



**CITY OF
MOUNT
DORA**

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**PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
City Hall Board Room, 510 N. Baker Street, Mount Dora, FL 32757
October 26, 2021 at 3:30 PM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Thomas Decker, Susan Grogan, James Lesperance, Maryann McNamara,
Harlow Middleton, John Wesner

ABSENT: None

CITY STAFF: Christopher Carson – Cultural & Special Events Coordinator, Jeanann Hand
– Leisure Services Administrative Coordinator, Amy Jewell – Leisure
Services Director, Jen Schwarz – Leisure Services Operations Manager

I. Call to Order

Mr. Decker called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes

A. September 28, 2021

**MOTION by Mr. Middleton, SECONDED by Ms. McNamara to approve the minutes
from September 28, 2021.**

AYE: Decker, Grogan, Lesperance, McNamara, Middleton, Wesner

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

IV. Public Comment

V. Presentations

VI. Action Items

A. Approval of Light Pole Banner Call to Artists Materials

The Commission is distributing a new Call to Artists for the design of light pole banners as discussed at prior meetings. Members reviewed the Call to Artists documents included in the agenda packet and agreed they were sufficient to begin the process. While some members admired the larger banners that are displayed in the North East, larger banners in other areas of the City will not be pursued at this time because larger banners would require new brackets on the light poles. It is not likely the City would replace all the brackets before the new banners are hung. Members are free to distribute the Call to Artists flyer as they see fit. Members discussed whether the rules should require absence of text in the design, but ultimately agreed their votes on the submissions would indicate that preference.

MOTION by Mr. Lesperance, SECONDED by Mr. Middleton to approve the Call to Artists documents for distribution.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

B. Vote to Receive Private Art Donation for the Nunan Butterfly Garden

W.T. Bland Public Library manager Cathy Lunday informed members regarding a sculpture being donated to the library's Butterfly Garden. The piece is comprised of a bowl-like structure designed to hold flowering plants, and sturdy, curved arms encircling the sculpture. Several kaleidoscopes are mounted upon the arms to allow viewers to enjoy fractal impressions of the flower elements. The materials of the structure are rustproof and designed for outdoor use. The sculpture donation is being presented to Library Advisory Board on November 8th and to City Council on December 7th. Commission members will be invited to the installation celebration.

MOTION by Mr. Middleton, SECONDED by Mr. Lesperance to approve the library's acceptance of the sculpture.

AYE: Decker, Grogan, Lesperance, McNamara, Middleton, Wesner

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

VII. Resolutions

VIII. Ordinances

IX. Discussion Items

X. City Staff

A. Ongoing Project List

Mr. Carson reviewed the list of possible projects included in the agenda packet. He mentioned the planned repainting of the Donnelly Park Building. It was agreed the current colors seem outdated and that new colors should blend with the park and building thematically. Mr. Wesner suggested a monochromatic scheme. Members discussed eliminating the building from the park, remarking upon its usefulness to the park's function. The building does serve well for private parties, but its lack of a kitchen is a drawback. Mr. Middleton was involved in the planning for the building and shared some of the history that led to the building's outcome.

Members and staff acknowledged the renovation of Donnelly Park as a project to be taken on according the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Addressing ADA accessibility will be part of that renovation. Member suggestions for new colors for the building would be relayed to the City's Public Works department.

Mr. Carson explained the changes to the schedule of holiday events happening in the City. Light Up Mount Dora would not be taking place, however, the City's renowned Christmas lights would remain an attraction throughout the season during various special events that remain on the calendar.

The Ongoing Project List will most likely not change markedly until the completion of the Public Art Master Plan.

B. Public Art Master Plan Update

Josh Lapp from Designing Local would be arriving in Mount Dora on Thursday, November 11th and leaving on Saturday, November 13th. He would be present at the Plant and Garden Fair on the 13th with a survey to gather community feedback regarding the Public Art Master Plan. His visit will provide an opportunity for him to connect with those who have had difficulty reaching him on the phone or online.

Staff would send Commission members the list of stakeholders they had provided to Mr. Lapp.

Staff is still assembling an itinerary for Mr. Lapp's visit and will attempt to schedule a public meeting between Mr. Lapp and the Public Arts Commission.

C. Ongoing Budget Balances

City staff reviewed the updated Public Arts Commission budget report. Staff and Commission members discussed the procedure for spending from the Commission budget. It was acknowledged that the Commission must make requests to Council to spend from the budgeted funds. There are some restrictions on spending. The City Manager and City Council have ultimate control of the available funds. The Commission will be provided with updated information regarding developer funds and their availability at the next meeting. No public art funds have been received from The Cottages yet.

Ms. Schwarz presented further information regarding developer funds for public art. Fifty thousand dollars has been received from Timberwalk. There will eventually be a total of \$150,000 received from that development. Thirty-five thousand dollars has been received from Eudora Reserves, which was formerly named Eudora Groves. Thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars has been received from Dora Landings. Twenty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars from Dora Landings has been spent on the Public Art Master Plan.

The Timberwalk agreement specifies funds cannot be used for Public Art Master Plan studies. Timberwalk funds must be spent on either 1. Public good, 2. Infrastructure benefitting the project, or 3. Public art. The City may be spending Timberwalk funds on the Wolf Branch Innovation District Gateway art.

The Eudora Reserves (formerly Eudora Groves) agreement specifies funds cannot be used for Public Art Master Plan studies. Eudora Reserves funds must be spent on either 1. Public good, 2. Infrastructure benefitting the project, or 3. Public art. The funds may be spent on public art in the Eudora Groves section of the City, to be determined.

The Dora Landings agreement specifies funds are intended to provide public art, and are available to all types of public art programs. It is acceptable for the \$37,500 received from Dora Landings to be spent on the Public Art Master Plan. The Dora Landings development is complete.

Money will be provided from The Cottages as the homes sell.

Use of the Timberwalk funds appear to be restricted to the Innovation District.

XI. Communications and Reports

A. Commission Reappointments

The Commission terms of Mr. Decker, Mr. Middleton and Mr. Wesner are expiring on December 31, 2021. Mr. Middleton and Mr. Wesner requested reappointment letter

templates. Staff will email the template to members who request one. The councilmembers who appointed the three expiring Commission members are no longer members of City Council.

B. Commission Member John Wesner

C. Commission Member Melissa Christians

D. Commission Member Susan Grogan

E. Commission Member Maryann McNamara

Ms. McNamara and Mr. Decker discussed the Art on Loan project. The Commission will pursue it further as part of the Master Plan.

F. Commission Member James Lesperance

G. Vice-Chair Harlow Middleton

The Evans Park fountain project was halted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Alternatives were discussed. Mr. Middleton mentioned a contact who might be helpful in obtaining permission for a fountain. Mr. Carson expressed interest engaging the contact.

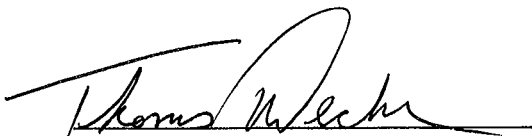
XII. Future Meeting Dates

Members agreed to meet on November 23rd. They would decide at their next meeting whether they would meet on December 28, 2021.

- A. November 23, 2021, 3:30 PM
- B. December 28, 2021, 3:30 PM
- C. January 25, 2022, 3:30 PM
- D. February 22, 2022, 3:30 PM

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Decker at 4:28 PM.



Mr. Thomas Decker
Chairperson



Mr. Christopher Carson
Cultural & Special Events Manager