

**City of Elmhurst
Public Arts Commission**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 23, 2019

2:00 p.m.

City Hall - Conference Room 2, Second Floor

Call to Order/Welcome/Roll Call

Chairman, Betsy Goltermann called the fourth meeting of the City of Elmhurst, Public Arts Commission (EPAC) to order at 2:06 p.m. Roll call taken:

Present:

Commissioners: Betsy Goltermann, Chairman; Annette Armstrong, Vice Chairman; Roz Long, John McKinnon, Suellen Rocca, Kristen Sabatino, and Val Stewart.

Absent: Chris Miller, Gene Evans

Guests:

Marti Deuter, Elmhurst First Ward Alderman, Vida Martinelli Boese, Donna Castalones, Dan Armstrong, Recorder.

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

2. Approval of April 18, 2019 Minutes

Minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting of EPAC were submitted for approval. No changes or additions. Annette Armstrong moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Roz Long. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment.

Ms. Goltermann asked all visitors to introduce themselves and welcomed them to provide questions and comments during the meeting.

4. New Business Before the Commission

Pocket Park Call for Art Work - Next Steps - Ms. Goltermann reported that the Request For Proposals (RFP) for a public art installation in the pocket park owned by the City and located at the corner of First and Larch, had been approved for public release after review by relevant officials and legal team. It was noted that the deadline listed in the document for submission

was June 30, 2019 and that this would provide a very short window for proposing artists. It was determined to change the deadline for submission to August 15, 2019. Other subsequent dates in the document will be adjusted in a rational manner. Installation would be tentatively set for Spring of 2020. Ms. Goltermann will contact City Officials to make certain that these minor changes would not be a problem. Alderman Deuter indicated that she believed that these changes were easily explained and understood and should not slow the issuance of the RFP. It was hoped that the RFP would be issued in a few days and would be posted on the City's web site.

Commissioners Sabatino, Rocca and McKinnon will assist in making certain that the RFP is widely distributed within the Chicagoland art world.

Documentation of Commission Plan - Ms. Goltermann noted that City officials had requested that the EPAC submit a business plan for review by City Officials so that they may better understand the work of the Commission. The plan will also be needed to move forward with activities related to the first RFP. Ms. Goltermann and Mr. McKinnon committed to work on a draft, vet it with commissioners, then provide it to the city for input and discussion before the Commission's next meeting (June 27, 2019.)

Commissioner Sabatino noted that she expected that the requirements artists provide complete installation and commercial insurance would limit the RFP response and asked that the conversation with the city regarding these requirements continue.

Outreach Activities - Ms. Goltermann reported she and John McKinnon had met with City Manager James Grabowski. He continued to express his support and emphasized the Commission's need for community outreach and support. He also underscored the importance of the Commission's utilizing volunteers in executing its objectives.

Ms. Goltermann noted that Commissioner Chris Miller is working with City officials to establish the EAPC on "Explore Elmhurst" the City's portal to culture.

Commissioner Stewart suggested that a presentation be developed that could be presented to local groups to explain the vision and mission of the EPAC to community groups. It was hoped that such a presentation could be visually exciting and inspire interest in community participation in the arts. Ms. Stewart will develop a list of potential community groups to be approached.

It was determined that the content of the new Business Plan could help provide a basis for such a presentation. Content could also be gleaned from other successful public arts programs from around the Midwest. It was important to highlight potential economic benefit for the community from an aggressive public arts program. Existing public art with the City could be highlighted as this inventory of public art is currently underway.

It was suggested that the reopening of the remodeled Elmhurst College Library which showcases its outstanding art collection might be an opportunity to highlight this community

asset and to plug the new Elmhurst Public Arts Commission. A tentative date of September 26, 2019 was suggested by Commissioner Rocca. Ms. Goltermann asked Ms. Rocca and Ms. Stewart to organize the event and develop a list of invitees from among community leaders.

501 C3 Corporation Creation - The pros and cons of the creation of a 501 C3 Corporation as a fundraising arm of the Commission was discussed. Concerns were raised regarding conflicting with the fundraising efforts of other community organizations. The matter remains under active consideration.

It was suggested that it might be possible to do fundraising efforts that would focus on “high volume” events that can bring in revenue without stressing large community donors. Commissioners Sabatino and Long volunteered to work on preliminary concepts for such an event.

5. Old Business

Communication/promotion/marketing - Discussion of these issues were intermingled with every issue raised under old business and these discussions are reflected in the above minutes.

Public Art documentation activity - These efforts remain ongoing.

6. City Update

Alderman Deuter thanked the Commissioners to their efforts and congratulated them on the fine start they had made in getting the EPAC off the ground. She pledged to work with the Commission in their endeavors.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Adjournment

Ms. Armstrong moved for adjournment at 3:37 p.m. Ms. Long seconded. Motion carried unanimously.