

**MEETING MINUTES
SIOUX FALLS VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION
March 20, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

City Hall, First Floor Commission Room 224 W 9th Street Sioux Falls SD

(Staff Liaison: Russ Sorenson: 367-8888)

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ivy Oland (Chairperson); Kellen Boice; Zach DeBoer; Sandra Pay; James Zajicek;
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Larry Crane - excused; Larry Ling – excused;
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Kara Dirkson (Levitt Board Member); Michael Patten (Parks & Rec Park Development Specialist)
Russ Sorenson, VAC Staff Liaison (City Planning Office)

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER & QUORUM DETERMINATION

Commission Chairperson, Ivy Oland, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

ITEM 2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson, Ivy Oland, welcomed the Visual Arts Commissioners (VAC) and guests.

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA – March 20, 2018 meeting

Chairperson, Ivy Oland, asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Commissioner James Zajicek made a motion to approve the regular agenda as presented. Commissioner Zach DeBoer seconded the motion. There were no public comments received. The motion to approve the regular agenda passed unanimously.

ITEM 4. RECOGNITION of SERVICE – Commissioner Larry Ling

Russ Sorenson, Staff Liaison, informed the Commission this item will be presented at the April 17, 2018 meeting, per Mr. Ling's request.

ITEM 5. REVIEW & ACTION on the VAC's Meeting Minutes for February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

Chairperson, Ivy Oland, requested a motion to approve the February 20, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Zach DeBoer made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner James Zajicek seconded the motion. There were no public comments received. The motion to approve the February 20, 2018 meeting minutes passed unanimously.

ITEM 6. REVIEW & ACTION on Sculpture Placement(s)

- a) "When Buffalo Roamed" @ Van Eps Park

Russ Sorenson (staff liaison) and Michael Patten (Parks & Rec Park Development Specialist), presented sculpture placement information to the Commissioners.

Russ Sorenson commented the redevelopment of Van Eps Park provides for a visual art niche located on the north end of the park and internal oval walkway. This park location could serve as a temporary annual placement location for the annual city-owned People's Choice Award from the SculptureWalk Program, until a more permanent location is determined and approved by the city for the award winning sculpture. Park development is expected to be completed in summer of 2018.

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Russ Sorenson reviewed the evaluation criteria for the proposed artwork placement:

- 1) Appropriateness - The concept plan for the redevelopment of Van Epps Park provides for a sculpture location at the north end of the city park that would be highly visible, illuminated, newly landscaped, and accessible to the public.
- 2) Relevance - This art piece is currently city-owned and is the 2017 SculptureWalk People's Choice Award. The sculpture is available for placement on public property.
- 3) Site plan - The scale of the artwork fits appropriately within and complement and/or enhance the physical location where it will be placed. The proposed sculpture location and a quartzite base would accommodate various sizes of artworks. A concrete slab, with surrounding curb and landscaping, would protect the sculpture from seasonal mowing, snow removal, and sprinkler irrigation practices. See attached site plan concept.
- 4) Installation cost - The proposed sculpture location, lighting, landscaping and walkways are planned elements for the Van Epps Park redevelopment project.
- 5) Safety/security – the proposed placement of the artwork will be well-protected from potential theft and vandalism, and will it be properly secured to ensure the safety of those around the artwork. The proposed location has high public visibility by motorists, pedestrians, and surrounding businesses and government employees, and will be illuminated. The artwork will be properly secured and anchored via welding, and/or nut and bolt fastener methods.
- 6) Visibility/impact - The proposed location has high visibility as it is located along Minnesota Avenue, a major street that parallels the western edge of Downtown, and midway between city/county government centers.
- 7) Need—Does the organization or location where the artwork will be placed have the means and/or ability to procure artwork through other approaches? Are we serving locations and audiences deemed in greatest need? Yes, pending that annual city CIP funding for acquisition of artwork continues.
- 8) Is this art piece being donated to the City of Sioux Falls? No. The City Of Sioux Falls owns this sculpture.
- 9) Artwork concept/history/context: This art piece was juried by SculptureWalk and part of their annual 2017 SculptureWalk Program. In 2017 citizens voted this sculpture as the People's Choice Award. The City's art conservator consultant, RLA, conducted an assessment of the sculpture with maintenance recommendations for the city's permanent collection. The City acquired the sculpture in January 2018.
- 10) Installation; e.g., responsible party, method, and equipment requirements: City of Sioux Falls - city's selected project contractor.
- 11) Are City support services needed; e.g., utilities maintenance requirements, lighting, etc.? This city owned sculpture will be included in the City's annual art conservation maintenance program.

