

Cultural Council

OF GREATER JACKSONVILLE

MORE ART. MORE CULTURE. MORE PLACES.

COURTHOUSE PLAZA ART SELECTION PANEL

Meeting Minutes (Pending Approval)

Tuesday, August 23, 2022 4:00 - 5:30 PM

LINK: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87590455324>, Meeting ID: 875 9045 5324 | PHONE: +1 646 558 8656

In-Person: Kimberly Kim (Chair), Judge Tatiana Salvador, Chris Flagg, Lori Boyer, Teresa Eichner

Online: Caitlín Doherty, Ann-Marie Knight, Judge Dawn Hudson

Absent: *None*

In-Person Guests: Diana Donovan (Executive Director), Michele D. Lee (Interim Public Art Director), Ashley Wolfe (Project Manager) Joelle Dillard (OGC).

Online Guests: Cliff Garten (Presenting Artist), Yvette Angelique Hyater-Adams and Tim Gilmore (Artist Collaborators)

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER, *Kimberly Kim* at 4:14 PM

- **Stated Purpose of Meeting:**

Chair Kimberly Kim provides a Statement of Purpose to the Art Selection Panel (ASP) that on May 21, 2021, this ASP, voted to approve the selection of artist Cliff Garten. This Art Selection Panel is gathered today to review and approve the Final Design Package titled "These Truths: Voices of Jacksonville", which now includes the additional Text Content to be reflected in the design of the sculpture so as to proceed to fabrication.

PUBLIC COMMENT- *None*

PROJECT ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, & BACKGROUND

- **Art in Public Places Committee (APPC) Roles & Responsibilities, *Cory Driscoll***

Cory Driscoll, APPC Chair provides the ASP with the toles and responsibilities of the APPC and confirms that the Art Selection Panel (ASP) process was compliant to their stated role in Ordinance Chapter 126 Part 9. The APPC's sole role is to ensure that the ASP's selection is honored and the ASP's process is compliant.

- **Cultural Council Roles & Responsibilities, *Cory Driscoll***

Cory Driscoll also states that the CCGJ staff administratively supports the ASP and are responsible for the art installation management.

- **Art Selection Panel Roles & Responsibilities, *Cory Driscoll***

Cory Driscoll articulates that the ASP's review today will determine one of three of the following outcomes:

1. If Final Design is approved, we move forward to APPC approval of the ASP process on September 14, 2022.
2. If Final Design is approved contingent on modifications, CCGJ staff will ensure modifications are made and meet the ASP's requirements; we move forward to APP Committee approval of the ASP process on September 14, 2022.

3. If Final Design is **NOT** approved, Cliff Garten has the remainder of the week to make modifications to meet the ASP's requirements. An ASP meeting will be scheduled between September 1-7th for approval; and then we move forward to APPC approval of the ASP process on September 14, 2022.

- **Artist Roles & Responsibilities, Cory Driscoll**

Cory Driscoll expands on the Artist's role and responsibilities that the Artist is responsible for the Text Content that is presented in the Final Design. The Artist sub-contracted separately from the Cultural Council with local writers/editors and poets. The Artist is also responsible for the management and payment to the subcontractors. The Final Design will be viewed as the artist's work and reviewed and approved by the Courthouse Plaza Public ASP. The Artist is contracted with the Cultural Council. Therefore, the Artist is responsible for the representation and presentation of the Final Design Package. A full list of the Artist's responsibilities are provided to the ASP in the distributed Prj. Overview for Final Design Eval.)

