

MINUTES
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
September 15, 2009

The Tarpon Springs Public Art Committee met in the Tarpon Springs Friends of the Library Room on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 with members Marleen Gravitz, Barbara Schnipper, June Fox, Mic Poppa, and Maria Bobotas were present. Also present was City Staff Advisor Kathy Monahan and City Liaison Debbie Stott. Guests included City Manager Mark LeCouris, Lyn Trebrugge from Leepa Ratner, David Padilla from AG Development and Artist, Gary Bernardo. Absent were Board members Sue Geier and Beverly Kurpinski, Asst. City Attorney Shauna Morris, and City Advisor Ginny Haller.

Chairperson Marleen Gravitz called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. With respect for time, AG Development was invited to make their presentation before any other business. Mr. Bernardo advised that revised artwork as presented is work in color pencils; actual finished product will be of another medium and more color intense. It was noted that borders around the panels are not supposed to be continuous. The tower panel artwork revisions were reviewed. On the right panel, members requested the artist remove what looks like a divider wall in the bayou removed creating more space for darker blue water. In the same area, the artist suggested additional mangroves below Spoonbills. All agreed. On the left panel, it was requested the manatee be positioned so as not to appear sitting on the boat, to put more sunset colors in the sky behind the lighthouse, and change the boat name to "Tarpon Springs". Barbara Schnipper moved to accept artwork for panels as presented with above mentioned changes, Maria Bobotas seconded. All approved. Dr. Monahan will write a letter through Marleen Gravitz requesting this matter go before the Board of Commissioners for approval as a priority agenda item for either September 29th or October 6th, 2009 depending on which date AG Development is available as their representatives need to be at this meeting. All parties will be notified accordingly.

The August minutes were reviewed with one revision. Maria Bobotas moved to note in the minutes the committee's request for the name on the boat changed from Sara Jean to Tarpon Springs. Motion seconded by Mic Poppa. Minutes unanimously approved with revision.

The first 14 pages of the Master Plan were carefully reviewed. Changes, corrections and updates were noted. In this review, three words, "aesthetically and economically", were added to the Mission Statement; inserted between "community ... by sponsoring ...".

Since the remainder of this Plan as well as the Art Guidelines for Public Art need to be completed ASAP, City Manager Mark LeCouris suggested meeting again soon. September 29th was the agreed upon date with the meeting to be held at 2PM in the Library Conference Room. Everyone was reminded of the importance to attend.

New Business was introduction of the Planning and Redevelopment Focus Group. Mr. LeCouris explained the goals and objectives of this group. Mrs. Gravitz advised everyone that input as a committee member or City resident is welcome. This Focus Group composition specifies representation from the Public Art Committee. Since Beverly Kurpinski had previously expressed an interest in working with this group, Barbara Schnipper moved to appoint Beverly with Marleen Gravitz as our Alternate. Mic

Poppa seconded. All approved. It was noted, the Orientation date meeting is Tuesday, October 6, 2009 @ 6:30PM not October 7th.

Marleen Gravitz suggested members think about ways to promote the first “public artwork” unveiling at Meres Town Center. Barbara Schnipper showed pictures of Leepa Ratner’s involvement with highway memorial markers. Mrs. Gravitz reminded everyone of the next ArtWalk, Saturday October 10th. Debbie Stott said she would email everyone about revised meeting dates and locations.

With no further comments or business Maria Bobotas moved to adjourn, seconded by Barbara Schnipper. The meeting adjourned at 12:15PM.