

ART COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting Wednesday, February 24, 2016
Beginning at 2:05 p.m.

PRESENT OF THE COMMISSION: Indovina, Astorino, Moss, Slavick, Gable

PRESENT OF THE STAFF: Susan Tymoczko
Lisa Ray

AGENDA ITEMS COVERED IN THESE MINUTES

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A. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
No minutes

B. **Items for Review**

1. ***Butler Street Stormwater Planter Project (Conceptual Review)***

*Jen Kullgren, Tree Pittsburgh
Marua Egler, Lawrenceville United
Sarah Madden, Stormworks*

Kullgren gave overview of the project as a result of a grant awarded. The project will consist of five separate stormwater planters along Butler St., one will be on private property. The planters are intended to capture the first gallons of runoff from a roof, and the captured water will be used to irrigate the street trees. Educational signage will be placed on each planter and installation is planned for May 2016.

Egler gave presentation related to the outreach done to get this project underway. They had 5 businesses sign up to have a planter. They have received letter of support from Councilwoman Gross.

Madden spoke about the actual construction of the planters. The planter is a pressure treated lumber box with a pond liner to hold water. Inside of that will be an overflow pipe the roof runoff will go directly into the planter and it will tie back into the storm water system. There will also be an underdrain so the plants are not sitting in water. They will have a diverter to direct the flow during the winter months.

Megan Zeigler of PWSA also spoke in support of the project.

Moss stated that the concept is great but wanted to know how they will be built and how long they will last.

Egler stated they will be stained annually and have a 5-7 life span. They will have feet under them and will be leveled on property that is not leveled.

Indovina wanted to know who owns the planter and will there be any oversight.

Egler stated the property owner will own the planter and oversight will be on an individual basis.

Indovina also wanted to know who will replace the plants.

Madden stated the owners will.

Slavick wanted to know about the sign on the planter and will is be readable.

Egler stated that they are still in development process with the signage.

MOTION: Conceptual Review

MOVED BY	Slavick	SECONDED BY	Astorino
IN FAVOR	All		
OPPOSED	None		

CARRIED

2. Frick Environmental Center Construction (Courtesy Review)

Marijke Hecht, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

Susan Rademacher, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

Hecht gave an update on the project as promised. She gave final design details primarily on the watershed interactive sculpture and the photovoltaic array.

The Center will sit at its original location in Frick Park just off of Beechwood Boulevard. Frick Park is the largest park in the City of Pittsburgh. The park encompasses 644 acres of largely wooded, hilly terrain; the planned site for the new Center is in the park's northwestern corner. The new building will replace the old Environmental Center which burned in 2002. Frick Park is significant both for its historic design and ecological value. The original trails and formal entrances were designed by Innocenti and Webel; their design focused active uses of the park to its edges, creating a wooded interior with limited vehicular access.

The building and landscape of the new Environmental Center integrate innovative educational facilities, both indoor and outdoor, with a public park that is at once a complex ecosystem, historic landscape, and recreational property. The educational facility is approximately 15,500 square feet and includes two indoor classrooms, an outdoor classroom, a public 'living room', public reception area, restrooms, offices, and storage as well as other support facilities. A barn, of approximately 1,000 square feet, is also being constructed to serve the volunteer and outdoor educational programs.

D. Staff Report

Ms. Tymoczko reported that she received a late application from the Obama Academy for signage that must be put on next month's agenda for Final Approval because they must be installed in April in order for the Academy to receive the grant.

Mr. Gable reported that DPW is already working with the Pittsburgh Public Schools on this anticipated project.

Meeting Adjourned