Michael Patten, Park Development Specialist, commented that planned Van Eps Park improvements include a landscaped area with quartzite pedestal for future placement of city-owned artworks. Lighting would be provided around the oval pathway and from the exterior of the new city administration building. Designated lighting on fixed poles would be provided for the sculpture area.

Commissioner Zach DeBoer expressed the need for providing accent up lighting to allow nighttime visibility and security for the sculpture and public.

Commissioner James Zajicek asked if any security camera surveillance is planned for this park area and administration building. Michael Patten, responded the city TEAM is working together on security provisions.

Commissioner Kellen Boice inquired if public restrooms are planned for the park. Michael Patten, responded that no public restrooms would be provided in the park area.

Commissioners expressed their appreciation for Van Eps Park improvements to include a visual art placement location for city-owned artworks. Commissioners voiced their support for the proposed sculpture placement.

There were no public comments received.

Commissioner Sandra Pay made a motion to recommend approval for the sculpture placement of the city-owned sculpture known as "*When Buffalo Roamed*" @ Van Eps Park, including the commission's preferences for accent up-lighting and security camera surveillance be provided as part of the Van Eps Park redevelopment project. Commissioner James Zajicek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) "Maestro" @ Falls Park West / Levitt Shell

Russ Sorenson (staff liaison), Michael Patten (Parks & Rec Park Development Specialist), and Kara Dirkson, (Levitt Board Member) presented sculpture placement information to the Commissioners.

Russ Sorenson commented the concept plan for redevelopment of Falls Park West / Levitt Shell provides for a visual art niche located on the north end of the park and internal circular walkway. This park location can serve as a permanent placement location for city-owned visual art. Phase I park redevelopment is expected to be completed in June 2019. The subject bronze sculpture artwork, known as "Maestro" exemplifies both the musical mission of Friends of Levitt Sioux Falls and its welcoming, family-friendly nature. Additionally, "Maestro" art work is city-owned and is the 2016 SculptureWalk People's Choice Award, so it is available for placement on public property.

Russ Sorenson also mentioned this bronze sculpture work, "Maestro", is an interactive piece and it can be expected that people will handle the artwork to make music with its associated key and chime instruments. Russ stated that he has spoken with one of the artists of the artwork about noise generated from the artwork. If such noise is deemed as a distraction during concert venues, the artist suggested simply to wrap the mallet cables to the instruments and secure with padlock(s), so there are no disruptions during scheduled performances. He said the mallets could also be detached which involves removing eight (8) bolts, washers, and nuts, every time.

Russ Sorenson reviewed the evaluation criteria for the proposed artwork placement:

- 1) Appropriateness - The concept plan for the two phases of redeveloping Falls Park West includes a sculpture location at the north end of the lawn which is near an intersection of walkways visible to pedestrians and performance attendees. The proposed site is strategically placed to optimize public accessibility at the end of the lawn opposite the amphitheater so the sound generated by people interacting with this piece is least likely to compete with performances on stage.
- 2) Relevance - The mission of Friends of Levitt Shell Sioux Falls is to build community through music. The organization has partnered with the City to redevelop Falls Park West and create an outdoor venue where it will present summer concerts four nights a week. The amphitheater will be available for community or City use on non-Levitt performance nights. The Levitt performances sponsored at this site will be free to the public and family-friendly. The subject matter of this artwork embodies both the musical mission of Friends of Levitt Sioux Falls and its welcoming, family-friendly nature. Additionally, this art work is currently city-owned and is the 2016 SculptureWalk People's Choice Award so it is available for placement on public property.
- 3) Site plan - The scale of the artwork fits appropriately within and complements and/or enhances the physical location where it will be placed. The proposed sculpture location allows for a low concrete slab which will allow the piece to be approached and "played" by pedestrians. The life-size scale of this work is a good match for a pedestrian-friendly setting where the public can experience this sculpture face to face as if people are, in fact, being "conducted" by this maestro. The proposed location also positions this sculpture to be a visual focal point where walkways and a staircase converge.
- 4) Installation cost - The proposed sculpture location, landscaping and walkways are planned elements for the Falls Park West redevelopment project.
- 5) Safety/security - The artwork will be well-protected from potential theft and vandalism, and be properly secured to ensure the safety of those around the artwork. The proposed location has high public visibility by pedestrians and performance attendees which will be a deterrent to vandalism. The artwork will be properly secured and anchored via welding, and/or nut and bolt fastener methods. It should be noted that, given the interactive nature of the piece, it is expected that people will handle the artwork to make music with its keys and chimes.

