

BCA Public Art Committee Minutes
Tuesday, April 4, 2023 5PM
Zoom Meeting
BCA Center, 135 Church Street

Committee Members: Patrick Shank, Milton Rosa-Ortiz, Deb Wilkinson, Charles Dillard, Sophie Sauve

Staff: Colin Storrs, Sara Katz, Doreen Kraft

Meeting called to order at 5:05

1. Public Forum
 - a. No members of the public present.
2. Review the Public Art Review Panels selection for the Great Streets Initiative: Main Street Project.
3. The Public Art Committee is meeting for a second time to review an updated recommendation of selection from the Public Art Review Panel for the Main Street project.
 - a. Background was given explaining that the Public Art Committee met on March 20th to review preliminary Public Art Panel selections. Following that meeting an internal staff conversation discussed that the demographics of the selected artists were very similar. BCA's Executive Director recommended meeting with REIB Director Kim Carson, who recommended taking a pause and reconvening the selection committee. She was invited to the beginning of the meeting to provide some context on why its helpful to take a pause when you feel outcomes don't match up with intentions. Without taking a pause, systems will inevitably continue to keep opportunities less accessible to marginalized individuals, which includes many artists. A significant take-away on equity in this process was the protracted timeline that may favor artists and studios who have experience with proposals of this scale.
 - b. The Public Art Selection Panel appreciated the additional time allotted to extend the review process given the breadth of the criteria and the complexity of the budget puzzle. In their next review meeting, they developed two selection rosters to be put to a vote of the full panel. The panel voted on their preferred option, which now needs the public art committee to vote on a recommendation of the roster to the full board.
4. Review of selection process:
 - a. 138 submissions for qualifications were received in response to the Call to Artists issued on November 1, 2022.

- b. A 9 member Public Art Review Panel (PARP) comprised of Burlington residents, business owners, artists, project design consultants and city project staff reviewed the submissions and selected 15 finalist artists/artists teams.
 - c. Artists/artists teams developed engineerable proposals and each presented to the PARP in a 20 minute increments on two separate days.
 - d. The PARP met on March 17 and made an initial selection of artists. After meeting again on March 24, they updated two rosters and voted on a final selection that week.
5. Recommendation
- a. The Public Art Committee's charge is to review how the selections contribute to a diverse collection of Public Art, taking into consideration back ground of the artists, a diversity of materials. The pieces are meant to reflect a wide range of sizes to the way the public interacts with them. All the pieces are designed with the Main Street project in mind, including safety concerns. The exact location of each piece is yet to be determined by the artist in collaboration with the design team.
 - b. Patrick Shank moved to accept the updated artist selection and artworks proposed by the public art selection panel from the March 24th meeting.
 - i. Milton Seconded – unanimous vote in favor.
6. A Committee member asked if the insights that Kim shared could be shared with all. BCA intends to incorporate what was learned into further public art review panels.
7. Adjourned 5:40

BCA's mission is to nurture a dynamic environment through the arts that makes quality experiences accessible regardless of economic, social or physical constraints. We do this by:

- Supporting and promoting Vermont artists and advancing the creation of new work
- Offering a wide spectrum of arts education and engagement opportunities
- Presenting exhibitions and events that place Burlington in a global context, promote critical dialogue and encourage local participation
- Serving as the City of Burlington's cultural planner by making the arts integral to the area's economic and civic development, urban design, and livability.