City of Sebastopol
Incorporated 1902
Planning Department
7120 Bodega Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472
707-823-6167
707-823-1135 (Fax)
www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us

UNAPPROVED DRAFT MINUTES

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE
CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
MINUTES OF September 02, 2020

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE:

The notice of the meeting was posted on August 27, 2020.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Vertz called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Chair Vertz read a prepared statement about remote public participation.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present:	Chair Vertz, Vice Chair Mills-Thysen, and Committee Members Langberg, Stucker and Arnold
Absent:	None
Staff:	Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director Alan Montes, Associate Planner

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 05, 2020

Committee Member Stucker amended the minutes.

Committee Member Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Ayes:	Chair Vertz, Vice Chair Mills-Thysen, and Committee Members Langberg, Arnold, and Stucker
	Noes:	None
	Abstain:	None
	Absent:	None

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Director Svanstrom indicated that no members of the public were in attendance.

Director Svanstrom noted that some public comment had been received after the last Public Arts Committee meeting on the mural in the plaza, which she forwarded to the Committee.

She further noted that no additional public comment on items on or off the agenda had been received.

5. STATEMENTS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: There were none.

6. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Discussion of adding members to a subcommittee of the Public Arts Committee. Continued from 8/5/2020.

Chair Vertz asked for questions or comments from the Committee on this item.

Committee Member Stucker commented:

- After looking over the City Council's response he read two primary questions which he wished to respond to.
- Still feels that a pool listing of those people that have expressed interest in either service on the Public Arts Committee, or other City committees or an interest in public art should be listed with their contact information along with potential topics or areas of interest. The Committee could use this list to call upon interested persons, depending on their interests and availability, if/when the Committee has subcommittee work to be done.
- These people would be utilized in discussions of subcommittee work, assisting Public Arts Committee subcommittee reps in accomplishing preparatory work research, conducting surveys, compiling results et al, to then be presented to the Committee at a meeting.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen thanked Committee Member Stucker for his comments and added:

- Suggested that potential conflicts of interests for interested persons be included in the pool listing as well.

Chair Vertz clarified that subcommittee members would be from a specified group rather than being open to the public for people to participate if/when they want to and then walk away.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded that it was her understanding that subcommittee members would be selected from a specified pool of interested persons.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- The Council has had subcommittees which include members that are not from the Council.
- In this case, for the Public Arts Committee, going along with Committee Member Stucker's suggestion, the City could put out a call for interest and the Committee could pull from those responses when volunteer subcommittee work is needed.
- It would be helpful to have continuity in the subcommittee, rather than having members of the public come and go without really knowing what is going on.

Chair Vertz stated that the next step would be to publicize that the Committee is looking for people to serve on a subcommittee.

Director Svanstrom responded:

- Yes, that could certainly be done.

- The next step would be for the Committee to make a motion to direct staff to put together these additional thoughts in the form of a recommendation for Council to review.
- Council originally requested that the Committee look at expanding.
- The Committee could respond by stating that the do not recommend expanding the Public Arts Committee for the reasons enumerated in the staff report.
- Staff would present the report to Council and would hope that a liaison from the Committee could be present to answer any questions that the Council may have.
- Also included in the report would be the Committee's recommendation to call for volunteers to serve on subcommittees of the Public Arts Committee and their plan to advertise.
- After reporting to Council the Committee could advertise.

Committee Member Stucker moved to proceed as outlined by Director Svanstrom.

Vice Chair Langberg seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Ayes:	Chair Vertz, Vice Chair Mills-Thysen, and Committee Members Langberg, Arnold, and Stucker
	Noes:	None
	Abstain:	None
	Absent:	None

Director Svanstrom asked if a member would be willing to act as a liaison when this item goes before Council which is likely to be at their first meeting in October.

Chair Vertz noted that that meeting would be held on October 6, 2020.

B. Support for artists during Covid-19. Continued from 8/5/2020.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- Hopes the Committee can get this finalized and passed on to the Council today.
- Hopes to get help to at least some artists sooner rather than later.
- A last-minute update was emailed to the Committee.

Committee Member Arnold indicated that he was unable to open the attachment for the last-minute update that was sent.

Committee Member Arnold commented:
- Suggested revising number 3. under 'Eligible Artists' as follows, 'Are in current need because of decrease in income from *sales of* artwork DUE to the Covid-19 pandemic.'

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen thanked Committee Member Arnold for that revision.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- Apologized to Vice Chair Mills-Thysen for not having provided advance comments to her on both this and the sculpture garden draft document which she has been graciously asking for.
- Has several minor mechanical changes and a few more general questions.
- Referred to a typo under 3. 'Eligible Artists' which reads, "corvid 19" instead of "Covid-19".
- Suggested that 4. Under 'Eligible Artists' include the deadline date of October 4, 2020.

