

CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE  
Minutes – September 20, 2011

The Tarpon Springs Public Art Committee (TSPAC) met in the Tarpon Springs Public Library conference room on September 20, 2011. Members Barbara Schnipper, Maria Bobotas, Lynn Pierson, Georgia Post, and Rene Torres were present. Also present were Planning and Zoning Director Renae Vincent, and City Liaison Denise Manning. Board members Marleen Gravitz and John Hoffman were absent, as was Director of Cultural and Civic Services Kathy Monahan. There were no guests.

Barbara Schnipper called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Maria Bobotas made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 16th TSPAC meeting; Lynn Pierson seconded the motion; all were in favor.

City Updates:

Ms. Bobotas suggested that the TSPAC send a courtesy letter to the organization constructing an indoor batting cage on Alternate 19 north of Klosterman Avenue to aesthetically enhance the building through landscaping or other means. Because the area is outside City limits and perhaps a design plan is already in place, Denise Manning will research the details and report back to the TSPAC at November's meeting.

Sunset Beach Trash Receptacles: Ms. Pierson made a motion that the TSPAC wishes to decline involvement in artistic enhancement of Sunset Beach trash cans. While the TSPAC is happy to be included in City department planning, the TSPAC has to be selective with its use of resources and would like to focus on more expressive urban furnishings. Maria Bobotas seconded the motion; all were in favor. Ms. Manning will respond to the Sanitation Department.

**Project Updates:**

Plein Air Event: Ms. Pierson provided an update on planning and preparation for the first annual Paint and Photo Tarpon Springs – A Plein Air Event. Judges have been selected, additional donations and supporters are being sought, press releases have gone out and the event is posted on Facebook. The recreation building in Craig Park will be used as back-up if a wetroom closer to downtown is not possible. Additional ideas to promote the event were discussed. Renae Vincent will forward to Ms. Manning contact information for the Pinellas County Economic Development publication.

Urban Furniture Installation: Ms. Vincent presented plans for the new City park on Safford and Live Oak, and offered other key locations in the City for public art installations. Ms. Vincent suggested that the TSPAC present proposed ideas and sites to the Technical Review Committee, and for installations within the historic district to the Heritage and Preservation Board. She also suggested placing proposed installations on the consent agenda for the Board of Commissioners before releasing calls to artists. She advised that she will help the TSPAC with approval processes.

Rene Torres inquired about future plans for the southeast corner of Pinellas and Tarpon Avenues. Ms. Pierson made a motion that the TSPAC discuss ideas to revise the use of the current parking area on Pinellas and Tarpon Avenues to include public art. Maria Bobotas seconded the motion; all were in favor. Discussion pursued regarding the best ways to present revised use plans to garner support from both the Board of Commissioners and the Merchants Association. The TSPAC was unanimously in favor of Mr. Torres discussing ideas with the City Manager.

Ms. Pierson announced upcoming Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art gallery openings and events. She reminded the TSPAC of the need to find links between the campus and downtown through public art. Ms. Pierson also announced a new artist will be displaying work at Artists' Faire and that a new photography gallery is opening on Tarpon Avenue and Hibiscus.

With no other announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were approved by the Tarpon Springs Public Art Committee.

*(Approved by the TSPAC and signed by Barbara Schnipper and Denise Manning on October 18, 2011)*