

CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE  
Minutes – October 19, 2010

The Tarpon Springs Public Art Committee (TSPAC) met in the Tarpon Springs Library Conference Room on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 with members Marleen Gravitz, Barbara Schnipper, Mic Poppa, Lynn Pierson, Maria Bobotas, and Georgia Post present. Also present were Director of Cultural and Civic Services Kathy Monahan, City Liaison Denise Manning, and regular guest Vice Mayor Robin Saenger. Board member Sue Geier was absent.

Chairperson Marleen Gravitz called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Maria Bobotas moved to accept the minutes of September 21<sup>st</sup> with one change; Barbara Schnipper seconded the motion; all were in favor.

The death of former Cultural Center employee Alice Miller was mentioned. A memorial service is planned at the Cultural Center on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Kathy Monahan is awaiting finalization of the Walmart deal before the City approaches Walmart regarding a public art contribution; although Dr. Monahan advised that a contractor bidding on the Walmart project did contact her office regarding the City's public art policy.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at 5:30 pm on October 20<sup>th</sup> for the Mother Meres mural. Following the ceremony a reception is planned at Studio 212. Barbara Schnipper made a motion to recommend to the City increased seating near the mural, as well as bicycle racks, scooter/motorcycle parking, and an additional decorative buffer in front of the mural. Lynn Pierson seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Project Updates:

**Sunburst Restoration:** The City decided to hire workers rather than using volunteers due to the need for scaffolding and liability issues. Liz Indianos is coordinating with Director of Public Works Tom Funcheon, and will submit an invoice to the TSPAC for her \$100 honorarium. A discussion ensued regarding maintenance of public artwork, and TSPAC's notification prior to any work being done.

**Signage for Individual Artworks:** The City advised that no plaques are planned for the Memorial Tree program due to expense. Ms. Gravitz suggested that the TSPAC's policy state that signage be designed with the same longevity as the artwork it represents. For example, a painted description for a painting.

**Welcome Mat Project:** Lynn Pierson moved that the Welcome Mat project be renamed on the One-Year Plan as the Community Outreach Project, with details yet to be determined, and a self-funded budget up to \$2,500; Maria Bobotas seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Logo Design Contest:** This project is postponed until after the Sunburst restoration; although the TSPAC decided to open the contest to all City residents with no age limit, in lieu of a call to artists. The logo contest will remain an agenda item for project updates.

The TSPAC discussed ways in which the group can interact with other local organizations. Ideas included inviting merchants, members of the historical society, Rotarians, Women's Club members, and others to act as art ambassadors. TSPAC members were encouraged to seize opportunities to present the TSPAC Master Plan to local groups.

Clearwater's Sculpture360 program was discussed as well as a recent TSPAC artist request for funding assistance for a Greek American monument in Tarpon. A note will be sent to the artist advising that he is on the TSPAC artist registry and will be included in future calls to artists.

Vice Mayor Saenger discussed ways that Tarpon strives to be a trauma-informed community and ideas for TSPAC to be involved in this initiative. She talked about CombatPaper.org that uses art to aid trauma recovery by recycling a returning veteran's uniform into paper with which the vet creates artwork to process post-traumatic stress. Trauma-informed initiatives will remain an agenda item to keep the discussion open.

Dr. Monahan announced that Hudson artist Leonard Lewis wishes to donate to the City his original, framed painting of the new Sunset Beach pavilion. After the meeting adjourns, the TSPAC will reconvene as a Jury for Consideration of Artwork Donations.

Final announcements included the Crab Fest to benefit the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and an old-fashioned Hootenanny scheduled at the Performing Arts Center on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Barbara Schnipper moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 am, Maria Bobotas seconded the motion; all were in favor.

*(Approved and signed by Marleen Gravitz and Denise Manning November 16, 2010)*