

INDIAN SHORES

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Arts Council Ad Hoc Committee Minutes – Wednesday, April 4, 2018

The Arts Council Ad Hoc Committee convened at 10:06 a.m. Those present were: Councilor Bill Smith, Starlyn Fikkert, Marcie Smith, Betsy Schoepf and Town Engineer Bob Brotherton.

Also present: Mayor Patrick Soranno, Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau, Town Attorney Regina Kardash, Sara Mullins w/Galleries to Go, Freddie Lozano, Town Clerk; and Darlyn Stockfisch, Administrative Specialist.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Starlyn Fikkert and seconded by Marcie Smith to approve the April 4, 2018, agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Public Comments on any Agenda item.

There were no comments.

3. Approval of February 27, 2018, Arts Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Betsy Schoepf and seconded by Marcie Smith to approve the February 27, 2018, Arts Council Minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Ann Wykell Call to Artists Analysis and Recommendations.

Ann Wykell stated that she had reviewed the Call to Artists as requested in relation to her experience with similar exterior art projects with construction issues.

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Diantha Schear
Vice Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam
Director of Finance
and Personnel

Freddie G. Lozano
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

She handed out suggested edits to the Call to Artists that would improve the explanation of what the artists need to do within this project so that there is no confusion. That would help to get the top artists to respond.

Ann Wykell asked for explanation of whether an RFQ or RFP should be used. She questioned whether the intent was to get artists' qualifications, resume, references, etc., and then based on that we select the finalists to submit a proposal. The current Call to Artists seems to be asking them to submit everything up front. She recommends an RFQ process to get qualified artists.

Attorney Regina Kardash explained that we already have a concept design from an artist, and the Arts Council is looking for an artist that can carry out that concept. What the Town doesn't have is contractors (sculptures, landscape architect, etc.) and individuals that can build it. The building aspect needs to be done by a general contractor. All the contractors should have the proper certifications and meet the criteria required under the CCNA (Consultant's Competitive Negotiations Act).

Bob Brotherton stated that we want to go with a guaranteed maximum price. For instance, if something in the cost goes up, something else must come down and still meet the design criteria.

Ann Wykell said this is easy to meet as most artists required fixed fee all-inclusive contracts.

Ann Wykell inquired as to what kind of design professional we need when there already is a design concept (although we don't have the design for the 3-dimensional sculpture). She believes we still need an artist included in this project as the creative problem solver.

Bob Brotherton pointed out that the actual sculpture is a small part of project. There is a major arch, site plan, etc., also included.

Ann Wykell conveyed that she had experience with several projects where the artist facilitated the project; however, they were not the ones choosing the landscape architect, engineer, etc. They just drive the project so it comes together cohesively.

She further explained that everyone sits down together (engineer, architect, artist, etc.) and thinks about the space collectively to get to the design.

She reported that Manatee County did a design contract with an artist for the design. The General Contractor contracted with the tile company to finish the project. They used the RFQ process to select the artist. Then the creative part was merged with the construction part. Again, the key to the project is get everyone together to plan and create it together.

Ann Wykell stated that the budget appears to have dropped significantly since she was here last. She does not believe we will be able to do the currently planned monument project for this amount of money.

She explained that the Arts Council may need to re-concept the project so that it is smaller and just pedestrian viewable instead of viewable from Gulf Boulevard drivers.

Ann Wykell added that any "General Manager" will start with the must haves (drainage, etc.), and there may not be a lot of money left for the art due to engineering and safety issues. All of this should be re-evaluated, and then let the selected artist design a space for you.

Bonnie Dhonau reported that the new Penny IV has been approved to begin in 2020, and there may be additional monies available for this project.

She further explained that we are scheduling an upcoming workshop to assess the status of the streetscape project that appears to have gone over budget.

Attorney Kardash suggested that we might use the current set of funds to lay the groundwork by getting the design professional, landscape architect, engineer to work out a plan. Then the second phase of monies would be used to build the monument.