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- 6) Visibility/impact—The proposed location has high visibility to anyone who comes to Falls Park West—whether to enjoy a performance or to stroll the walkways.
- 7) Need—Does the organization or location where the artwork will be placed have the means and/or ability to procure artwork through other approaches? Are we serving locations and audiences deemed in greatest need? Yes, pending that annual city CIP funding for acquisition of artwork continues.
- 8) Is this art piece being donated to the City of Sioux Falls? No. The City Of Sioux Falls owns this sculpture.
- 9) Artwork concept/history/context: This art piece was juried by SculptureWalk and part of its annual 2016 SculptureWalk Program and is a good representation of these artists' work; it represents the characteristic family-friendly, whimsical and interactive style Leuning and Treeby are known to create. In 2016 citizens voted this sculpture as the People's Choice Award. The City's art conservator consultant, RLA, conducted an assessment of the sculpture with maintenance recommendations for the city's permanent collection. The City acquired the sculpture in 2017.
- 10) Installation; e.g., responsible party, method, and equipment requirements: City of Sioux Falls - city's selected project contractor.
- 11) Are City support services needed; e.g., utilities maintenance requirements, lighting, etc.? Yes. This city owned sculpture will be included in the City's annual art conservation maintenance program.

Kara Dirkson, a Levitt Board member, stated the mission of Friends of Levitt Shell Sioux Falls is to build community through music. The organization has partnered with the City to redevelop Falls Park West and create an outdoor venue where it will present summer concerts four nights a week. The amphitheater will be available for community or City use on non-Levitt performance nights. The Levitt performances sponsored at this site will be free to the public and family-friendly. The subject matter of this artwork embodies both the musical mission of Friends of Levitt Sioux Falls and its welcoming, family-friendly nature.

Michael Patten, Park Development Specialist, emphasized this is planned as a gathering space for our community. He commented the quality of site and stage designs is reflective of outdoor festival gathering in Downtown Sioux Falls. He referenced the Phase I design concept illustrations for the planned Falls Park West / Levitt Shell improvements. Site improvements include a large central concert lawn area with landscaped perimeter, a stage and support building on the south end, a hospitality area and restroom building on the west side, along Philips Avenue, and a sculpture pad on the north end, approximately 349 feet (longer than a city block length) from the stage area. The sculpture pad area would be approximately ten (10) feet higher than the stage platform. A wide perimeter walkway would surround the concert lawn area and provide accessibility to the planned sculpture pad area. Future build out plans for Falls Park West are pending for Phase II.

Commissioner James Zajicek asked if any security lighting and camera surveillance is planned for this park area. Michael Patten, Park Development Specialist, responded the city TEAM is working together on security provisions. As part of the site development conduit will be placed for future historical pole and pedestrian lighting, and security cameras. Designated lighting on fixed poles would be provided for the sculpture pad area.

Commissioner Zach DeBoer expressed the need for providing accent up lighting to allow nighttime visibility and security for the sculpture and public viewing.

Commission discussion ensued about whether or not the proposed sculpture, being an interactive artwork, would be a major distraction to concert goers and performers. Some commissioners expressed the proposed "Maestro" sculpture is appropriate in musical theme, family friendly, and the proposed placement location being opposite of the main stage area by more than a city block, is fitting.

Commissioner Sandra Pay, expressed the sculpture artwork is marvelous, but voiced concern about the associated chimes and xylophone type instruments being accessible to the public during concert performances, and causing distractions to concert goers and performers. The commissioner mentioned that future outdoor symphony performances may be part of the Levitt / city programming. The

commissioner remarked that since this particular sculpture is accessible and interactive to the public, the noise issue is a concern and needs to be appropriately addressed. It was also noted that future outdoor symphony performances may be part of the Levitt / city programming and the mallets need to be quiet. The commissioner suggested that perhaps consideration for artworks, that are not interactive, be considered for placement at the Levitt. The commissioner also declared a membership affiliation to the Levitt Board.

