

ART COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting Wednesday, July 27, 2016
Beginning at 2:04 p.m.

PRESENT OF THE COMMISSION: Indovina, Astorino, Moss, Slavick, Carlise,
Gastil

PRESENT OF THE STAFF: Susan Tymoczko
Lisa Ray

AGENDA ITEMS COVERED IN THESE MINUTES

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On motion Moss and seconded by Astorino the minutes May 25, 2016 and June 22, 2016 are approved. Roll Call, all ayes. Motion carried.

A. Items for Review

1. ***Community Day School Over-the-Sidewalk Banners (Conceptual and Final Review)***

*Sarah DeWitt, Community Day School
Jennifer Bails, Community Day School*

DeWitt gave a brief history of the School's 45th year Anniversary. They are requesting approval of the installation of 12 school identification banners on light poles along Forward and Beechwood surrounding the seven-acre campus of the School. The banners are double sided and measure 28"x48" to enhance school visibility.

She showed examples of the pole banners and will work with Duquesne Light to access the poles.

Moss asked about the colors.

DeWitt stated that they will alternate the blue and gold. They are working with Steven Schwartz and their maintenance staff will be hanging and maintaining the the banners.

Indovina asked who will maintain these banners.

DeWitt stated that the school will maintain the banners.

Carlise asked if they have contact DPW.

DeWitt stated that they have been in contact with them

MOTION: Conceptual and Final Review

MOVED BY Slavick
IN FAVOR All
OPPOSED None

SECONDED BY Moss

CARRIED

2. *Liberty Avenue Park Aquaponics Project (Conceptual and Final Review)*
Vinh Luong, The Aquaponics Project, LLC.
Joe DiPietro

Luong gave background of the system and their plans to install a temporary greenhouse facility to display in the green space to the rear (westerly side) of the Gateway Station downtown. Access is to be provided by crosswalks and it will be visible from surrounding streets and sidewalks. In the greenhouse they can grow over 1,000 plants and house a number of fish. Their hope is to serve the area as a local food source and an educational and research facility.

He also gave benefits of aquaponics and their hope to make it a sustainable project in our area. He showed site elevation of the rendering when placed in the green space.

The facility will weigh about 15000 pounds and the structure will support it. They will block off streets during the overnight hours.

Moss asked about the second story greenhouse.

Luong stated that it will be constructed at a location in Troy Hill and will be erected and their will minimal onsite construction.

Moss asked about the location and if the construction will be done properly.

Astorino wanted to know what happens after 2 months.

Luong stated that it will be moved back to the University of Pittsburgh.

Astorino stated that if it was there any longer than 2 months he would have a problem with it.

Carlise stated that DPW does have concerns with the structure.

Indovina asked about how they decided on the location

Luong stated that this space was selected as a result of working with the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership.

Moss stated that he feels that this project should be scheduled for this coming spring. How can you get this prepared in 3 weeks? He wants it to be successful.

Luong stated that 2 cycles of plants will be produced.

Indovina stated that this is a pretty prominent thing in the middle of downtown Pittsburgh. Is this a prefabricated greenhouse. He has concerns about what will happen does PLI need to be involved.

Carlise stated that DPW needs vetted through the City's Law Department before they will issue their approval.

Slavick asked about the sale of the produce. And if they building could be more appealing.

Luong stated that they are working with Shelly Danko-Day in City Planning and this seems to be the best spot for the project. The site will be ready by the first of September.

Moss stated that he would be more comfortable with DPW approval first.

Becky Thatcher of the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership spoke in support of the project. The site was chosen because this is a very underused area.

Indovina stated he is comfortable with it he feels this should be approved providing DPW approval.

Luong stated that they are willing to have conceptual approval now and provide more information for final approval.

MOTION: Conceptual contingent upon DPW and City Law Approval including samples and rendering and views from the corner of the area.

| | | | |
|----------|------|-------------|----------|
| MOVED BY | Moss | SECONDED BY | Astorino |
| IN FAVOR | All | | |
| OPPOSED | None | | |

CARRIED

3. *Donation of Artwork to the City of Pittsburgh*

James Hill, Mayor's Office

Linda Barnicott, Artist

Hill presented information relating to accepting this artwork into the city's art collection. He explained the locations that the print may be located.

Tymoczko stated that the Commission has to approve anything that is donated then it goes on to City Council for their approval.

Slavick asked about the screening process of who they select art from.

MOTION: Courtesy Review – No motion needed.

Tymoczko showed renderings of the planters approved last month. She also contacted Mr. Gray and he would like to continue on the Commission.

The commission members present requested that we move the November 2016 meeting up one week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Ms. Ray will find a room and notify the commissioners.

Meeting Adjourned