

Minutes of the Bellaire Cultural Arts Board (BCAB) Meeting

April 12, 2017

I. Action Item:

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm by Terry Leavitt-Chavez with a quorum.

Board members present: Terry Leavitt-Chavez, Andy Williamson, Diane Roberts, Jacquelyn Quick, Sneha Bhavsar, Shampa Mukerji

Others present: Diane White, Asst. City Manager and Michael Fife, Board Liaison, City Council. Robert Riquelmy and Liz Rich.

Board members absent: None

II. Action Item:

Adoption of Minutes. Minutes dated March 8, 2017 were approved (motion proposed by Jacquelyn Quick, seconded by Sneha Bhavsar and approved unanimously by the Board).

III. Forum for Public Comments:

Robert Riquelmy stated his view that a mosaic in the floor of the new City Hall Building would be appropriate and also expressed a view that "power and responsibility" should be a theme for other art in the new municipal buildings.

IV. Business Items:

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION ON

- Ø **A. Utility Box on Bissonnet / Bellaire St** – The Board considered again the alternative designs for the utility box at the captioned location. Having viewed an image of a similar piece painted by the proposed artist of the utility box in question, **a motion was proposed by Andy Williamson, seconded by Jacquelyn Quick and unanimously approved by the Board to commission a painting featuring one large butterfly on a floral background [both back and front] substantially in the form of the rendering provided.** The next utility box approved under the original motion is located at Evergreen and South Rice St. As previously discussed, this location is somewhat different to the others in that it is within the City Easement but on / near private property. In view of this, **a motion was proposed by Andy Williamson, seconded by Jacquelyn Quick and unanimously approved by the Board to propose an amendment to the existing approval and switch the location of the box to be painted from Evergreen and South Rice St to the box located on the southern end of Paseo Park.**
- Ø **B. Utility Box Paintings for Newcastle / Bellaire and Mulberry / Bellaire St** - Terry Leavitt-Chavez reported that there are six more utility boxes [owned by AT&T] in the vicinity of Evelyn's Park [on City property / right of way] which may be candidates for painting. AT&T does not object to the painting but will not sponsor them and there is no more funding available

from this year's City Council budget. Up-Art has quoted \$ 12,500 to paint all six boxes. **Sneha Bhavsar proposed a motion, seconded by Andy Williamson and unanimously approved by the Board to extend the utility box program to the AT&T boxes in the proximity of Evelyn's Park at Newcastle / Mulberry and Bellaire St. under the premise that BCAB will liaise with Evelyn's Park Conservancy and such other groups to look into securing funding for the project.**

- Ø **C. Pianos on Parade;** Terry Leavitt-Chavez reported that her contact had not returned a number of calls and so there had been no further developments.
- Ø **D. Open the Door Project with Brownie Troop 147032 –** Terry Leavitt-Chavez reported that a recent event in Paseo Park where the Brownie Troop painted their own "mini-doors" was a great success.
- Ø **E. Banners –** Terry Leavitt-Chavez noted that some of the banners had been dislodged by the weather over the Winter and others appeared to be missing. Apparently the banners are meant to be "hurricane-proof" and those truly damaged by weather within a year will likely be replaced by Kronburg Flags [or other supplier] free of charge. It is not clear why some are missing. Once taken down, the Winter banners should be placed in storage for re-use. Diane White reported that the Spring / Summer banners [already approved by the BCAB] will be put up shortly.
- Ø **F. Up-coming Events –** Terry Leavitt-Chavez ran through the schedule of events for the year at which the Board should be well represented..... Evelyn's Park grand-opening; July 4th spin-art; monthly concerts on the Great Lawn [next may 5th].....can we organize a table representing the Board?; pumpkin pictures [around Halloween; and Holiday in the Park in December. April 17th is an important Council meeting as the new City Hall building and funding should be approved.

V. New Business / May Agenda Items

- Representative from "Painted Pianos" to present to Board [if contactable]
- Board should consider program / process for determining timing / artwork to be incorporated into changeable / temporary art installations in new City Hall
- Board should consider broader cultural events. Consider the possibility of a joint / co-operative event with Condit / Bellaire HS along the lines of the International Festival.....food, dance, dress[?].....perhaps to coincide with new City hall opening.
- walking tour (Sneha Bhavsar)
- Consider a new design for the banner program.
- Council Budget meeting is June 15th 2017

VI. Comments from Board Members

VII. Adjournment - Motion to close (Jacquelyn Quick), seconded (Diane Roberts) and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andy Williamson

Next Meeting: May 10, 2017