Bob Brotherton reported that some of the cities are asking to use Penny IV monies prior to 2020 if possible.

Councilor Smith said there is also some discussion among the Big C (Barrier Islands Governmental Council) that if current towns cannot use their allotted money by the due date, they should make it available to the other municipalities that can get it spent. However,

he believes most cities will be reluctant to give up their allotted money.

Attorney Kardash said that Pinellas County may not be allowed to do that due to the interlocal agreement in respect to apportionment.

Councilor Smith explained that initially we had a \$1 million budget. We had asked four artists to come meet with us and at that time got a rough estimate of \$500,000-\$600,000 from Mark Aeling for the project. Mark had commented that a nice project could be gotten for that amount which included a \$75,000 bronze Indian statue at that time.

Marcie Smith went over the budget figures Mark initially gave us with the casting being in bronze. Mark had also given us other options.

Ann Wykell said to assume we have \$350,000 for the project, then go out with an RFQ that explains to the artists what they will be expected to do (i.e., the artist will be teamed with a local landscape architecture firm to develop the overall design and that artist will be responsible for design fabrication and installation).

Ann Wykell suggested a better option may be to have the Arts Council sit down with a blank piece of paper and determine what the most important things are that the Council wants people to learn and experience when they come to this spot. Then turn that information over to a design team and let them re-conceive the space with the allotted budget. Otherwise, if we want to keep the design the same, we don't need an artist; we just hire the fabrication people.

Bob Brotherton suggested that the intent of the Call to Artists was to take what we got and bring an engineer and landscape architect to the table to tell us what we could do with the current \$350,000.

Ann Wykell said that they will not be able to answer that question without going thru at least an initial schematic design process.

She said she was a sub-contractor of the architect on the Tampa streetscape project. The artist was contracted directly with the City and the General Contractor managed the artist's contract. The key was the design collaboration but not to have the artist as the manager. The design contractor should be someone who has the art in their focus and should be part of the oversight team.

Starlyn Fikkert suggested abandoning the “bronze” material for the structure and go with a different material based on cost, which could result in a more cost-effective, computer-generated process and eliminate the need for the artist.

Ann Wykell warned to take the “duration of life” of a piece into consideration when looking at different materials.

Bonnie Dhonau said she was still confused on the process as to what this Committee needs to do to get the right people to the table.

Ann Wykell replied that first would be to redefine the criteria and goals of the project. Sit down as a group possibly including others, and define what is the most important things you want the planned space to do and communicate. That becomes what goes into an RFQ. That tells the artist what you want (Indian figure, fishing net, etc.). Now you have criteria that an artist can work with.

She stated that before the RFQ is put out, we need to address how the space is going to be designed. After a design team meeting, then the artist can go back and design it along with the landscape architect and engineer if desired.

Ann Wykell said we should decide what we can devote to artwork (design fee, travel costs, meetings, etc.) then give your landscape architect that as part of the budget.

Regina Kardash suggested we bid out what we already have designed or hire another artist to come up with something within our budget.

Ann Wykell said that if we are clear upfront about what we want in detail, an artist and landscape architect will be able to come up with a design.

Marcie Smith reiterated that Step 1 should be to determine what we want, and Step 2 would be an RFQ to address working with a landscape architect to develop the design.

Councilor Smith asked if Ann recommends hiring someone like her to facilitate this process.

Ann Wykell answered that she thought she could help us to define what the Committee really wants to get out of this project.

Mayor Soranno inquired as to how long it would take to complete the project once we have the design agreed upon.

Ann Wykell said it depends on how busy the artist is and how busy the foundry that casts the sculpture is. Design may take 2-3 months and the foundry work could take 3-6 months.

Regina Kardash reported that we are leasing the Tiki Gardens property and that the sculpture must be removable.

Mayor Soranno suggested this project be done in two phases.

Ann Wykell said that is a question for the landscape architect. We need the whole design upfront and then pricing from the landscape architect.

Bonnie Dhonau asked whether the landscape architect would hire the General Contractor.