- Under, 'Dear Artists:' there should be a space between P.A.C. and Lottery.
- Suggested removing the word, "now" under 'Dear Artists:' because it is already inherent that they are struggling financially because of the effects of Covid-19 and removal of it would make it more succinct.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- She included the word, "now" to eliminate artists who may have had a bump a few months back but have since recovered.

Committee Member Stucker thanked Vice Chair Mills-Thysen for that explanation and expressed support for leaving it as is.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented that she could change the word, "now" to, "currently".

Committee Member Stucker expressed support for that change and commented:
- Suggested that the colon be removed after, 'Send your' under, 'How to Enter Lottery' and that it read, 'Provide your' instead.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded in the affirmative.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- Referred to the section about artists not wanting their name mentioned and suggested editing it to read, 'if you win and do not want your name mentioned'.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- No, sequentially she would like the artist to mention it first.
- That language is in bold to show that it is an addition and will be in regular font before the document is finalized.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- Under, 'When to Enter' it is redundant to title it and then to say, 'Starting:'.
- Suggested that it read, 'When to Enter' followed by the date which is September 16, 2020 and that it be followed by, 'Deadline to Enter' followed by the date which is October 04, 2020 at 9:00 p.m.
- Overall, it seems like it should be cleaned up a bit.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- Making the change to 'When to Enter' as suggested by Committee Member Stucker would seem to make it less clear and lead to confusion.
- Understood the need to be clear and to eliminate any confusion.

Committee Member Stucker noted that artist Teri Sloat's last name is spelled incorrectly.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen thanked Committee Member Stucker for noting that correction and commented that she spoke with Ms. Sloat who would be putting this before the membership and get back to her. She further stated that she would change the sentence about contacting Ms. Sloat to indicate that she had spoken with her.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- The third line under, "Promotion Possibilities' should read, 'regarding' instead of, 're'.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded in the affirmative.

Committee Member Stucker suggested including the following:

- "Should the PAC receive only four (4) or fewer artist entrants the funds will be distributed equally amongst those entrants."

Chair Vertz expressed support for including that language as suggested by Committee Member Stucker.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked Committee Member Stucker to email that language to her for inclusion.

Committee Member Stucker responded in the affirmative and suggested including the following:

- Should more than four artist entrants be received a simple lottery draw will be conducted during the public P.A.C. meeting."
- Offered to email that language to Vice Chair Mills-Thysen as well.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:

- Right now the Committee only has two gifts of $500.
- If the Committee agrees with number 1. under, 'For PAC Consideration' that number could be extended to four gifts of $500.
- Further, if Council agrees to match, that number could be extended to eight gifts of $500.
- At this point there is a minimum of two and a maximum of eight gifts of $500.

Committee Member Stucker indicated that he had nothing further to add at this time.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:

- Thanked Committee Member Stucker for his excellent input which she really appreciated.
- On this, and the community sculpture garden proposals, the only member who sent in comments in advance of the meetings was Committee Member Arnold.
- Committee Member Arnold's comments we very good and she has included them in these forms as much as was possible.
- Encouraged members to send in their comments previous to these meetings so they can be incorporated to the extent possible or highlighted for discussion. Doing so should allow the Committee to move more efficiently.
- Thanked the Committee.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- The staff contact person should be changed to either Rebecca Mansour or Alan Montes.
- With regards to the deadline, she suggested moving the deadline to working hours on a business day.
- Suggested changing the deadline to Monday, October 5, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Members of the Committee expressed support for the deadline change as suggested by Director Svanstrom.

Committee Member Stucker asked Vice Chair Mills-Thysen if the section labeled, 'Note to PAC on Proposal' if that was to stay in the proposal when it goes out to artists or if that was intended solely for the Committee.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:

- Referred to 1. under, 'For PAC Consideration' and commented that she and Chair Vertz strongly encourage increasing the donation to $2,000.
- Chair Vertz can speak to that further if needed.
- Referred to 2. under, 'For PAC Consideration' and commented that Director Svanstrom indicated that that timing would work.
- Referred to 3. under, 'For PAC Consideration' and stated that that is something she would like some feedback from the Committee on.
- Referred to 4. Under, 'For PAC Consideration' and stated that that is something she would like some feedback from the Committee on. For her part, she suggested having Chair Vertz pull names from a box during their meeting on October 7, 2020.

Committee Member Stucker commented:

- Has a bingo wheel that could be used.
- The numbered balls could be limited to the number of entries.
- Entrants could be assigned a number and the bingo wheel could be used for selecting the winners.
- Has used paper ballots in a box before and they can be problematic.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked Committee Member Stucker about getting the bingo wheel to Chair Vertz.

Committee Member Stucker stated that he could deliver it to her.

