Brookline Community Mural

Final Review

Project Location:
Brookline Memorial Park
Neighborhood: Brookline

Applicant(s):
Brookline Together

Project Duration: Three years
Has this project come before Art Commission before? Yes
If yes, when? September 2021, Conceptual Approval
RCO District: Yes
Development Activities Meeting: Yes, the DAM has been held
Art Commission - pacd@pittsburghpa.gov

Organizational Statement

Brookline Together is the registered community organization (RCO) representing the neighborhood of Brookline. The mission of our volunteer-based non-profit is to create a vibrant and livable community through collaborative community initiatives that unify Brookline’s business and residential interests. Our membership includes individuals and business that have a vested interest in the Brookline neighborhood. As president and founding member of the organization, I am firm in my commitment to take on projects that highlight our neighborhood's assets and address concerns of residents and business owners to ensure a welcoming and growing community.

Sincerely,

Caitlin McNulty
Board President
Brookline Together
caitlinmcnulty@brooklinetogether.org
412.302.9394
P.O. Box 9606
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

March 2022
Letter of Intent

Project Name: Brookline Community Mural

Project Scope: To create a mural that celebrates Brookline's residents and history while looking forward to the possibilities that our youngest community members will one day create.

Project Location: Brookline Memorial Park - 1399 Oakridge St, Pittsburgh, PA 15226 - The wall facing the dek hockey rink was formerly the entrance to the bathrooms and changing rooms for the Rec Center Pool (now obsolete). This site includes restrooms and a concession stand that have been renovated for use by neighborhood sports teams by the City of Pittsburgh. Wall is approximately 150ft long and 25ft high at its tallest point. This location is heavily used by Brookline sports teams, serves as a focal point of the community, and represents the community to players and families of visiting teams.

Photos of Existing Wall:

Full image of the wall from end to end

Project Description: During the spring of 2021, a community art therapy intern provided by partnering nonprofit organization, Brookline Teen Outreach, has been conducting interviews with community members focused on the history and future of the neighborhood and what should be captured in the mural to reflect the community as a whole. The scope of the mural project is community-focused as it considers the future of the community and its members. The mural may also provide a way to build connections among community
members and the neighborhood youth organization. The mural will give an opportunity to use the resources we have and branch out and deepen community relationships.

**Project Funding:**

- DPW has already addressed the foundational concerns of the wall and prepped the site for the mural. Written approval is attached to this application as we await a formal MOU.
- Commencement of work is dependent on Art Commission approval of the proposed work. Hopefully, the will fall between June 15-August 1 for completion before large-scale community event, Brookline Breeze 5K and Breezefest on August 13, 2022.
- Duquesne Light Foundation has granted $4,000 toward the completion of this project.
- Additional costs will come from Brookline Together

**Project Costs:**

- Estimated cost $22,000
  - Estimate provided by With an Eye Design
  - Estimate includes site prep, concept design planning, painting of the mural

**Concept Art:** This initial design concept is based on community member interviews, historical research, and Brookline Together input. This image serves as a visual representation of the culmination of themes and ideas that collaborating individuals deemed indicative of the Brookline neighborhood.
**Community and RCO Approved Design:** This artist rendering has gone through an extensive community review process approved by Brookline RCO, Brookline Together. On March 14, 2022, Brookline Together took part in the DAM meeting as a requirement of this project's approval. Thomas Schraff, from the Department of City Planning, attended this meeting and oversaw that the proper protocols were in place. The board and voting membership of Brookline Together unanimously agreed to move forward to the final review of this project by the Art Commission at the April 2022 hearing session. The final design features distinctive Brookline landmarks and community elements and will serve as a backdrop to various sports and community events that take place at Brookline Memorial Park.

**Enlargement left:**
As a final note, we have sought formal approval from the Department of Public Works (DPW). While we are working on a formalized MOU with DPW, we are still awaiting receipt of this document at the time of submission for Art Commission review. We have attached supplemental materials to our application as support of this information. As a board, we are excited to see this project take place and fully support its implementation.

Sincerely,

Caitlin McNulty
Board President
Brookline Together
caitlinmcnulty@brooklinetogether.org
412.302.9394
P.O. Box 9606
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
Visual Materials for Art Commission Hearing
Brookline Together – Mural at Brookline Memorial Park

Location of wall:
Park with a recreation center, plus a playground, hockey rink, open green space & athletic fields.

1399 Oakridge St, Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Open now: 6AM–11PM

pittsburghpa.gov

(412) 571-3222

9XIFV+F4 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Claim this business

Add a label
Photos of Existing Wall: Full image of wall from end to end – mural will cover entirety of wall
Concept art: This initial design concept is based on community member interviews, historical research, and Brookline Together input. This image serves as a visual representation of the culmination of themes and ideas that collaborating individuals deemed indicative of the Brookline neighborhood.
Approved Design: After several months of community review and redesigns all key stakeholders have approved this version of the design.
Enlargement left:
Enlargement right:
Costs:

**ESTIMATE**

**Project:** Brookline Memorial Park  
**Date:** 1/1/21

**Company:**

**Contact:** Caidin McNulty (412) 302-9394 caidinmcnulty@brooklinetogether.org

**Deadline:** Initial Mockup: Jan 3, Design Approval: April, Installation: June 2022

**Special Notes:** Will work with Brookline Teen Outreach, ages 15+ of teens who have earned the opportunity to participate in groups of 3-4 with a staff member.

