Visual Arts Commission Minutes  
Thursday, January 10, 2019 | 3:30 – 5:00 pm  
Collins Conference Room (Lower Level)  
101 1st Street SE, Cedar Rapids IA

Commissioners Present: Bill Stamats - Chair  
Lynn Ocken  
David Van Allen  
Alexis Dagit  
Kayt Conrad  
Anne Johnson – arrived at 3:34 p.m.  
Ashley Glassberg

Commissioners Absent: Jonathan Berger

Community Development Staff Present: Bill Micheel  
Eric Pate  
Jillane Gilmour

1. Approval of Minutes  
Commissioner Stamats motioned to approve the minutes for December 13, 2018. Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Input  
There was no public input.

3. Presentations  
a. League of Women Voters Centennial Memorial  
Myrna Loehrlein, representative from the League of Women Voters, shared that the 19th Amendment will celebrate its 100th anniversary on August 26, 2020. The League plans to commemorate the event by placing a piece of long lasting, visual art in the City made by a local artist. Ms. Loehrlein discussed reasonable options with members of the Visual Arts Commission, guidance for public placement, and potential partners to work with. The League’s goal is for the piece of art to last up to 50 years, and be easily accessible to the public. Ms. Loehrlein shared that it does not have to have to be historic, and can be a celebration piece that elicits a response. The League’s budget for the project is up to $20K. There are three potential dates in 2020 to unveil the piece:

- Feb 14, 2020 – Anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters  
- Summer 2020 – During the Freedom Festival  
- August 26, 2020 – Anniversary of the 19th Amendment

Ms. Loehrlein shared that the League is interested in park space, and would like to seek guidance from the VAC during the selection process.
b. Shifting Ground
Jane Gilmor, Mt. Mercy University, and Ellen Kleckner, Iowa Ceramics Center & Glass Studio, returned to share a presentation on Shifting Ground – Outro Chão. Ms. Kleckner shared that they have solidified additional partnerships since speaking to the VAC in December, and provided a budget sheet for Commissioner review. Ms. Gilmor and Ms. Kleckner shared an updated list of community partners, goals, expected outcomes, as well as the timeline for the project. Ongoing outreach for the project will include a website, social media, publication of a bilingual book, participation in international conferences, and publication of four, scientific articles. Ms. Gilmor shared that this project is connected with International Programs at Mt. Mercy University, and they have agreed to sponsor a reception, lecture, and postcards for the project. Ms. Kleckner and Ms. Gilmor expressed that their goal is to get the project off the ground by conducting both workshops, and seek additional partnerships in the fall of 2020. Ms. Gilmor stated that in order to be able to apply for grants, they would need to have matching cash of $1500. The project has received in kind contributions from Mt. Mercy, as well as materials. Mr. Micheel shared that he has spoken to City officials about the project, and there is interest in pursuing assuming the VAC makes a recommendation for a sum of money.

c. Art Project Updates
Mr. Micheel shared that the City received one quote for the UFG Pocket Park Sculpture that was higher than anticipated, and it has been rejected. An updated cost opinion has been completed by the consultant, and a new, full bid process will begin. Completion of the pocket park will be in the spring 2019, and the sculpture will be installed as soon as the park is constructed.

Mr. Micheel shared that the City Hall Public Art Project will need to go before City Council on January 22. On the agenda to go before the City Council Development Committee on January 15. As soon as the resolution is approved, the CAFÉ process can begin. The Commissioners discussed CAFÉ listing guidelines, and City staff will look into.

4. Discussion & Possible Action Items
   a. Election of Officers
   Commissioner Ocken motioned to re-elect Bill Stamats as Chair of the Visual Arts Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Van Allen. The motion passed unanimously.

   Commissioner Stamats motioned to elect Kayt Conrad as Vice Chair of the Visual Arts Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Ocken. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2019