Chair Vertz suggested that Director Svanstrom may be a better person to operate the bingo wheel, rather than somebody on the Committee.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented that it would be better for the Chair to do it.

Chair Vertz commented that the idea of using a bingo wheel is fantastic.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:

- It gets more complicated if anybody outside the Committee does the draw.
- Suggested that the Committee invite Ned Kahn to operate the bingo wheel for selection of winners.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- If the Committee is okay with members pulling numbers, Committee Member Stucker could pull the numbers and Chair Vertz could read the name that is associated with that number.
- Staff could pull numbers if desired.
- This has been such a wonderful Committee initiative it would be nice to see members of the Committee pull the numbers and announce the winners.

Chair Vertz expressed support for the dual Committee member method as suggested by Director Svanstrom.

Committee Member Stucker offered to bring the bingo wheel to the next meeting so members could take a look.

Chair Vertz commented that the idea would be to do the drawing during the next Committee meeting.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:

- Appreciates Committee Member Stucker for having the bingo wheel and for volunteering use of it for this purpose.
- Reiterated that she would like Chair Vertz to be the one pulling the numbers as it would be more official that way.

Committee Member Stucker reiterated his willingness to deliver the wheel to Chair Vertz wherever she is comfortable and would show her how to use it.

Chair Vertz asked Vice Chair Mills-Thysen to respond to Committee Member Stucker's question on the statements listed under, 'Note to PAC on Proposal' which he initially asked about before Vice Chair Mills-Thysen jumped to the section labeled, 'For PAC Consideration'.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded that that section was intended as items for the Committee to discuss during this meeting and would be removed before the proposal became final.

In response to a question from Director Svanstrom, Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented that the proposal that is sent to artists would end under the section labeled, 'Examples of possible venues for promotion' but that the section labeled, 'Timeline' should also be included.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Referred to 3. under, 'For PAC Consideration' and asked if entrants are required to verify that they live in the city of Sebastopol?

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded that she was not sure where the Committee wants to go with that.

Chair Vertz responded:

- It has been suggested that we do this fully on the honor system, or that we have people provide proof.
- The question is how much work the Committee wants to give themselves to verify eligibility.
- If these are to be digital entries, the artists could submit a picture of a piece of mail or something that shows them with a Sebastopol address.
- The money should stay in town.
- It would be great to know that the artists have a connection here.
- Some sort of proof would be great.
- Invited other suggestions, especially if they would be easier.
- It would be a poor look for the Committee if this money gets awarded to artists outside of Sebastopol.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Concurred with Chair Vertz.
- Asked if eligible artists would include those living in unincorporated Sebastopol.

Chair Vertz responded that she understood that it would include the entire 95472 area.

Members of the Committee concurred.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- Ultimately Council will have the final say when they review this.

- The Committee should absolutely recommend what they would like it to be.

Committee Member Langberg noted that it is indicated that winners would have to complete a W-9 which means that they will have to provide their address.

Chair Vertz stated that the Committee would not be asking for a W9 or any tax statements from the entrants.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded that Director Svanstrom confirmed that winners will have to provide a W-9.

Director Svanstrom responded in the affirmative.

Chair Vertz commented:
- 3. relates to entrants and we will not be asking entrants to turn in any tax forms, verify income, prove impacts from Covid-19, etc.
- That is why this is based on the honor system.
- If selected as a winner and they complete their W9, which is something that stated as a requirement in the proposal, to show an address outside of Sebastopol we may be triggered to select a new winner.

Members of the Committee concurred.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- Right now, as written under, 'Eligible Artists', the entrants would need to be a resident of the incorporated area of Sebastopol, rather than the 95472 area.

Committee Member Arnold suggested that all residents of the 95472 area be included.

Committee Member Stucker suggested that the language be revised to read, 'Are currently residing in the 95472 zip code.'

Chair Vertz suggested that 95473 be included as well.

Committee Member Arnold concurred.

Vice Chair Mills Thysen read back the revision as follows, 'Are currently residing in the 95472 or 95473 zip code.'

Members of the Committee responded in the affirmative.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked the Committee to respond to the idea of increasing the donation amount from $1,000 to $2,000.

Chair Vertz commented:
- In looking over the funds in the Art In-Lieu fund during the last meeting there are some we could use during these very trying times.
- These are very trying times for everybody.
- When this fund was first created it was intended to fund public art.
- This may not be the right time for the Committee to put out a call for another $45,000 sculpture when we know people are hurting.