Community, diversity - dominant message.

Icons to include: Tree of Life church, firehouse, hillside homes, cannon, Brookline Blvd., trolley (Rte. 36), hippo fountain, inclusion of elements from original rendering.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artist skilled labor (12 days or 120 hours x $150/hr)</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mileage</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies (brushes, paint cups, drop cloth, rollers, trays, etc.)</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 gal AcriShield Acrylic Urethane exterior paint (PPG) including quart</td>
<td>$730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 gal Anti-Graffiti UVA/UVB Protectant Coating (Sherwin Williams)</td>
<td>$824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design fee (Includes one round of revisions.)</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional revisions at $100/hr design rate.</td>
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**Total**  
(Not including scaffolding) *$20,429*

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*50% of total payment due upon agreement of mockup design, with remaining balance to be paid upon completion.*
**Project:** Brookline Memorial Park

**Company:**

**Contact:** Caitlin Mcnulty (412) 302-9394 caitlinmcnulty@brooklinetogether.org

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**TOTAL** *(Not including scaffolding)*

*50% of total payment due upon agreement of mockup design, with remaining balance to be paid upon completion.*
Duquesne Light Community Impact Grant Review Board
Chamber of Commerce Building
411 Seventh Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

To Whom It May Concern,

I am excited to support Brookline Teen Outreach’s efforts to install a mural at Brookline Memorial Park. The time and effort that has gone into improving this park calls out for the installation of public art, and with a community partner like Brookline Teen Outreach leading this initiative I am confident it will be a success that reflects the community’s history and will be appreciated by everyone who attends our park.

This mural is much needed, since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic Pittsburgh’s parks have been used more than anytime in recent memory. Fortunately, I have been able to work with the Mayor and community partners like Brookline Teen Outreach to secure improvements that increase accessibility, safety, and recreational offerings. Now is the time to add an art component and the proposal from Brookline Teen Outreach is one that I fully support.

While I am happy to offer this letter of support, I am also happy to work with Pittsburgh’s Department of Public Works to prepare the wall for the mural and ensure it remains in excellent condition for years to come. It is important to understand the location of this mural has a special place in my heart. Overlooking the community’s Dek Hockey rink, it will also be the face of the newly renovated bathrooms and concession stand I fought for and those who attend games will sit in our newly added ADA accessible bleachers with this mural as a background to their children’s hockey games. These improvements are some of the achievements I am most proud of assisting with and I hope this mural becomes reality.

I am optimistic that you will look favorably upon this project and choose to award the full $10,000 to Brookline Teen Outreach.

Deepest Regards,

Anthony Coghill
Tony and Sarah, friends at PACD, Art Commissioners;

In the interests of time, I am going to forgo my standard signed memo for this email. We have reviewed the proposed Brookline Together art work for the old Brookline Pool Restroom building, and it has DPW’s full support. We are in the process of reaching out to the Union to receive their blessing to have the community self-perform this work. We do not anticipate any resistance from the Union on this issue, however it is still a courtesy we like to extend. We ask the community to please have patience as we work with the Union to review and get their blessing.

Sincerely,

Chris Hornstein, RLA
Acting Director, Public Works
o: 412-255-2783
d: 208
c: 412-660-2616
To whom it may concern,

The intention of this letter is to show my support for the mural project at the hockey dek in Brookline Memorial Park. I am the president of the Brookline Youth Hockey League. The dek at Brookline Memorial Park has been the home for our league since the dek was placed in the park eight years ago. Our league has held the permit for the facility since that time. Prior to the dek being built, our league played in a gym at Pittsburgh Public Carmalt School. Over the last eight years there have been many volunteers who have worked hard to build our league. This also includes updating and maintaining the facilities at the dek.

Brookline Youth Hockey League fully supports the mural project! It will brighten the walls around the place we call home. We suggest that if the project moves forward, that the outside walls of the bathrooms be repaired. The wall’s current condition needs repaired to ensure that the mural project, once completed, it is around for years to come.

