



Arts & Culture Commission  
**WORK STUDY MEETING**  
7501 E. Skoog Blvd., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conf. Rm. 428  
5:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 14, 2020

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order & Welcome**

Chairperson Quisenberry called the meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission to order at 5:32 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Members present: Chairperson Quisenberry, Vice-Chairperson Nancy Smith, Commissioner Andy Sinclair and Commissioner Edward Lira.  
Staff present: Isabella Chewning, Arts and Culture Coordinator & Mary Lou Arnold, Community Services Administrator

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Chairperson Quisenberry asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none she asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

**Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.**

Chairperson Quisenberry seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those members present.

Chairperson Quisenberry requested Vice-Chairperson Smith to chair this meeting. Vice-Chairperson Smith agreed to chair this meeting.

**4. Art at the Center – N. Smith & A. Sinclair, Commissioners and I. Chewning, Arts and Culture Coordinator**

**a. 2020 Civic Center Bronze Sculpture Project – Review of Submissions**

Coordinator Chewning began the discussion regarding the seven submissions from the public for this call. The selection committee only saw images, and based on selection ranking, the top six (two are tied for fourth place) were submitted to the Arts & Culture Commission for recommendation. Redacted submissions were distributed to the Arts & Culture Commissioners for possible recommendation to Town Council for final approval.

Coordinator Chewning read the artist letter of interest/concept and description of each piece while the Commissioners reviewed the photos.

**Piece #1 – Review of images and CV.**

Discussion ensued – Commissioners really like this piece. The artist has included a stone bench structure that mimics the base of Gentle Tamer and invites interaction. The artist has a long history of monumental work and this submission has included all the elements requested in the Call, including water feature. Consensus by all Commissioners is that this piece meets all the requirements, including scope, great visual presence and use of site.



**Piece #2 – Review of larger images and packet.**

Discussion ensued. The piece does contain the elements requested in the Call but is not inviting. Commissioners agree that it is not a good use of space, is off-putting and does not echo the requested design. Commissioners have concerns regarding the street level elevation of the piece. It has all the elements but is not a favorite.

**Piece #3 – Review of images**

Discussion ensued. Commissioners agree that they like the raw art but have concerns about the durability of the components. Commissioners like the concept but are concerned that the artist does not have a history of working in bronze.

**Piece #4 – Review of images and CV.**

Discussion ensued. Artist has long resume of monumental installations. The piece is impressive; Commissioners liked the option of materials but agree that bronze is preferred. Commissioners agreed that they like the piece but pointed out that it does not include any animal life and asked if some type of animal or bird could be added. Coordinator Chewning explained that we can ask for minor changes within the scope of the project but no major changes. Over all the Commissioners agreed this piece deserves consideration.

**Piece #5 – Review of images**

Discussion ensued. Commissioners agreed that this piece may meet the requirements but is not impressive. There is not much visual bearing in height and lacks impact. Commissioners agreed that it is not a favorite.

**Piece #6 – Review of images and CV.**

Discussion ensued. The artist has a long resume of installations. All the elements are inviting and hits all the requirements. Commissioners agreed that although this piece encompasses all elements, they have safety concerns about the water feature at ground level and the relatively smaller scale.

Commissioners made a thoughtful second review of all the submissions and eliminated three of the submissions. Submissions eliminated are #2, #3, #5.

Finalists are submissions #1, #4, #6. Commission will recommend to Town Council piece #1 submitted by bronze artist Tom White, of Tom White Studios, Inc., located in Prescott Valley, AZ.

Commissioners feel that this submission is most representative of the Call request, invites contemplation and the design has the best utilization of the space and visual impact, both up close and from street view.

**b. Jenkins Obelisk Update**

Coordinator Chewning passed around updated photos of the site and a professional photo of the artist with a maquette of the Obelisk. The artist has extended an open invitation to commissioners to stop by the studio any time to view the progress of the sculpture. The Town of Prescott Valley's Channel 56 is working with the artist to film the creation process and the resulting video will be uploaded to Town social media and the artist's website.