- As an artist herself she struggles with the feast or famine thing because sometimes she does not have any work and at other times, she has so much that it is overwhelming.
- She has been fortunate to have a lot of work during this time.
- Under the impression that a slight shift could happen for the Committee.
- The Committee can do a little bit of good right now to help artists specifically.
- Would not mind seeing this happen.
- Switching this from $1,000 to $2,000 could be a great help.
- From the small amount of response that she has received from Catherine at the Center for the Arts, there are artists out there that are struggling and an award of $500 could really help them out right now.
- Catherine's amount of enthusiasm for this proposal, specifically when she asked to use her email list of artists, was really touching to her, and made her realize how much help is needed.
- Increasing from $1,000 to $2,000 will not break the Committee's bank.
- The Committee can still move forward with other wonderful projects.
- Seems worth increasing to $2,000 knowing that they will be able to help a few extra special people right now who could use it.

Committee Member moved that the Committee contribute $2,000 for their fund and ask the Council to match that amount.

Committee Member Stucker seconded Committee Member Arnold's motion.

The Committee voted on the motion as follows:

VOTE:	Ayes:	Chair Vertz, Vice Chair Mills-Thysen, and Committee Members Langberg, Arnold, and Stucker
	Noes:	None
	Abstain:	None
	Absent:	None

Chair Vertz thanked members of the Committee for their support on that.

Committee Member Langberg thanked Vice Chair Mills-Thysen and Chair Vertz for their work on this.

Members of the Committee concurred.

Committee Member Stucker asked a clarifying comment about the language under, 'Note to PAC on Proposal'.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen suggested that the language in *italics* along with the header, 'Note to PAC on Proposal' be removed but that the other comments remain for Council information.

Members of the Committee concurred.

Director Svanstrom noted that Vice Chair Mills-Thysen emailed her yesterday about the potential to display art from the winners at City buildings and added that most City buildings are not open to the public at this time due to current pandemic requirements. However, the lobby of the Police Department is always open, and the Fire/Building Department is open as

well. Also, she stated that something could be displayed within the lobby at City Hall and could be viewed through the window.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- Art could possibly be displayed outside.
- We do not need to overload with the details, we can just give an idea and work it out.
- Asked Director Svanstrom if a disclaimer should be added in the lottery about members of the government, departments, and committee members or relatives not being eligible.

Director Svanstrom responded in the affirmative and commented that those types of things are typically included in a proposal.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked Director Svanstrom if she could email that language to her so she could insert it into the proposal.

Director Svanstrom responded that she or Associate Planner Montes could send some language to her.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen reiterated her request to have Committee Member Stucker send her the language as discussed.

Committee Member Stucker responded in the affirmative.

Chair Vertz commented:
- Requested an official response from the City on whether the artists will be required to pay tax on the award at the end of the year.
- Because it is coming from the City, if it is nontaxable can that be put into the proposal?
- Because if winners must pay tax on it, I do not want anyone to be surprised by that at the end of the year.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- She added the following, 'Winners will be asked to provide a W-9 or comparable form and will be responsible for any personal taxes related to their gift.'

Chair Vertz asked if that is the official response, that the winners will have to pay take on the award.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded in the affirmative and commented that the City will not be involved in their personal taxes and the money is not tax free.

Director Svanstrom responded:
The award would be considered income for tax purposes so the winner(s) will need to account for that.
- The reason for the W-9 is that our Finance Department requires one for the $1,000 stipend for RFP's and things like that.
- We require the W-9 because we are required to report that we have paid that to the artists.

Chair Vertz thanked Director Svanstrom for the clarification on that and commented:
- The Committee just agreed on asking the City Council to match our funds.

- Wants to do this at the next Council meeting which is on September 15.
- If this is not on the Council agenda correctly, or they can't just come to a single motion to say yes and pass this and it will be pushed to their next meeting, she would like to proceed with their timeline for their $2,000 in awards as she wouldn't want this to be held up any longer and the Council can choose to match it later if they want to.
- Would that be possible?

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- It is her understanding that the Council is able to and can do this without delay.
- Likes Chair Vertz's point.
- Perhaps we can include a note to Council that says if they're unable to agree to match their funds at this time, the Committee requests that they approve it without the match so as to not hold it up any longer.

Director Svanstrom commented:
- To be clear, this is not officially on the agenda for City Council.
- She needs to ask that it be placed on the September 15 Council agenda.
- It is possible that they may not have room on that agenda.
- Staff reports for items on the September 15 Council meeting were due yesterday.
- If it cannot be heard during the September 15 Council meeting, staff will let the Committee know that the first meeting in October is likely and shift the dates as needed.
- Thinks this an easy enough item that they may be able to accommodate it on the September 15 agenda.

Chair Vertz responded that she would love to know when this will go before Council as she and other members may want to listen in to that meeting.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- The City Manager is meeting with the Mayor and Vice Mayor who set those agendas pretty much every morning.
- Assuming they meet tomorrow, she will ask the City Manager to bring it up to them and report back to the Committee their response in terms of scheduling.