Regina Kardash said it depends on the scope of project. We don't have preferred contractors or a shortlist of contractors to choose from. An RFP process could be for the landscape architect and then contract the artist separately. Then the General Manager would come in and build it.

Bonnie Dhonau asked if we could commission an artist for the entire project as a sole source.

Ann Wykell said if we are not operating under an ordinance, then we may be able to sole source it. However, we still do not want the artist to hire the landscape architect. She reiterated that going back to a blank slate would still give us a better project.

Ann Wykell presented a slideshow on some successful exterior art projects around Tampa Bay.

Bonnie Dhonau recounted that we should start with a clean slate, redefine our objectives so we can fully communicate what we want people to experience from this art piece, and craft a new RFQ to find an artist or ask Mark Aeling if he is available. After securing an artist, we would need to put out an RFP to secure a landscape architect to

work in concert with the chosen artist, define the plan, and bid out the General Contractor.

Bonnie Dhonau asked Ann for a brief overview of what she would offer and estimated cost.

Ann Wykell felt she would add value to facilitating the “blank slate” meeting and could help draft a new document for the artist and define the latitude of using the Indian figure. That time would take about 10 hours (@ \$100 per hour).

She added that she could assist with a review of applicants gotten from an RFQ and analyze that pool to make sure the applicants could do the things we are requiring. She could also communicate and work with finalists to get them better prepared for their proposals. This would require about 15-20 hours.

Ann Wykell stated that if we just want help getting them under contract and finding a middle ground; then we may not need her assistance as a project manager especially if someone like Mark Aeling is chosen.

Bonnie Dhonau said that once we move into the construction phase, we would most likely hire Bob Brotherton as the Project Manager or Ann depending on what the artist has experience in.

Bonnie Dhonau expressed concerns that we had already paid \$20,000 overall for a concept plan.

Marcie Smith stated that the details in our design are extensive, and there is not a lot of room for creativity for an artist.

Councilor Smith thanked Ann Wykell for her time and expertise. And confirmed her hourly rate at \$100/hour. Bill mentioned that he would lean toward hiring Ann for this design concept.

Ann Wykell left the meeting to allow discussion.

Mayor Soranno reiterated that we have an upcoming workshop to address the available money. We can reapportion Penny money back to the Big C if it is not used or we can spend it all in Phase I.

Initially the project would have had to be finished by Sept 19, 2019, but that is not necessarily the case now as we have 2020 penny

money coming and that could go toward this project. Therefore, we no longer have the \$350,000 limit.

Mayor Soranno continued to suggest that the monument be completed in two phases. We could do what we know we can get done by September of 2019 and then shovels in the ground in 2020 with the new Penny IV dollars.

Mayor Soranno thought that Indian Shores may be the only municipality that does not have the full allocation of their current Penny money spent. He added that the Arts Council has spent a lot of time on this project, and we should rethink how we want to do it and take advantage of the additional monies that are coming.

Mayor Soranno relayed that the streetscape is over budget, and if the Arts Council did not need to spend all their money immediately, the Streetscape Project would like to use it to cover their overage. It would be more efficient to use this money instead of taking it out of general reserve or some other pocket of money.

Bob Brotherton explained that the Committee is restarting its approach to the contracting; not throwing away the entire concept.

Marcie Smith inquired as to when we will know how much money we will have for this project.

Bonnie Dhonau asked if she should see if Mark Aeling would come to the table and have him take the project to the next level as a sole source.

Attorney Kardash pointed out that we were thinking about the project with the pending September 2019 deadline and limited budget, but now we really have options.

Bonnie Dhonau stated that after the workshop and negotiations with the streetscape landscaper, we will have a better idea of where we stand. It would not be prudent for Council to take monies from our reserves to pay for the monument project when we know we have Penny IV money coming in.

Sara Mullins said that she has collaborated with Ann several times on projects and that type of facilitator would have been useful during the Indian Shores Signage Project she was involved in.

