

MINUTES
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

June 16, 2009

The Tarpon Springs Public Art Committee met in the Tarpon Springs Friends of the Library Room on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 with members Marleen Gravitz, Barbara Schnipper, Michael Poppa, Sue Geier, and Beverly Kurpinski present. Also in attendance were City Advisor Ginny Haller, Asst. City Attorney Shauna Morris, and City Liaison Debbie Stott. Guests included Vice Mayor Robin Saenger, Art Inventory Volunteer Regina Knudegard, AG Development representatives David Padilla, John Heuer, and Gary Bernardo. City Staff Representative Director of Cultural and Civic Services Dr. Kathleen Monahan was absent as were Board members June Fox and Maria Bobotas.

Chairperson Marleen Gravitz called the meeting to order at 10:10AM. May meeting minutes were reviewed. Barbara Schnipper moved to accept as presented, Sue Geier seconded. Minutes were unanimously accepted and approved as presented. There was no Old Business.

David Padilla, Sr. Project Manager for AG Development proceeded with the presentation of the Meres Town Center. He introduced John Hewer, Sr. Vice President AG Development and Gary Bernardo, Lead Artist. Mr. Padilla presented visuals of the 36-month project showing retail, medical offices, apartments, senior living facilities, and proposed artwork. He and his team gave an overview of site lighting, paver systems, and artwork (both stand alone and that to be incorporated into the building structure). They discussed challenges faced with the County for connections to their center from the Pinellas Trail. Robin Saenger suggested bike racks planned at the center be pieces of "art". Ms. Saenger also questioned the longevity of paint on art panels. Mr. Bernardo responded that paints to be used are very durable with no fade or wear anticipated; however since this particular artwork will be installed as panels, it could be removed and restored if necessary. As proposed artwork continued to be shown, it was the overall opinion of committee members that they want something more unique as opposed to traditional sponge divers/helmets, tarpon fish, etc. Mr. Bernardo showed additional type subject art and will bring new ideas to the July 21st meeting. The committee will vote on which art to go with; specifically patios, sculpture in mid-circle, and faces of building panels/motifs. Tower art to be determined at a later date. This vote will require a Public Legal Notice 10 day's prior. Mr. Padilla will post subject matter on AG Development's website and provide relevant information to Debbie Stott to proceed with the notice in a timely manner. Further details and ideas will be presented by Mr. Padilla and associates at the July meeting.

City resident, Regina Knudegard volunteered several months ago to do an inventory of City owned art. She gave a brief presentation of her findings thus far. She commented that Tarpon Springs has a wide scope of art and artwork in its' collection. She has created a spreadsheet with reference to location and description accompanied by a digital picture of each piece. A unique ID number will identify all inventory items. Her goal is

to create a master list on a CD (using Excel) whereas one will be able to easily research, sort and find specific items. In addition, she is putting together a book with pictures and descriptions of art work in each building/location within the City. Everyone thanked her for her time and great effort.

New Business consisted of discussion about the problems AG Dev. Group is having with the County for connections to the Pinellas Trail. Sue Geier moved our Chair write a letter on behalf of the Public Art Committee to County officials in this regard. Barbara Schnipper seconded motion. Unanimously passed.

In closing, Marleen Gravitz announced that she and Beverly Kurpinski are working with Summer Camp kids on their Hot Seats project. Everyone is enjoying this well supported effort. Discussion ensued among everyone that since AG Development will make another presentation next month, the meeting should be held in the Friends of the Library Room again. Debbie Stott will take care of this.

With no further comments or business the meeting adjourned at 12 Noon.

JUNE