

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

Public Art Committee Meeting
July 9, 2024

The Public Art Committee met in formal session at 9:00 A.M., Tuesday, July 9, 2024, in the Alcazar Room at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Roxanne Horvath, Vice-Chairperson, and the following were present:

1. ROLL CALL: Roxanne Horvath
Randal Roark
Diane Mataraza
Christina Parrish-Stone

Also Present: Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney
Darlene Galambos, City Clerk
Elyse Wiemann, Recording Secretary

2. WELCOMING REMARKS

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

(None)

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4.A. Minutes from May 15, 2024

MOTION

Ms. Mataraza MOVED to APPROVE the minutes from the May 15, 2024, meeting as presented. The motion was SECONDED by Mr. Roark and approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. ARTIST PRESENTATIONS AND Q & A

*Requirement of Finalist Proposals per RFQ:
3.0. Finalists' Proposals: If selected as finalists, the finalists' proposals must include a narrative of the proposal, detailed sketches, three-dimensional renderings, maquette, or other means of conveying scaled information of the proposed art installation. The finalists' proposal must include the name of all artists, subcontractors, and other consultants or specialists involved in the proposal, a detailed and complete budget must be*

provided including all permitting, materials, labor, fabrication, travel, installation, and contingency costs itemized. The finalists' proposals must address all site and permitting constraints, and provide specifications of means and methods, materials, and any requirement of this project. The project is for original artwork, at fixed price, all inclusive, for a complete on-site art installation. No additional costs, or cost overruns will be considered.

**5.A. Vicki Scuri 9:15-10:00
Presentation and Q&A**

Vicki Scuri presented her proposal to the committee.

Commissioner Horvath asked where Juno Works was located.

Ms. Scuri replied they were located in Denver, Colorado, which was very convenient.

Ms. Parrish-Stone asked if she would use a local contractor for the concrete work.

Ms. Scuri replied in the affirmative. She said she would ask for recommendations if selected.

Ms. Mataraza thanked Ms. Scuri for the presentation, as it was very comprehensive.

Mr. Roark said he assumed Juno Works was comfortable with the art piece and would be able to produce it.

Ms. Scuri replied in the affirmative. She said they were involved in the design process.

Mr. Roark said it was stated that the patina on weathered steel looked better over time, and asked for an example as he was unfamiliar with what it would look like.

Ms. Scuri said she had provided examples in her introduction at the previous meeting, but in the beginning, it was steel that was sand blasted and sprayed with water for three weeks, and it would have an orange glow. She said over time it would be more bronze, but depending on the sand blasting the texture could vary and the natural elements would be collected on the surface. She said eventually it would turn dark brown or bronze. She said they all would look different depending on the environment.

Mr. Roark said he was interested in seeing how the salty weather would affect the piece.

Ms. Scuri said it would more than likely have a different character but would not be ruined. She felt it was ideal for this particular site as it was sustainable and over grass, whereas powder coating and paint were too fragile this site.

Ms. Horvath said she liked the LED light used to represent the water. She said she was surprised with the piece as the presentation indicated the architectural arches throughout the City and the art piece had more circles as that was an elegant approach. She thought there would be more geometric shapes used.

Ms. Scuri noted she was looking for classical eternal forms of architecture in the area. She said the downtown area had expression of architecture from the Colonial Spanish period. She said the ocean and the movement was something that came to her and the flow of the traffic needed to be reflected and needed a constant movement. She said the circles and the shape created movement and wave pattering. She said it was not a direct reflection of uptown, downtown or the ocean, but was more of an eternal symbol that reflected the inclusive interconnect nature of the community and the site.

Mr. Roark said in regard to landscaping, the image that came across was to leave the ground open, bright, and nearly flat to have the art piece float above it; however, other art pieces had lots of landscape. He asked if the intent was to have blank grounds or was more landscaping to be added.

Ms. Scuri felt this was a discussion to have with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and if more landscape was done, there was a question of maintenance. She said she wanted more landscape but felt there needed to be a landscape budget.