Chair Vertz thanked Director Svanstrom for getting that information back to the Committee as soon as possible.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked Director Svanstrom to please encourage those that set the agenda to fit this on the Council agenda of September 15 by using Chair Vertz's wonderful words on the reason behind the request.

Director Svanstrom responded in the affirmative and commented:
- Their first meeting in October is a budget meeting so they will probably be encouraged to get this on the Council agenda of September 15.

Chair Vertz and Vice Chair Mills-Thysen thanked Director Svanstrom.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- Will write up a note to Council and send it along with the proposal.
- Asked staff to place the language about matching the award and not wanting to cause delay to the process where appropriate.

Director Svanstrom responded in the affirmative and requested that Vice Chair Mills-Thysen send the note and proposal to other members of Planning staff as well.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded in the affirmative.

Hearing nothing further, Chair Vertz concluded their discussion of this item.

C. Update from Sculpture Garden Subcommittee

Chair Vertz asked to hear from Vice Chair Mills-Thysen and/or Committee Member Arnold.

Committee Member Arnold commented that Director Svanstrom should have received an email from Beth Hartman.

Director Svanstrom responded in the affirmative.

Committee Member Arnold commented that Ms. Hartman's email points out the difficulty of installing work in Sebastopol and said that the forms are so difficult and the requirements for sculpture to go into the community are so difficult that they don't do it anymore and asked staff if that was correct.

Director Svanstrom recalled that it was in response to Sculpture Jam and responded that she could pull up the email to review it.

Committee Member Arnold responded that he has a copy of the email and stated that Ms. Hartman expressed that she would have to meet the same requirements to install something that Mr. Kahn would.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded that the Committee is trying to create a space where it is agreed that that can happen.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Unfortunately for Ms. Hartman, she has had to go to Cloverdale to install her work because it is much easier to do.
- I think we need an answer because this will affect the sculpture garden.
- What type of paperwork will an artist have to fill out to install art in our community?
- That is not covered in any of our literature yet.
- So, if it is a simple thing like going to Public Works and they say yeah this is fine, which is what used to happen.
- Or going to the Police Department because the piece might block visibility of the driver somewhere and they have approved it because it is determined that it will not interfere with driving.
- Is that as simple as we can get, or do we need the same process that public art projects need?

Director Svanstrom responded:

- Let me back up a little bit because I am not sure I got the same email from Ms. Hartman that Committee Member Arnold did.
- Ms. Hartman is helping repair the P and the X block letters that were recently damaged in the plaza sculpture.
- Ms. Hartman asked staff to consider the issue which has been stopping Sculpture Jam, a self-funded volunteer group under the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, from

submitting applications for their finished products for temporary placement to continue to enliven the public sculpture aspect of Sebastopol.
- She does not have any background on this since Sculpture Jam was before her time and she was not involved with it.
- Hoping to get some background on that from the group.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- Part of what the function of the sculpture garden would be is to provide a prequalified area for sculpture.

Committee Member Arnold commented:
- We know that and that is not the issue.
- The issue is what kind of requirements does the City have for installation of artwork?
- We should face it before we go further by learning what the requirements are from whomever would be involved on the City side.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- Committee Member Arnold's suggestion on the artist stating how the artwork would be attached was included in the proposal.
- Asked Director Svanstrom how the Committee could get information on requirements for installation and for insurance.

Committee Member Arnold commented:
- Being on City-owned land means the City should insure it.
- That is one of the reasons we use City-owned land.
- Wants to understand what City requirements there are, if any.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- That is something she will need to research.
- The process for a large piece of art located along Highway 12 which would involve Caltrans is entirely different than what a piece of art in the sculpture garden would require.
- Obviously, we would need to make sure the artwork is not going to fall and cause liability issues/concerns.
- Once something hits a certain size a building permit and engineering review are required.
- The City has standard liability requirements for artists.
- Would need to check with risk management to see what the requirements would be for a freestanding sculpture in the sculpture garden.

Committee Member Arnold responded:
- The requirements should also be known for any other sculptures that people want to put up in the city.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- On public land, yes, but anything on private property would be up to the property owner.
- Does not think it is quite that complex.
- Will investigate it further.

Committee Member Arnold commented:
- These artworks were installed prior to whatever requirements we have now that Ms. Hartman feels are too difficult to comply with.

- Maybe things have changed since then.
- The Committee should receive a report on what the requirements are for something like the coyote sculpture at the library.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded:
- Just to clarify, we are asking for the requirements during installation, during removal of the sculpture and during the sculpture's tenure in the sculpture garden.
- Also, we need to know if there are any size requirements.
- Asked Director Svanstrom to send that information to her and Committee Member Arnold once she has it.
- It may be that we can do some of this, or at least get it set in advance, so that artists don't have to do much given that the sculpture garden itself may be set up to fulfil certain requirements.