Russ Sorenson reiterated that he has spoken with one of the artists of the artwork about noise generated from the artwork. If such noise is deemed as a distraction during concert venues, the artist suggested simply to wrap the mallet cables to the instruments and secure with padlock(s), so there are no disruptions during scheduled performances. Another option for consideration is to detach the mallets from the instruments, which involves removing eight (8) bolts, washers, and nuts, prior to every performance. He mentioned that perhaps further discussion with the artists to see if they have other suggestions about noise mitigation may be appropriate.

Commissioner Zach DeBoer commented the associated instruments are part of the artwork, and should not be removed or disassembled from the sculpture.

Commissioner James Zajicek mentioned that perhaps a blanket covering with grommet be used to cover and secure the sculpture's musical instruments prior to concert performances.

Commissioner Kellen Boice stated the performances at the Levitt, along with this sculpture placement, can be viewed as a significant downtown concert venue that provides an acceptable introduction and appreciation to music for both children and adults.

Michael Patten, Park Development Specialist, commented in this case there is no rush, and that it is important to live the Levitt facility, and determine if the interactive sculpture is a major distraction that warrants noise mitigation measures to be implemented. He noted there is plenty of time for sculpture selection and placement, as construction for the Levitt Shell site will begin this summer and be completed in 2019.

Kara Dirkson, Levitt Board member, emphasized the sculpture is a nice match because of the Levitt's mission toward community gathering with music. She acknowledged the Levitt Board is supportive of sculpture placements at the Levitt.

A commissioner suggested that additional discussion is necessary that includes the artists, parks & planning staff, the Levitt Board, Visual Arts Commission, and Parks Board, to address: artwork placement at Levitt; noise mitigation associated with artworks; the direction the artwork should face; up lighting for the sculpture pad area; and security lighting and camera surveillance provisions planned for this park area.

Several commissioners agreed.

There were no public comments received.

Commissioner Sandra Pay made a motion to table action for the sculpture placement of the city-owned sculpture known as "Maestro" at Falls Park West / Levitt Shell. Commissioner Kellen Boice seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 7. SIOUX FALLS ARTS COUNCIL UPDATES - (Sandra Pay, Sioux Falls Arts Council representative)

- a. Cultural Plan Implementation – no comments
- b. Other?

Commissioner Sandra Pay provided an update to the Commissioners about the Sioux Falls Arts Awards ceremony and reception that was held on Thursday evening, March 15, 2018 at Augustana University's Humanities Center. The event was very well attended and the venue was a wonderful place to announce the winners of the 2018 Sioux Falls Awards in the Arts. This year's award recipients include:

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Individual Excellence Awards for Artists – Robert Wendland

Individual Excellence Awards for Artists– Doosook Kim

Individual Excellence Awards for Artists– Scott Parsons

Innovative Project Award– Ka-Chunk at Ipso Gallery

Innovative Project Award- Paladino Hohm Sculpture Garden

Forward Arts Award- South Dakota Writes

Charlotte Carver Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts – Brian & Kaija Bonde

For more details about the 2018 Sioux Falls Awards in the Arts event and recipients visit –
<http://www.artssiouxfalls.org/sioux-falls-arts-council-honor-recipients-2018-sioux-falls-awards-arts/>

Sandra Pay also stated the new President of the Sioux Falls Arts Board of Directors is Mr. Alex Hagen.

ITEM 8. VISUAL ARTS COMMISSION PROJECT UPDATES

- a. PUBLIC ART INTEGRATION – Strategic Planning Session Update by *Subcommittee – (Commissioners Ivy Oland, Zach DeBoer, Larry Crane)*
Commissioners determined their next Working Session Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:30 – 7:30 pm, would be held at the Sioux Falls Design Center, located at 108 W 11th St, Sioux Falls. There was no project updates presented or discussed by the Commission.
- b. VAC WEBSITE UPDATES – Completed.
Russ Sorenson commented that various public art projects since 2014 to the present have now been posted on the VAC's website. Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Russ for provided additional information on their website page.

ITEM 9. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business presented or discussed by the Commission.

ITEM 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) NEXT MEETINGS –
 - o Working Session Meeting - Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:30 – 7:30 pm, Sioux Falls Design Center, 108 W 11th St, Sioux Falls
 - o Regular Meeting - Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., Carnegie Town Hall, 235 W 10th Street

ITEM 11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Commissioner Sandra Pay made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner James Zajicek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:10 a.m.

HANDOUTS – March 20, 2018 Meeting

- o March 20, 2018 Agenda
- o Meeting Minutes: February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting
- o Sculpture Placements
 - “When Buffalo Roamed” @ Van Eps Park
 - “Maestro” @ Falls Park West Levitt Shell