I would be happy to discuss our league and this project. Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Dan Cunningham

President Brookline Youth Hockey League

Dan.Cunningham@BYHL.Net

412-608-8148
Development Activities Meeting Report (Version: 06/24/2020)

This report created by the Neighborhood Planner and included with staff reports to City Boards and/or Commissions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Logistics</th>
<th>Stakeholders</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Name/Address:</strong> Brookline Mural (Brookline Memorial Park)</td>
<td>Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parcel Number(s):</strong> 96-G-1</td>
<td>Brookline Together (RCO) and members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ZDR Application Number:</strong> N/A</td>
<td>Area residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Location:</strong> Zoom (also livestreamed via Facebook on the Brookline Together page)</td>
<td>City of Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 3/14/2022</td>
<td>Neighborhood &amp; Constituent Services Team (Office of Mayor Gainey)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Start Time:</strong> 7:00pm</td>
<td>PA State Rep. Jessica Benham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Applicant:</strong> Brookline Together (Caitlin McNulty)</td>
<td>South Pittsburgh Reporter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DOMI staff</td>
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<td>DCP neighborhood planner</td>
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**Boards and/or Commissions Request(s):** Art Commission

**How did the meeting inform the community about the development project?**

*Ex: Community engagement to-date, location and history of the site, demolition needs, building footprint and overall square footage, uses and activities (particularly on the ground floor), transportation needs and parking proposed, building materials, design, and other aesthetic elements of the project, community uses, amenities and programs.*

Caitlin McNulty, in representation of Brookline Together, shared background on the Brookline Mural project. She mentioned how Brookline Together has been working on the mural for some time and Brookline Together is in the unique role being an approving entity and also a champion of the project. The mural is proposed at Brookline Memorial Park by the dek hockey team and in conjunction with some of the other sports teams. Over the last 1.5 years, Brookline Together has done lots of community engagement to collect ideas, collect feedback on design concepts and design renderings and they are now on third variation of that. Caitlin shared screen to display the latest version of the mural artwork on the screen for feedback. Brookline Together is at the point in the process where they will be taking it to Art Commission for final approval. In November they received approval of the concept design to continue forward with the project, and they are now are at the point of final review for the project to kick off in June and commence in August. Caitlin shared the desire to open the discussion up for the board and for members of the public attending the meeting. Caitlin described how there has been an extensive process to date, and this is the formal approval process to move forward and take it to Art Commission. Caitlin opened it up for any feedback from everybody. After a lengthy pause without people making comments, Caitlin initiated a motion for the Brookline Together Board to vote to move forward. The motion was to approve the current version of the mural design for submission to Art Commission for comment and final review at Art Commission’s April 27th meeting.
I’m a first time member at a meeting like this – happy to join you. In terms of comment, I think you submitted for request for comment from community around the mural itself. Earlier we saw the earlier iteration, and we feel this is an improvement on it, but we’re still not super satisfied with the final result that is up for approval. What is the best way for providing constructive feedback on the design of it as it stands today?

[Caitlin M of Brookline Together]: As it stands today, you kind of missed the window. We did ask for feedback and comment and gave about 3 weeks for that review process. We put it out to members and also to the community as a whole. We’re at the point where we need to move forward with the project, so this version is the version that has come from the general collective.

This version of the mural is not necessarily the Board’s vision of what we originally had in mind for the mural, but we took the information provided by other key stakeholders in the community, and took into account feedback of residents, business members and owners, and the general collective of the community and this was the design that was most reflective of all of the feedback that we were getting. We recognize that we cannot please everyone 100%, but we need to do what will generally make everyone reasonably happy with the output.

The Art Commission is only approving the mural for a 3-year time period, so this is not something that necessarily will be up for the rest of time; if it is not something you like, it is fairly short-lived in the grand scheme of things. If you do have feedback, feel free to add that in the chat or submit via email, and we’ll take that into consideration as we fill out the application documents for Art Commission.

So, if I heard you correctly, this is the final one at this point. It’s up for approval or not. There is nothing that will change anymore except for three years in the future which will review what it is now and what it could be, at that time?

[Caitlin M of Brookline Together]: Art Commission does a pretty thorough job in vetting projects. There is a chance Art Commission might say they don’t like a specific item or they request a change to the color scheme, for example. We don’t know what Art Commission will come back with. There is a possibility they approve this outright. Or they may have suggestions and we’ll have to resubmit for final approval -- if that’s the case, if we do make changes, we would still put that out for review to the community because that is part of the process. Are there any other questions or clarifying comments?

[No additional comments were voiced]

[Caitlin M of Brookline Together]: I’m going to make a motion to approve the current version as displayed of the mural design (brookline_rev3) for final review and comment at the April 27th hearing of Art Commission? Any seconding? [received a second]

[Caitlin M of Brookline Together]: For all voting members of the board, please indicate if you approve this motion, by raising your hand. [Several people raised their hands]. If
<table>
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<th>Questions and Comments from Attendees</th>
<th>Responses from Applicants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>you reject this motion please raise your hand. Any abstentions?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thank you all. I appreciate that. Thomas, is there anything else we need to include as part of this meeting?</td>
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<tr>
<td>[DCP Neighborhood Planner shared information in the chat on how members of the public could submit testimony/comment to Art Commission]</td>
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**Other Notes**

There were additional comments on the Facebook Livestream video of the meeting, primarily about the estimated timing and start and end dates of the mural work, which the RCO lead responded to by sharing that more information would be communicated after the April 27th Art Commission meeting but that the hope is to start mid-June and wrap up by August 1 to align with the dek hockey season and minimize disruptions to activities at the site. There was another comment on the Facebook Live Stream link that came in after the meeting that read: “The mural looks wonderful. Love the colors! Thank you for your hard work on this project.”

**Planner completing report:** Thomas Scharff