Ms. Horvath said she had seen an example of a retention area with significant grasses in St. Augustine off State Road 16 and felt that could be replicated here. She liked the flatness as it was shown because it made it easier to see the patterns and the shadows but thought it would be nice to see the landscaping as shown of pass projects.

Ms. Scuri agreed, and said she was willing to do that but thought what was presented looked well.

Ms. Parrish-Stone said she saw downtown reflected in the art piece. She said the color of the weathered steel looked similar to the terracotta roof tiles. She thought the

landscaping would be difficult and would take a larger budget with heavy maintenance throughout the year.

Ms. Horvath advised there would be another meeting on July 30th to discuss and recommend their top artist to the Commission, and once that was complete, they would be in contact.

Ms. Scuri thanked the committee for their time and the chance to explore St. Augustine.¹

5.B. Ivan Depena 10:00-10:45 Presentation and Q&A

Ivan Depena presented his proposal to the committee.

Ms. Horvath asked if cast stone was questioned the height of the first three proposals, and the fourth with the various platforms.

Mr. Depena replied those were different; high density foam was literally foam covered with sprayed on cementitious material and was lighter, whereas, cast stone was super heavy. He said the height was between ten and twelve feet tall, and the fourth proposal varied between twelve to fourteen feet and the runs on the bottom were twelve inches from the ground.

Mr. Roark asked out of the four art pieces presented, which one was the favorite.

Mr. Depena replied that the wave form with the landscape on top was the one favored the most.

Mr. Roark asked him to elaborate more on the landscaping moss or artificial moss that could be incorporated on top of the wave form and how it would attach. He asked if

the moss were to die, what would be seen underneath.

Mr. Depena stated he was working on a different project that combined the two and a grate would be built, and the moss would grow similar to how moss grew on tress. He said in an idea situation, it would be more of growing piece that had a living quality to it. He said if the moss died, it would be a textured surface. He said he created other versions to not include moss and the top would be a textured sculptured form.

Mr. Roark said if the form was done in the high-density foam how would it be anchored to the ground for the larger wave pieces.

Mr. Depena said there would be structural footings that were poured first and then with pouring a solid form, it could be cast in place using a balloon followed by rebar with concrete sprayed on top. He said when the balloon deflated, it would leave the curved shaped desired. He said if Coreten Steel were used, it would have to be raised as it did not do well sitting directly in water; otherwise, it was a great material to use in Florida.

Ms. Horvath said she liked the proposed art piece with the colors.

Mr. Depena said he was stuck between the two proposals but thought the colors, shape, and idea with the surface tension with the wave made it difficult for him to decide.

Ms. Horvath asked him to expand on the iridescent metal.

Mr. Depena explained there were a few processes that could be used; either powder coating that could apply the iridescent colors, or a paint that was sprayed on and could be any two colors, or each piece could be powder coated. He stated there was a sandwich material made of two

¹ Break from 9:43a.m.-9:58a.m.

pieces of aluminum with fiber inside that was light weight, durable, and waterproof.

Ms. Horvath asked if it was strong enough to climb upon.

Mr. Depena said he would not recommend climbing on the art piece; however, it could be made strong enough to be climbed on if needed.

Ms. Parrish-Stone said she liked the wave using the cast concrete or cast coquina. She asked if images could be sent in without the landscaping. She said maintaining landscaping could be challenging and was unsure how durable the moss would be.

Mr. Depena suggested if the landscaping were removed completely, he would add in more oculi so more light shined through.

Ms. Parrish-Stone said she would rather see the entire site landscaped; however, did not believe the City nor FDOT were prepared to maintain that.

Ms. Horvath said she liked the orientation of the openings being east and west, which allowed the sun to get in and would help with the plantings. She asked how lighting would be done to highlight the piece.

Mr. Depena said the lighting would be simple with landscape lighting. He said if there was a way to use solar power, it would be beneficial or could use power from the streetlamps to provide the lighting on site. He said he thought it would be a stand-alone art piece.

