- OPUS development update
- Chris Miller on a communications plan for EPAC
- Gene Evans updating us on scope and progress of public art inventory
- Chairman Goltermann would like to come to consensus today on funding and direction for the potential new artwork on city's new pocket part at the OPUS development.

She thanked everyone on the committee for their hard work.

Site visits

Annette updated the group on site visits and calls she has made with other communities and public art groups. On March 18, she and Kristin will visit the Naperville Century Walk. They will tour the site with the Director. On March 28, she is going to St. Charles and will meet with their Public Arts Commission Director. Future visits will be setup with Palos Heights and Evanston.

Communications Plan

Chris Miller shared handouts of a working document that could form a communications plan for the commission. Goals and discussion items for the group:

1. Let people know who we are
2. Our mission, our story
3. A mission statement
4. What should our messaging do?
5. Who do we want to reach?

Chris asked for feedback regarding his plan, some ideas were discussed and then Chairwoman Goltermann suggested everyone send their thoughts to Chris after they've had more time to review and think about the proposal.

As more develops with the communications plan and inventory, the information will likely go on the city's designated page for the commission. A map would be of interest, in addition to pictures and information about the publicly available artwork.

Public Art Inventory

Gene Evans shared a draft of Public Art locations in Elmhurst. It included government-run organizations, non-profits, private organizations, and areas with restrictions such as schools. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding what locations to include and what will be shared with the public. The next step includes a list of known individual artworks in public spaces, and a short description from each organization about what may be on display and if it is available to the public. Commissioners were divided into groups to contact each organization. Chris Miller and Suellen Rocca will develop a standard list of questions to ask these groups. When complete, the group would like to add these locations to an interactive map, such as the Ottocast app.

New city pocket park/funding

Chairwoman Golterman reminded the group we are looking for a quick win, something we can point to as an example of public art, which would then help awareness of our group and next steps for fundraising.

The commission has \$20,000 available from the City of Elmhurst. At this time, we are waiting for an additional commitment from OPUS. The group discussed funding options, and a majority felt more money may need to be added to the OPUS funding for a significant first work.

After a financial commitment, the commission can then propose a budget to the City, and send out an open request for proposals (RFP) to local artists, galleries, and other organizations. John McKinnon will help write this RFP and mentioned some places it can be listed in addition to the

city's website. A proposal will also need to be developed for timing of the process, final selection by the commission/city, and potential installation date.

The group agreed we will need to strategize about future funding. It was discussed how the commission might oversee a separate 501(c)(3) or foundation like the Elmhurst History Museum. This may encourage future funding opportunities.

Art in the Park

The commission will have a presence at Art in Wilder Park. Roz Long and John McKinnon will coordinate to make sure the Elmhurst Art Museum or Explore Elmhurst share resources to raise awareness about the public sculpture "Art from the Heart" in the park that was made 21 years ago by community members in the park. Local artists and educators such as John Nester were involved in its creation and may help us raise awareness during the arts festival.

Train Station Planning

Chairwoman reported Elmhurst's new train station has moved from Phase 1 to Phase 2 within the committee. The discussion will next involve the city's Architectural Building Commission. Alterman Marti Deuter will keep representatives of this commission updated.

5. Other Business

None

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21. All meetings will be held at 2p.m. at City Hall.

7. Adjournment

Gene Evans moved for adjournment at 3:50p.m. It was seconded by John McKinnon. Voice vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Monica Fichtner.