- **Project Updates & Overview, Diana Donovan**

Executive Director Diana Donovan describes that between our previous meeting and today, the following items have been accomplished:

1. Sub-Contracted Artists
2. Budget increase
3. Resurgence of Pandemic
4. Subcommittee Process
5. Evaluation Criteria and Evaluation Mechanism

EVALUATION CRITERIA OVERVIEW,

- **Stakeholders Vision, Project Goals, Call to Artists, Michele D. Lee**

Interim Director Michele D. Lee addresses the ASP that the Call to Artists was developed based on the Stakeholder's Vision Presentation and provides parameters around the project for artists to respond to. The Stakeholder's Vision Presentation was gleaned from several public engagement opportunities including public meetings and a Design Charette hosted by the Cultural Council that invited artists, architects, urban planners, and the public to offer their ideas for this civic space. The Stakeholders Vision states that the Duval County Courthouse Plaza project will transform the three-acre lawn in front of the courthouse into a safe active urban park with multiple spaces for small events, free speech and sculptures. The entire plaza will be a dignified, memorable and iconic work of art with artist-designed elements such as lighting. The new artwork should succeed visually, environmentally and spatially for pedestrians.

- **Introduction of Cliff Garten Michele D. Lee**

Michele d. Lee states that Cliff Garten will now present his Final Design of "These Truths: Voices of Jacksonville" that include the Text Content to be reflected in the sculpture. Once the Final Design Package review has commenced, Cliff may allow his subcontractors to present for 2-3 mins. to share additional insights on the Text Content development. She also states that the updated content that the ASP will be reviewing today are:

1. Bio of Andres Rojas replacing Sohrab Homi Fracis
2. Text Content language for each "ribbon"
3. Inclusion of the Text Content reflected on the "ribbons" of the Design Layout.

PRESENTATION OF TEXT CONTENT FOR FINAL DESIGN, *Cliff Garten*

Cliff Garten introduces the Artist's Team and that it's important to note that this project is a collaboration and this place is important in that it represents the democratic process that should be carried out in this facility. The Call was difficult in that there were security concerns and the sculpture could not be an object that someone could hide behind. The design of the sculpture still needed to adhere to structural wind load requirements that could withstand a hurricane. Strong day and night presence and serves as an entry to the courthouse. Illuminated from the ground up, the lightbox of the words "Equality", "Justice", "Equity", and "Freedom". At certain points of the day, the sun will cast shadows onto the ground of text. A phase 2 design was required from the Call to Artists in the event that funding become available to carry out. Monuments that defined our democracy and public places which are being removed--who gets to decide that. And if we are removing them, who gets to decide on what replaces those monuments?

Local Artists selected to aid in development of the overall design including the Text Content and why Cliff selected these artists. The literary community in Jacksonville is very strong and Cliff wanted to engage the "voices" of the writers who represent the public, the voices of Jacksonville to create and develop words of hope about democracy. What it is and what it can be. Much text was generated, what we are seeing today is what was selected through the editing process. Proposed Text Content assigned to each "ribbon" and location of Text Content applied in the design's layout. These following sections correspond to the labels that appear with the text:

1. Tail
2. Foyer
3. Light Box
4. Back Porch
5. Spiral

Yvette Angelique Hyater-Adams speaks about the process and Tim Gilmore adds that he loves the way that text interacts with community and the writers were all very conscious of a place with a history and a place that in 75 years people will still be reading this text and the choice in text needs a relevance to it to continue to be accessible and inspiring.

ASP Q&A

1. Lori Boyer recalls the ASP meeting on 5/21/21, we talked alot about the medium-sized text, "we hold these truths to be evident..." the suggested text on the tail and foyer, are you eliminating the historical document.
 - Cliff states that the inspired text is located on the spiral coming out of the ground.
 - Tim Gilmore asks if Lori is referring to the image that uses origins historical text. That was used to show how the text could look on the sculpture and so the Jax writers would come up with the actual text on the sculpture.
 - Cliff states that it was suggested, and we responded that we would use it in the piece but it wasn't something that could be quoted in the artwork. The artwork is about the larger view of democracy.
 - Lori articulated that she thought we were going to have specific language taken from the Declaration and then having contemporary responses, but we have a contemporary interpretation of the declaration.

2. Caitlin Doherty remembers the same discussion, the historical text coming from the ground and then moving into the contemporary responses. From an artistic perspective, this is a beautiful response and appreciates the key words as a touch point throughout the overall text. My question: when we see the bullet points, will they be bulleted?
 - Cliff states that during this process we didn't know how the text would be applied on the design. He confirms that they are one line of text into another and a great deal of thought went into how each sentence moves into another. The capital letters coming from the ground on the spiral will be capital letters as a visual device.

