

MEMORANDUM

TO: Roger L. Stancil, Town Manager

FROM: Jeffrey York, Public Arts Administrator
Ray "Butch" Kisiah, Jr., Director of Parks & Recreation

SUBJECT: Prototype Artwork Designs for Greenways

DATE: January 11, 2010

PURPOSE

The purpose of this presentation and report is to update the Town Council on the completed residency and design proposals for the prototype artwork planned for selected areas of the Morgan, Bolin and Dry Creek Trail Extension Projects.

BACKGROUND

On December 8, 2008, Town Council approved a contract with Alvin Frega, artist, for the Greenways Trail Extension Percent for Art Project (attached). The contract was executed January 29, 2009. The contract included the follow provisions:

The artist shall conduct an 80- hour residency with Town staff, appropriate commissions, the public, and the contracted landscape architect firms, in order to prepare preliminary prototype design(s) and implement the those prototype design(s) in such a manner that the design can be replicated in the future by Town Staff.

Subsequently the artist met with all of the above groups and others; including individuals he engaged in conversation while walking on the existing trails. A public meeting was held on March 25, 2009 attended by about 30 individuals where specific values for the artworks were prioritized. Chief among them was that the art be functional, blend in with the environment, and make use of recycled materials or include a sense of environmental ethics. A second public meeting was held July 25, 2009 where the artist introduced some preliminary design ideas and received feed back from those in attendance. The artist then presented his re-worked design ideas to the Public Art Review Committee (PARC) on October 7, 2009 (attached). Written comments were made by the PARC concerning the initial design (attached).

After discussion and offering comments the committee made and unanimously adopted the following motions:

1. The committee recommends the artist proceed with designing concrete bench, sentinel, and bike rack to full scale mock-up.
2. The committee recommends the artist rethink and develop new concept visuals for signage and trail markers, with the possible incorporation of site based rock or wood as a medium for seating.

3. The committee recommends that the trash receptacle and planter designs be removed from consideration.

A similar review was made by the Public Arts Commission on November 11, 2009 where the artist's preliminary design ideas were unanimously endorsed. A review of the design ideas was also made by the Greenways Commission on December 2, 2009 and no additional feedback was received.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Frega's presentation to the Town Council will outline the residency portion of the project and his current design ideas for the Greenway's Prototypes. The presented designs are being recommended for further refinement, development, and implementation in accordance with the artist's contract.

NEXT STEPS

After tonight's presentation, Mr. Frega will continue to work with the Public Art Review Committee and appropriate town staff on the further refinement of his designs and the design development phase of the proposed prototype artworks including appropriate site recommendations along the trails based on the stages of work and review schedules contained in his contract.

RECOMMENDATION

No Council action is required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. December 8, 2008 Resolution Authorizing Contract (p. 3).
2. Public Art Review Committee Membership Roster (p. 4).
3. October 7, 2009 Public Art Review Committee Notes (p. 6).