Commissioners discussed designing plaques to honor the Jenkins Family for their generous donation, which is funding the two sculptures, the Spray Pad to be installed at one of the Town parks and the new tiered fountain at the Civic Center. Additionally, the Obelisk will have an integrated plaque honoring the Jenkins Family.

## **5. Committee Updates/Planning – I. Chewning, Arts and Culture Coordinator**

### a. General Committee Review

Coordinator Chewning referenced the revised committee assignments. Currently, we have openings for *three* new Commissioners. When new commission members join, the committees will be revised so that every commissioner has a chair or co-chair position on a committee. Commissioner Lira volunteered to assist with the open position on the Create a Tree committee.

### b. Create-A-Tree

The Create-A-Tree application has been posted to the Town website, and links have been created on our social media. This year's application is a fillable online form. New this year is Create-A-Wreath.

Create-A-Wreath is a great option for those groups or individuals who cannot create an entire tree. The wreaths will hang on the walls of the Library. Community Services Department plans to create a large wreath for the display at the Library.

Installation for Create-A-Tree/Wreath this year will be extended over a period of four days this year and will be by appointment. Now that the Arts & Culture Commission is under the umbrella of the new Community Services Department, we have the capability to utilize volunteers from the Library to assist on installation dates. Commissioners are urged to volunteer for a rotation on installation dates to check in participants and direct them to their tree or wreath location.

Commissioners discussed a theme for their 2020 Create-A-Tree. Chairperson Quisenberry suggested a theme of the Constitution. Commissioners agreed on this theme and will plan a workshop/craft time to create the themed decorations.

### c. Underpass Murals

Commission would like to get this program started again. We have two preapproved locations and will work with Prescott Valley Police Department to involve "at risk" youth who need a creative outlet.

Coordinator Chewning met with Chief Roser and Commander Edelstein and their feedback is that there is no issue with "tagging" and would like involvement in the program.

Commission discussed "hiring" a volunteer artist to design one of the murals and how to get the word out about the project. Target time frame for this project is early spring 2021.



**6. Commission Membership – I. Chewing, Arts and Culture Coordinator**

Coordinator Chewing stated that we have three positions open on this commission; one voting and two non-voting. The application is now on the Town website as a fillable form. A discussion ensued on how to publicize openings and bring new members to the Commission. Channel 56 has offered to take professional photos of the Commissioners to add to the Town website to introduce our Commissioners to the public. Coordinator Chewing asked the Commissioners to submit a short bio that we can add to the website so people will become more familiar with who we are and what we do on this Commission.

**7. Other**

The Patriot Week concerts are part of the Arts & Culture budget. Because only two of five concerts were held this year, there are remaining funds to utilize for professional services. In addition, Coordinator Chewing applied for and the Arts & Culture Commission was awarded a grant for \$3,050 this past spring.

Coordinator Chewing proposed obtaining high end QR codes for the Art at the Center sculptures on the Civic Center campus and at our local parks where sculptures reside. The Town of Prescott Valley does not have art galleries, but our Art at the Center is an outdoor gallery. The QR codes are a great way to inform the public of not only the titles, but background of each sculpture.

Commissioners agree that this is a great idea to present to Town Council. Coordinator Chewing is in the process of developing a new brochure for the Art at the Center that includes the QR code. It was also suggested to add vinyl “footprints” or directional symbols to guide visitors around our outdoor gallery to each QR code.

**8. Next Meeting**

- a. Regular Meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 5:30pm, Auditorium
- b. Work Study Meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 5:30pm, Conf. Rm 428

**9. Adjournment**

With no further questions or comments, Vice-Chairperson Smith said that the meeting stands adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

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Secretary Sinclair

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Chairperson Quisenberry

Respectively submitted by: Mary Lou Arnold, Community Services Administrator  
October 16, 2020