Committee Member Langberg commented:
- Sculpture does not have to be 30' tall to be a potential hazard.
- It feels like we need some level of review of how stable or structurally sound these things are.
- Maybe there is a way to have a building official look at a proposal in a simple way?
- Would not want to have so many requirements that it would be prohibitive for artists to even think about doing this.
- Would support a more streamlined, straightforward process.
- Would support having Mr. Phillips from Phillips Seabrook Associates comes to a meeting and have him review the proposals in a simple way to ensure that they could be safe.
- Maybe there is a structural engineer that would be willing to volunteer some time to review projects?
- I could do that to some degree, but it is not my area of expertise.
- We could find another person in the community that could do that so that everybody is comfortable with the artwork being installed without onerous requirements attached.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- If we find someone like that, could we preset it up so that the artist could get a form, fill out the numbers and send it back electronically to get the okay or feedback if adjustments are needed since we're trying not to do things in person?

Committee Member Langberg responded in the affirmative and commented:
- The application process should require that pertinent information (photo and specifications) be provided so it can be forwarded on to people with expertise to make those judgments.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- Right, that part of it does sound like something that we would want to sit down with the Building Official and possible others to discuss.
- With the library public art project, staff shared submittals from the finalists with the Building Official and Public Works Superintendent to get their feedback.

Committee Member Langberg thanked Director Svanstrom for the information.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- There will be two parts then.

- One would be the specifications that we provide prospective entrants and the other would be a review after we receive their entry and have selected our finalists.

Committee Member Stucker expressed having a few mechanical suggestions.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen requested that Committee Member Stucker email those to her directly as additional revisions will need to be incorporated as well and thanked him for his edits.

Committee Member Stucker responded in the affirmative.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked Director Svanstrom for confirmation that the City will insure the pieces in the sculpture garden.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- That is something that she needs to look into.
- Normally, for larger projects like the sculpture at the library, the artists would be required to have liability insurance for their work.
- Unsure what past practice was or what current practice is in this context, which is different from larger public art works.
- From Committee Member Arnold's comments, it sounds like something may have changed in terms of City policy for sculpture.

Committee Member Arnold responded in the affirmative.

Vice Chair Mills- Thysen commented:
- It sounds like we would possibly include some size requirement to make things work more easily.
- It would be helpful for the Committee to know that.

Director Svanstrom responded that she will need to find out what the triggers for insurance are.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen thanked Committee Member Arnold for his helpful input which was included and is appreciated.

D. Update on Ned Kahn Projects (Hotel Sebastopol site & City public art)

Committee Member Arnold reported not having any updates at this time as he has not been able to connect with Mr. Kahn for quite some time which has been rather frustrating.

Director Svanstrom stated that she could give an update on Mr. Kahn's projects at the Hotel Sebastopol site.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked Chair Vertz if she had attempted to contact Mr. Kahn.

Chair Vertz responded that she had not.

Director Svanstrom commented:
- Communicated with Circe Sher, one of the owners of the hotel site, and while she has not seen it, her understanding is that it will take up more or less the entire block with an interactive environmental sculpture as it was described to her.

- Spoke with Ms. Sher about the timing of it and about the potential for some joint public relations on the mobile art app which she sent her a link to.
- As it stands now, this may be a really good tie in to promote the mobile art app and the Ned Kahn sculpture at the same time and Ms. Sher was really excited about the potential for that.
- The sculpture should be going up in the next few weeks.
- Suggested inviting Ms. Sher or somebody else from the hotel group to the PAC meeting to talk about potentially doing some promotion of Sebastopol's art scene between the mobile art app and their own pushes on art experiences including the Ned Kahn sculpture.
- Ms. Sher indicated that their concierges at their other properties will be promoting this in an effort to get people out into the community.
- It seems like working with them would be really helpful for both the art community in Sebastopol as well as the hotel site and sculpture.
- The sculpture may have just been or may be about to be installed by the next PAC meeting in early October.

Chair Vertz thanked Director Svanstrom for the update and commented that she has seen pictures of the sculpture that will be placed on the hotel site and it is interesting.

Director Svanstrom commented that Ms. Sher is interested in, and excited about getting the sculpture featured on the mobile art app.

Chair Vertz commented:
- Ms. Sher is welcome to email her and she can upload it to the mobile art app site once it is ready.
- That sounds like a fun and interesting way to put more eyes on the mobile art app or website.
- After sitting in on a couple of the last City Council meetings, especially the one that was really surrounding the Florence Avenue issue, her excitement for the app has waned only because not featuring the art along Florence Avenue seems silly.
- The whole thing seems a little different without Florence Avenue being featured in terms of her initial excitement over the art app.
- It will be good to utilize the art app for other artwork, especially the Hotel Sebastopol site.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- She will connect Chair Vertz with Ms. Sher.
- Ms. Sher may be able to provide further insight on timing as well.