Ms. Mataraza said she loved the berm and was intrigued by the metal piece but thought about hurricanes or years from now. She said she thought the berm piece was an elegant approach to introduce the community to public art. She said the use of

coquina stone and the solidness reflected the history as the City had been here for a long time, and felt the concept was very thoughtful. She said when she thought of community acceptance, this would resonate best, and that was a huge consideration. She said the coral inspired art proposal was beautiful but was concerned with the landscaping. She asked if the plantings were replaced in the round structures what would those look like. She said overall she was in favor of the berm.

Mr. Depena said the conceptual process stemmed from the community and the site. He said the table coral pieces could have other little forms integrated and color could be added. He said after the discussion with the committee, he thought the oculus could be amazing from all angles. He said he could experiment with the materials to avoid skating or climbing on top.

Ms. Horvath thanked Mr. Depena for sharing his art.

Mr. Depena said he was excited about the possibility.²

5.C. Patrick Marold 10:45-11:30 Presentation and Q&A

Patrick Marold presented his proposal to the committee.

Ms. Horvath asked how the foundation would be done. She said it could be an opportunity to have a foundation be seen to attach lighting.

Mr. Marold said the foundation would be determined by structural engineering. He said functionally adding lighting to the base would work; however, it could be recessed in the landscape as he had done in the past. He said this was an artistic preference and

² Break from 10:41a.m.-10:47a.m.

he did not like placing art on pedestals. He said he liked the way the art emerged from the land.

Mr. Roark asked if this would be fabricated off site and brought in as a single piece and connected to the foundation.

Mr. Marold said it could be assembled onsite as it might not be possible to ship.

Mr. Roark asked how the rings would connect to each other, and if the rings were hollow tubes.

Mr. Marold said the rings would be welded, depending on what could be shipped, but they would be sleeves that were held together by discrete hardware. He said they were angled stainless steel which would introduce more shadows and facets to have more shadow and light.

Ms. Mataraza asked the weight of the art piece.

Mr. Marold said it would be stainless steel and the polish would be studied to understand the reflection and hue. He said it would not be mirrored polish and each right angle could have a different polish.

Mr. Roark questioned the total height and dimension of the structure.

Mr. Marold replied it was a twenty-five-foot diameter but because of the way it was tilted and leaning, the height was close to twenty-two feet high. He said he wanted to take advantage of what was allowed in the site as scale was important.

Ms. Parrish-Stone appreciated the view of the art piece with the mature landscaping five years from now, as the trees would impact the sightlines.

Ms. Horvath thought this was an elegant solution and thought the use of stainless steel was best.

Mr. Marold said he was inspired by the coquina and the other materials that were related to St. Augustine but thought the art piece needed to distinguish itself.

Ms. Parrish-Stone noted Mr. Marold had used stainless steel frequently, and asked if the budget was enough.

Mr. Marold said the budget was enough and after speaking with the fabricator he would likely use they both were comfortable with the budget.

Ms. Horvath asked how many Meridians were there.

Mr. Marold replied there were a total of six.

Mr. Roark asked if this was a fabricator that he had worked with in the past and where they were located.

Mr. Marold confirmed and noted they were north of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He said they were capable of the work and would help with the installation of the piece as well as himself and a crane operator. He said this roadway was frequently used and said it would be a large coordination effort to not infringe on the traffic patterns.

Ms. Horvath said there were ways to reroute traffic but felt that was FDOT's purview.

Ms. Horvath thanked Mr. Marold and informed him there was another meeting and afterwards he would be notified.

Mr. Marold said he was excited to hear from the Committee.

Ms. Lopez said an email would be provided to each artist asking for their best and final proposal based on feedback from the

committee no later than Friday, July 19, 2024.

Ms. Horvath announced that the next meeting was July 30, 2024.

Public comment was opened; however, there was no response.

6. ITEMS BY STAFF

(None)

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10AM.
