

MINUTES
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
February 17, 2009

The Tarpon Springs Public Art Committee met in the Tarpon Springs Library Conference Room on Tuesday, February 17, 2009. Chairperson Marleen Gravitz called the meeting to order at 10:09AM. Board members present were Sue Geier, Barbara Schnipper, Mic Poppa, and June Fox. Also in attendance were Asst. City Attorney Shauna Morris, City Advisor Ginny Haller, City Liaison Debbie Stott, and our regular guest Vice Mayor Robin Saenger. Alternate Board members Maria Bobotas and Beverly Kurpinski were absent as was City Representative Director of Cultural and Civic Services Dr. Kathleen Monahan.

Chair Gravitz thanked everyone for their help and teamwork during the Focus Group meeting January 29th. She gave an overview of ideas/suggestions gathered during this meeting. In addition, she summarized another meeting she held with City staff recently about Public Art.

January 20th Committee meeting minutes were reviewed. Barbara Schnipper moved to approve, seconded by Sue Geier. Minutes were accepted and approved as presented. January 29th Focus meeting minutes were reviewed. Barbara Schnipper moved to accept with an amendment to add the six questions attendees were given for discussion. Sue Geier seconded. Minutes were approved and accepted as amended.

For Old Business Mrs. Gravitz provided a condensed version of input from both abovementioned Focus meetings "Major Roles for Public Art in Tarpon Springs". She also presented a draft for a "Tarpon Springs Public Art Mural Program". This information is to be incorporated in the final Master Plan. She reported that a local resident with art and computer expertise has volunteered to do the art inventory. Ordinance changes were finalized making this a five-member board with two alternates. There was no other Old Business.

New Business addressed additional info gathering meetings. The possibility of the committee taking a van tour of the City to look at existing as well as potential sites for art was discussed. Attorney Shauna Morris addressed Sunshine Law issues with an outing of this nature. Everyone was asked to gather ideas and identify places to go on tour. Tentatively, the April 21st Committee meeting will do the tour as part of an extended meeting. Discussion ensued about fundraising and public art educational events.

Mrs. Gravitz announced she has a meeting scheduled April 23rd with Leepa-Ratner for their input and art ideas. She also advised that she wants the Master Plan ready by June to present to the BOC. Barbara Schnipper said she thought the Jan. 29th meeting was very successful and felt those attending had a sense of "pride in community". Robin Saenger announced she plans to meet with the new TSHS Art Conservatory for the purpose of getting them involved with the City's art efforts as well as Leepa-Ratner's. Ms. Saenger is also working on several community outreach projects including "artists in residence". Ginny Haller addressed identifying specific gateways to Tarpon.

With no further comments or business the meeting adjourned at 11:50am.