Chair Vertz thanked Director Svanstrom.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- Hears Chair Vertz's disappointment over the public art app in terms of it not matching her initial vision.
- The public art app is a wonderful project as it is.
- She was initially thinking about including all of the neighborhood pockets and then let that go.
- Florence Avenue already exists, it is known, and there is no way to stop that and so it is included by mouth and is the realm of being unspoken.
- The app will grow.
- Limiting art featured in the app to that which is on public property will make it less, but it is still great.

Chair Vertz noted that artwork on private property is also featured, just not Florence Avenue.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked if neighbors have to be checked with for art on private property before it can be featured on the app.

Chair Vertz and Director Svanstrom responded that no, neighbors do not have to grant permission for them to be featured on the app if they are on private property by publicly viewable per the city attorney.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- The primary objection from the residents on Florence Avenue has to do with increased traffic along their street and they have had a lot of vehicle traffic and are very sensitive to that and that it is probably exacerbated a bit by people driving very slowly to look at art without getting out of their cars.
- The city attorney's determination was that it can be featured if it's not copyrighted and can be viewed from a public right-of-way.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Would like to have some kind of direction here in terms of Mr. Kahn.
- Should he keep trying to get somewhere with Mr. Kahn?

Chair Vertz commented:

- Committee Member Arnold's radical idea about starting over sounds great seeing as how it has been 4 or 5 years that we've been waiting for this.

Committee Member Arnold commented that it has probably been longer than that.

Chair Vertz commented:

- It has exhausted itself.
- Reiterated her support for the idea of scrapping the project and starting over.

Committee Member Langberg commented:

- Going back to the artist relief effort that the Committee is doing right now, Mr. Kahn is not an artist in need of relief.
- Giving the opportunity for a public art piece to someone else would be great.
- Mr. Kahn is about to have a bigger art piece in downtown Sebastopol.
- Suggested that the Committee give Mr. Kahn a timeline to respond, after which point if he does not, the Committee can move on.

Committee Member Arnold expressed support for that approach.

Director Svanstrom commented:

- If that is the direction, she and Committee Member Arnold should work together because the City has a contract with him so we would need to see how to extinguish that contract and any required notification that may be in the contract.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Mr. Kahn has basically bailed out because he cannot afford to do the project for $50,000.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:

- The Committee discussed other options, but it sounds like something is going on for Mr. Kahn also.
- Supports providing Mr. Kahn with a reasonable timeline.
- Mr. Kahn may want to drop the project himself.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Mr. Kahn said he was open to ideas but until we meet, we cannot even explore ideas.
- Suggested giving Mr. Kahn a month, if the Committee wants to, to start meeting and talking about this.

Chair Vertz commented:

- Just so everybody is clear as one or two members were not on the Committee when this proposal first came through.
- The Committee offered a $45k grant for a public art project.
- This was never going to be a $45k project for Mr. Kahn.
- For Mr. Kahn to say that he cannot do this project for $50k is different than what the reality was.
- The reality was that Mr. Kahn proposed a piece that was going to cost about $100k and Mr. Kahn offered to cover the difference.
- At this point Mr. Kahn cannot cover the rest that he was saying he would.
- Mr. Kahn was never going to do this project for just $50k.
- This should be a big learning lesson for us all.
- We need to get people who can stick within the budget that the Committee is offering.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:

- Committee Member Arnold brought up the option of having Mr. Kahn do something different.
- If there is any way for him to do anything that could fit in some way and could work that should be presented as an option for Mr. Kahn.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Mr. Kahn is too busy with other projects and may not have the time and/or energy for this Committee anymore.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented that maybe he will at some other time then.

Committee Member Arnold commented:

- Maybe at some other time.
- That is why he feels they should just move on.
- Mr. Kahn would really love to do something for the city but so much has changed in the past year, everything has changed.
- Would like to find out from Mr. Kahn whether he really wants to proceed with this or if he would rather drop it within the next month or so.
- The City cannot force Mr. Kahn to fulfill the contract.
- The cost of materials along is $200k.

Chair Vertz asked Committee Member Arnold if he would be willing to go over the contract with Director Svanstrom to see how we could go about discussing this with Mr. Kahn and if there would be a few regulations in terms of timeframe, etc.

Committee Member Arnold stated that Mr. Kahn cannot fulfill the contract so it would seem to be something that Director Svanstrom and the City Manager should discuss.

Director Svanstrom responded that that would seem like an appropriate next step and noted that the Committee seemed to be in consensus on giving Mr. Kahn a month to respond.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- Thanked Chair Vertz for the background.
- Asked if Mr. Kahn has received any partial payments thus far?