Caitlin asks further if the text is an amalgam of all the text work submitted.

- Yvette responds that the majority are individual pieces that are strung together, except in the lightbox.

Caitlin lately inquires how the collaborators will be represented?

- Cliff states, Cliff as artist, and the others listed as poets as a collaborative piece. And this is a model of how community engagement can inform the development of a public monument. Call and response in the same way Jazz is made. Why we didn't quote exactly, "These truths which..." the precise way that it reads didn't move fluidly with the way people were responding poetically.

3. Chris Flagg asks about a structural item, the lightness of the ribbon is about the elegance of the design, the vertical support, was there any experimentation on the supports to minimize the supports to add to the elegance of the form
 - Cliff responds that it's a challenge to engineer to meet structural needs. Needing more steel in the box to provide more rigidity.
4. Caitlin Doherty inquires if we are reviewing a new budget? The \$500,000 there was a \$1,250 fee per poet. If there is a reevaluation of the budget, she advocates for considering an increase in payment to the poets invoiced.
 - Cliff states that more public funding was found and added to the budget and he will provide a new itemized budget to Cultural Council staff.

ART SELECTION PANEL EVALUATION, ASP

- Evaluation Criteria & Evaluation Score Sheet, **Ashley Wolfe**

Ashley Wolfe explains the Evaluation Criteria and Evaluation Scoring Sheet are based on the Call to Artists which provided the parameters of the project scope. The ASP will be evaluating the Text Content as reflected in the Final Design presentation and scoring the Evaluation statements using a Likert Scale (1-5 from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree).
1. Caitlin asks if the metrics the final process meets a certain total amount? Does this presentation meet the original criteria that was previously voted upon?
 - Diana says this is a piloted evaluation proposed to be used today, there are three options:
 - a. Approved
 - b. Approved contingent on modifications
 - c. Not approved
 - Cory adds that the Text subcommittee group does not follow the ordinance and are not an official group, but any member of the ASP can propose a contingency and the group can consider.

- Cliff adds that he asked for a sub committee to review the text to aid in the recommendation of approval to the ASP. A lot of work has gone into this and we just want to move to approval. This process wasn't clear from the beginning. We have created a very unique process and it is very challenging.
2. Tatiana Salvador thanks Cliff and the writers' collaborators for your hard work. The ASP has been under the impression that there would be some direct quotes from the country's foundational documents. She doesn't want to not approve this design, but cannot approve as it is right here and now.
 3. Chris Flagg adds that the structural process of this project is good. Can we vote to approve contingent of a re-review of the text
 4. Tim Gilmore replies that he was there at the original presentation and recalls the discussion from 5/21/21. As it appeared in that image, that was an example of how the text could look in the sculptural design. Never had the understanding that it was a requirement in the final design.
 5. Kimberly Kim acknowledges there was a miscommunication and we need to motion to approve on contingency or not approve.
 6. Teresa requests the recording of the last meeting and meeting minutes from the staff.
 7. Ann Marie Knight also request that the staff make criteria more clear based on CTA. Diana reiterates the a,b,c, approach of voting.
 8. Caitlin Doherty believes that there should not be a motion presented at this meeting and give the ASP more time with the proposed text.
 9. Cliff Garten wants to know if the only problem is that the foundational texts are not represented? While Kimberly Kim states that the ASP needs more time to give Cliff a clear directive
 10. Judge Hudson acknowledges Cliff's willingness to work on this and is confident in the process set forth.

ACTION ITEMS - VOTING, *None at this time*

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT, *None*

In closing, the Culutral Council staff will send a follow up email that includes all audio and minutes from the May 21, 2021 and today's meeting as well as an additional email with a new Doodle Poll to schedule a meeting with ASP and artist to discuss and establish evaluation criteria for approving the Final Design.

ADJOURNMENT, Kimberly Kim at 5:51 PM