

Minutes of the Bellaire Cultural Arts Board (BCAB) Meeting

July 15, 2015

Meeting Called to order at 6:30pm by Chair Terry Leavitt-Chavez with a quorum.

Board members present: Terry Leavitt-Chavez, Andy Williamson, Jacquelyn Quick, Jennifer Hawes, Jane Williams and Diane White.

Others present: None

Board members absent: Gus Pappas, Lisa Risoli

II. Action Item:

A. Appointment of Board Officers

The following positions were appointed (proposed by Jacquelyn Quick and seconded by Jennifer Hawes)

Chair = Terry Leavitt-Chavez

Vice-Chair = Jennifer Hawes

Secretary = Andy Williamson

Assistant Secretary = Jane Williams

B. Adoption of Minutes

Last month's minutes were approved (proposed by Jacquelyn Quick and seconded by Jennifer Hawes)

III. Forum For Comments:

- None.

IV. Business Items:

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION ON

- **A. Metro Bus Shelters;** Chair - Terry Leavitt-Chavez provided a schedule of bus shelters in Bellaire (15 in total). Further discussion surrounded exactly how they should be decorated. Jacquelyn Quick wondered if they could be painted / wrapped similar to the utility box project. Jennifer Hawes mentioned a faux-wooden design used in Galveston. Recognizing budgetary constraints, Terry Leavitt-Chavez proposed that the two shelters located closest to Evelyn's Park (Bellaire / Newcastle / Mulberry) might be the most logical starting place and there may be some surplus funds in the Evelyn's Park project to help pay for them. Also, the architects might be able to do a quick "mock up" of a shelter design as part of their initial work on the Evelyn's Park project. Terry committed to raise this topic with the Conservancy Board to which she has recently been appointed.

- **B. Utility boxes;** Chair – Terry Leavitt-Chavez summarized the Board's progress on this subject to-date for the benefit of new member, Jane Williams. Jane mentioned that she was familiar with this concept as a relative of hers had been involved in a similar project in Georgetown (in that case "wraps" – estimated cost about \$ 300[?]). Terry then tabled the idea that perhaps we should consider "Up Art", the group who are [partly] responsible for the City of Houston's utility-box art program, to be eligible for the Bellaire program. The Board felt this was a good idea and might expedite the project which otherwise is not scheduled for completion until 2016. It was concluded that we would commission one utility box initially (the Bissonnet / Metro location) with a possible "azalea" theme and would request an Up Art representative to attend our August board meeting (Terry Leavitt-Chavez to arrange). Cost is estimated at about \$ 2,000[?] (provided under \$ 3,000 the contract is not required to be tendered). By only commissioning one box, the initial cost is limited and will enable us to gauge the popularity of and reaction to this piece of art before determining the strategy for additional [6] boxes throughout the City. At that time we can decide whether to give further work to Up Art or extend it to local Bellaire artists as originally tabled.
- **C. Seasonal Banners defining Bellaire;** Chair – Terry Leavitt-Chavez raised this topic as a means of "defining" Bellaire (especially along Bissonnet and Bellaire Boulevard) and bringing art and "branding" into the City. Banners were hung from the lamp-posts during the Centennial, featuring the Bellaire trolley-car. Diane White informed the Board that in fact the new City budget included a line item for 4 "seasonal banners" which the Board would have the responsibility of designing / facilitating. A budget of \$ 16,000 is tabled for 2016 [for 21 locations] and it is scheduled to go before Council on September 14th.
- **D. Artist Data-Base / Registry Link;** Terry Leavitt-Chavez and Diane White urged members to "test" the link Diane had sent us to make sure it was robust enough in all fields.....including up-loading images of art!
- **E. Temporary Fence Art in Evelyn's Park and Spin-Art on July 4th;** Terry Leavitt-Chavez thanked members who had helped with the "fence art" project in Evelyn's Park and the July 4th spin-art for kids. She showed a picture of the fence which has now been established in Evelyn's Park. Looks good!! At the next City public event we should consider broadening the art participation (how about sand art and spin art?)

V. New Business / August Agenda Items

None at this time.

VI. Comments from Board Members

VII. Adjournment - Call to close (Jacquelyn Quick), motion seconded (Jane Williams). Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.