



MINUTES REGULAR CALLED MEETING OF THE
PARKS, ARTS, AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT (PACE) ADVISORY BOARD

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022 AT 6:30 PM

CEDAR PARK CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
450 CYPRESS CREEK ROAD, BLDG. 4

BOARD MEMBERS

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | JENN BOWMAN,
Place 1, VICE-CHAIR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CHRISTINE BLAIR,
Place 4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CHRISTINA LEGRAND,
Place 6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | VACANT,
Place 2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MARY McCARTHY,
Place 5, CHAIR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ELLE ALBERT
Place 7, SECRETARY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | VACANT,
Place 3 | | | | |

A.1 CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM DETERMINED, MEETING DECLARED OPEN.

Chair Mary McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Five board members were present at the meeting.

A.2 PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS.

None.

B.1 PUBLIC ART PROGRAM UPDATE INCLUDING AN UPDATE ON THE CEDAR PARK SCULPTURE GARDEN

Jacob Worth, Assistant to the City Manager, introduced himself to the board and began his update by reviewing the background and selection process for art in the Sculpture Garden. Staff typically issues a call for art in April, but due to the meeting cancellation for that month, issued the call for art in late June to keep the timeline intact. Call for Art open through July 29th, PACE members will vote on sculptures during August meeting. Installation of pieces will take place October 7 – October 14th, pieces unveiled to the public mid-October at Taste of Cedar Park. Board members will score the submitted pieces using given criteria and a scoring matrix.

Mary McCarthy asked how many sculptures were available to be considered for purchase, Jacob clarified that would be handled in a later agenda item, one sculpture could be considered for purchase.

Jenn Bowman asked if the August meeting would be the first opportunity for the PACE members to view the submitted pieces, Jacob said that submissions would be sent in a packet to members approx. one week prior to the August 8th meeting. Jenn also asked if the artist's background would be provided, Jacob noted the primary info given would be about the sculpture itself, including pictures.

Christina Legrand asked if there was a theme for this year's sculptures. Jacob stated that there is not a specific theme for this year's call for art.

Jenn Bowman confirmed with Jacob that the new sculptures would be replacing the previous ones, as their 1-year display period ends in October. Mary McCarthy reminded the board that they could consider purchase of a piece, and that piece could remain in the Sculpture Garden, or even be placed at a different location in the City.

B.2 UPDATE ON THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S PARK AND TRAIL PROJECTS

Curt Randa, Director of Parks and Recreation, began his update by sharing that significant progress has been made on multiple Parks-related projects, despite challenges of labor shortages, inflation, and supply-chain delays. The first project shared was the April 2022 completion of a new playscape at Park Place Park, with play structures for younger and older kids. Curt went on to share photos and construction updates for the new Lakeline Park, which is scheduled for September 2022 completion. The next update was for the redesign of Town Center Park. Targeted completion for this project is Sept/Oct 2022, with landscaping improvements already underway. The final project shared was the Brushy Creek North Fork Trail, a 3-mile path along Brushy Creek which is going out to bid August 2022. Construction will start in 2023, with a targeted completion in 2024.

Christina Legrand asked if the Brushy Creek North Fork trail map shared showed the trail running behind Ranch at Brushy Creek subdivision – Curt confirmed that it will run behind the Overlook section of the neighborhood. Christina also clarified with Curt that the trail will be fully paved, meeting all accessibility requirements for grants.

B.3 DISCUSSION OF UTILITY BOX ART PROJECT PROGRAM

Jacob Worth, Assistant to the City Manager, introduced this item by providing some background information on the utility box art program, and requesting some direction from the PACE board. The project began in 2020 with a box on Brushy Creek Road. Feedback from the community and AT&T was positive, and another box was installed at Brushy Creek Sports Park in 2020. In 2021, the PACE board expressed interest in expanding the project, but staff turnover had the item pushed off a bit. Jacob sought feedback from the board on if they were interested in continuing this project, and what feedback they had heard from the community on the project.

Christina Legrand and Elle Albert both stated their support in favor of the project – feedback has been positive, and it is a simple, fun, and colorful project that helps beautification. Mary McCarthy agreed that the project has provided a “bang for a buck”, being a very inexpensive project.

Mary remembered that staff was scouting high-visibility boxes for future projects, possibly in front of area schools. The board was in support of incorporating schools or area youth artists into the project, possibly creating a contest with submissions. Jenn Bowman also expressed her support for incorporating youth artists and local schools, and went on to remark that more utility boxes being painted would be a good thing. Jenn’s goal for this project is to make Cedar Park not just a place to visit, but a place to live.

Christina Legrand added that she thinks more murals like the one in Milburn Park would be another low-cost, high visibility project. Jenn Bowman agreed with this, and noted that an art project can spur economic development in areas of the City that are growing. Jenn admitted that before joining the PACE board, she had not heard of the utility box art program. She asked how the City could promote this project more. Elle Albert recalled the success of the Parks scavenger hunt program in 2020, and how something like that can inspire families to go see the parks and art across Cedar Park.