Director Svanstrom responded that no, Mr. Kahn has not submitted any invoices although he has spent funds with his engineers on this.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- Thanked Director Svanstrom for that information.
- Given the difficulty Committee Member Arnold has had in getting a response from Mr. Kahn, if the Committee makes a motion to give him a month extension, how does the Committee know Mr. Kahn will even respond to that?

Chair Vertz noted that it is 11:58 a.m.

Committee Member Arnold reiterated the recent difficulty he has had in connecting with Mr. Kahn although that has not always been the case.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- An official communication should be sent.
- If he does not respond within a month then we could proceed with next steps.
- It is important to always communication with appreciation.

Committee Member Arnold responded:
- Yes, of course.
- Mr. Kahn is a friend.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen responded that she was talking about the City.

Committee Member Stucker made a motion for the Committee to give Mr. Kahn a one month extension, upon expiration of that one month, if Mr. Kahn is not moving forward, the Committee could open this up to other artists and their potential installations.

Committee Member Arnold responded that he could not go for that because Mr. Kahn would be moving forward with a new project, not the original one.

Committee Member Stucker amended his motion for the Committee to give Mr. Kahn a one month extension to begin communication on a new project, upon expiration of that one month, if Mr. Kahn is not moving forward, the Committee could open this up to other artists and their potential installations.

Committee Member Arnold responded that any formal communication on this should come from Director Svanstrom, not him.

Director Svanstrom responded:
- Committee Member Arnold has been very gracious in helping to coordinate with Mr. Kahn.

- She can communicate with Mr. Kahn via email, as she has been coordinating with him during the Caltrans permitting process, and let him know that the PAC would like to hear from him on the status of his public art project within the next month and that if he doesn't get back to them within the next month the City is looking to move on.
- Because this is kind of a big deal, she would like to put this as an official item on the next PAC agenda if Mr. Kahn declines.

Committee Member Arnold expressed support for that approach.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen commented:
- When will that one month begin?
- Perhaps it should begin from the date that Director Svanstrom emails him about it.

Director Svanstrom commented:
- If staff emails Mr. Kahn today or tomorrow, the Committee could act on it at their October 7 or November 4 meeting, which ever the Committee prefers.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen asked if the motion should be seconded.

Chair Vertz commented that she did not understand why a motion to talk to Mr. Kahn is needed.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
After hearing what Director Svanstrom said he was going to withdraw his motion because it sounds like the City is going to try to hear from Mr. Kahn first.

Chair Vertz commented:
- Before the Committee votes on anything she would like to hear from Mr. Kahn first because the Committee has had a huge relationship with him.

The Committee agreed on not moving on a motion at this time.

Director Svanstrom noted that she would be reaching out to Mr. Kahn as discussed.

Vice Chair Mills-Thysen noted that the agenda for the next meeting should include the sculpture garden item.

Chair Vertz asked for a Planning Department report from Director Svanstrom.

Director Svanstrom updated the Committee on the following:
- Recent Council actions related to Covid-19.
- The City has a new interim Police Chief, Don Mort.
  - Greg Devore returned to his role as Lieutenant.
  - The recruitment for Police Chief is ongoing as it has been disrupted quite a bit due to the pandemic.
- The City has sent two engines and eight firefighters to assist with the Walbridge fire.

Committee Member Stucker commented:
- Still interested in adding his handprint to the BLM mural in the plaza.
- Asked Director Svanstrom if the balance of the Art In-Lieu Fund could be included at the beginning of each agenda?

Director Svanstrom responded:

- The balance does not change that much because unless money is being spent it is a pretty stable account.
- Suggested that that be done quarterly instead and noted that she could provide the balance after the next meeting as the Council should have the new budget adopted by then.

Committee Member Stucker responded that that would be excellent and thanked Director Svanstrom.

Chair Vertz commented:

- Spoke with the BLM Visibility Team about a date that would work for adding handprints to the mural in the plaza.
- Members of the team have recently returned to school via zoom.
- The team wants to be present to meet members of the Committee and they have some additional people who would like to add their handprint as well.
- It may be in another week or two.
- Offered to email Director Svanstrom the date, once agreed upon, to send out to members of the Committee.

Director Svanstrom responded that Chair Vertz could email the Committee directly with that invite as it does not have anything to do with pending PAC items.

7. PLANNING DEPARTMENT REPORT (Update on Future Agendas, Action of Other Boards and City Council)

8. ADJOURNMENT: Committee Member Arnold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Committee Member Stucker seconded the motion. Chair Vertz adjourned the meeting of the Sebastopol Public Arts Committee at 12:06 p.m. The next special Public Arts Committee meeting will be held on October 07, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kari Svanstrom
Planning Director