

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.

Logistics	Stakeholders
Project Name/Address: Brookline Mural (Brookline Memorial Park)	Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident):
Parcel Number(s): 96-G-1	Brookline Together (RCO) and members Area residents
ZDR Application Number: N/A	City of Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey Neighborhood & Constituent Services Team (Office of Mayor Gainey)
Meeting Location: Zoom (also livestreamed via Facebook on the Brookline Together page)	PA State Rep. Jessica Benham South Pittsburgh Reporter
Date: 3/14/2022	DOMI staff DCP neighborhood planner
Meeting Start Time: 7:00pm	
Applicant: Brookline Together (Caitlin McNulty)	Approx. Number of Attendees: 17 (on Zoom), plus anyone joining on Facebook livestream
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.

Input and Responses

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
<p>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?</p>	<p>[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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>[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?</p>
<p>[No additional comments were voiced]</p>	<p>[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]</p>
	<p>[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</p>

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
	<p>you reject this motion please raise your hand. Any abstentions?</p> <p>Thank you all. I appreciate that. Thomas, is there anything else we need to include as part of this meeting?</p>
	<p>[DCP Neighborhood Planner shared information in the chat on how members of the public could submit testimony/comment to Art Commission]</p>

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