Christine Blair commented that she had heard less than favorable feedback regarding the utility box art program. Christine clarified that she has heard from family and friends that the murals and boxes are more like street art you would find in Austin, and not reflective of the vision and taste for City of Cedar Park. Elle Albert asked Christine if switching the theme of the art would help this, but Christine stated that the concept of painting boxes and murals itself is the issue, not the theme of the art. Christina Legrand asked if the City could do another public outreach event, similar to the outreach meetings for Bell District. Christine said that art can be a difficult topic to discuss because everyone’s tastes are much different. Mary McCarthy noted that art/artist quality and having the piece reflect Cedar Park were very important in the selection process, and that Christine’s input on the pieces was very important.

Jenn Bowman asked if there was a way to gauge/quantify community support for this project. Jacob responded that a survey can be done to gauge support, and most of the positive feedback provided so far had been on social media. Jenn suggested that the survey could be anonymous, in order to avoid the potential of folks being hesitant to share negative feedback as well as positive. Jenn also followed up by suggesting that it may be better to get the community’s interest on just one box, as opposed to asking them about doing the whole city.

C.1 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7TH, 2022 REGULAR CALLED PACE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 7th, 2022 regular called PACE Advisory Board meeting.

Movant: Jenn Bowman

Second: Elle Albert

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

C.2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE PURCHASE OF A SCULPTURE TO BE ADDED TO THE CITY OF CEDAR PARK’S PERMANENT SCULPTURE COLLECTION

Jacob Worth, Assistant to the City Manager, introduced this item by reminding the board that they have the opportunity to recommend purchase of a sculpture from the Garden each year. There are 7 sculptures displayed and up for consideration.

**Wings by Kirk Seese: \$7500, medium density overlay board, steel
Partial Eclipse by Rollin Karg: \$3850, painted iron, blown glass
Icosahedron by Kirk Seese: \$7500, medium density overlay board, steel
Big Fish, Little Fish by Laura Sturtz: \$3500, steel, paint, glass
Magnify by Kirk Seese: \$7500, painted steel, acrylic
Upward Mobility by Anthony St. James: \$4000, steel
Indecisive Tree by Laura Sturtz: \$4500, steel, paint, sealer**

Christina Legrand asked how much was budgeted, Jacob responded that \$10,000 was set aside. Jenn Bowman asked if all artists were from Cedar Park, Jacob knew a few were from Austin but did not know which ones were from Cedar Park. Mary McCarthy knew Kirk Seese is not from Cedar Park. Christina Legrand said she would like to see Big Fish, Little Fish in the new Lakeline Park, possibly by a fishing pier. Christine Blair, Jenn Bowman, and Mary McCarthy all supported this idea.

Mary asked if the board needed to make a motion to recommend a purchase. Lauren Marfin, Assistant City Attorney, clarified that they did need a motion to recommend purchase, but that staff would likely determine a location for the piece to be displayed. Christina asked if the purchased pieces have stayed at the Sculpture Garden in the past. Curt Randa, Director of Parks and Recreation, clarified that pieces have been placed at other locations in the City in order to free up space for loaned artwork at the Garden. The City does not already have potential display locations in mind, those would be determined at a later date.

Jenn Bowman stated their her favorite pieces were Magnify and Wings, with Wings representing Cedar Park taking off and growing as a city. Elle Albert agreed with this point. Jenn asked if the board needed to select the piece they want to recommend purchase of now, or if they could wait until locations would be revealed. Lauren Marfin told the board they could wait for this motion until a later meeting, and that Council might prefer to hear the location and the recommendation together.

Christine Blair, considering the amount budgeted to purchase a piece, asked Jacob what happened to the sculpture that was damaged earlier this year. Curt Randa answered and explained that the actual cause of damage to “Travis takes a Jaunt” was undetermined, but that it could have been kids climbing on the sculpture. Curt said it is this reason why durability is so important for a selection of art, the piece that was damaged was not very durable.

D.1 BOARD MEMBER CLOSING COMMENTS.

Elle Albert complimented the Water Utility staff for Cedar Park and thanked them for their hard work during winter storms and droughts. Elle reminded everyone to follow the watering schedule!

Christina Legrand thanked Jacob for stepping in to his new role and creating new momentum for the PACE board and parks across the City.

Christine Blair thanked Mary for leading the meeting, and thanked Jacob and Curt for their hard work. She said that it was nice to be together meeting again after a few missed meetings.

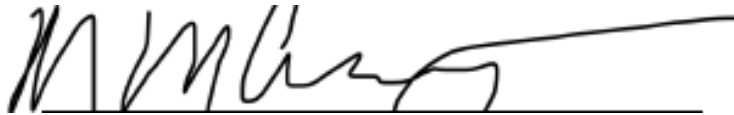
Jenn Bowman echoed her earlier comments that promotion and marketing of parks and art projects will help amplify the hard work that staff is doing.

Mary McCarthy complimented the 4th of July celebration at Milburn Park, and said a young couple she spoke to enjoyed the music, fireworks, and easy parking.

E.1 ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Mary McCarthy announced the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Passed and approved this 8th day of August 2022.



Mary McCarthy, Chair

Attest


Elle Albert