She reported that when she was working on the initial signage project, there were communication issues between the artist, landscape architect and again with the sign fabricator. She wanted the Committee to keep that in mind as they move forward with the project.

5. She also reported that she and Steve Graff just wanted to see the monument project happen.

Consideration of Change to Call to Artists/Design Build Process.

Motion by **Marcie Smith** and **seconded** by **Starlyn Fikkert** to table Agenda Item #5 Consideration of Change to Call to Artist/Design Build Process. **Motion carried 5-0.**

6. **Consideration and Status of Draft Proposal for Project Management for Construction.**

Motion by **Bob Brotherton** and **seconded** by **Marcie Smith** to table Agenda Item #6 Consideration and Status of Draft Proposal for Project Management Construction. **Motion carried 5-0.**

7. **Consideration of request to allow picture of Town sign artwork to be printed as a flag and hung on a flagpole in Switzerland.**

Attorney Kardash reported that the Town owns the copywrite on the logo. The Arts Council will need to make a recommendation to the Town Council on this request.

Motion by **Starlyn Fikkert** and **seconded** by **Bob Brotherton** to recommend to Council the use of our logo on a flag to be hung at a resident's Switzerland property with the contingency of complying with the Style Guide. **Motion carried 5-0.**

8. **Open discussion.**

Bonnie Dhonau asked if anyone wanted to make a motion with regard to how to proceed with Ann Wykell.

Bob Brotherton said that we need to know the final dollars we have first, and then after that is determined Ann give us a written proposal.

Bonnie Dhonau said that the next meeting would address our approach once we know the budget.

Councilor Smith suggested we meet after the Council Workshop addresses the budget.

Mayor Soranno asked if we ever bid out the request for a concept plan.

Bonnie Dhonau replied that we got from \$500,000 – \$600,000 for a plan given by Mark Aeling but that did not include the landscaping.

Councilor Smith suggested that we meet prior to asking Ann to do anything.

Discussion ensued as to what was initially researched with the proposed monument.

Mayor Soranno stated we could do the landscaping as part of the streetscaping. Then we have a separate pocket of money strictly for the artwork. Call Phase I streetscape/landscaping from a budget purposes but it would still be under Arts Council jurisdiction leaving a separate pot of money for the sculpture.

Regina Kardash suggested doing an RFP for the landscape architect to include adding phases to the site plan.

Bonnie Dhonau agreed with going toward a separate streetscape plan and asked whether we stay with the "coquina stone" vs. stamped concrete. She said we may want to get Mark Aeling involved to outline possible changes.

Bob Brotherton informed that if you are going to build a monument, you bring the heavy materials in and then the light stuff after.

Mayor Soranno suggested doing the foundation work as pre-work and leave the area open for incoming heavy construction. It would look better and gives us more money to use.

Marcie Smith stated that we cannot decide until we have a discussion meeting with Mark Aeling to see what is doable. We need to quit focusing on the sequence of things until we get expert input.

Bob Brotherton stated that we should get a commitment from Council that we will have the funds to finish the project we decide upon. We don't want to start something that we cannot finish.

Starlyn Fikkert asked that if we hire Mark Aeling and get the project sole-sourced and then RFP a landscaper, what do we need to do then or do we bring Ann Wykell in.

Bonnie Dhonau volunteered to contact Mark Aeling to see if he is available.

Bob Brotherton added that ground testing might need to be done first on the project site.

Motion by **Marcie Smith** and **seconded** by **Starlyn Fikkert** to have Bonnie Dhonau reach out to see if Mark Aeling is available to work on this project with us. **Motion carried 5-0.**

9. Set time and date for next meeting.

Bonnie Dhonau said that after the streetscape and monument budget analysis goes to workshop and negotiations take place with landscaper Ameriscape, that it will then need to be before Council for approval (May 8, 2018).

Council Smith set the next Arts Council Meeting for Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

The Arts Council meeting convened at 1:03 p.m.



Darlyn A. Stockfisch
Administrative Specialist