



**MINUTES
ART REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 15, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Meerjans called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and then invited Art Review Board Secretary/Management Analyst Luciana Torres to say a few words before the meeting commenced.

Ms. Torres explained that this meeting was being conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California executive order N2920, dated March 17, 2020 regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

PRESENT: Chairperson Meerjans
Vice Chairperson Deridder
Board Members Benton, Squires, and Valdez

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Luciana Torres, Management Analyst
Clifford Nguyen, Interim Deputy Planning Manager
Anna Guiles, Management Analyst
Suzanne Shenfil, Human Services Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

DISCLOSURES: None

**PUBLIC/
ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** None

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Item 1. **PUBLIC ART FOR THE NEW AGE WELL CENTER AT SOUTH FREMONT – 47111 Mission Falls Court** – To receive a presentation and provide feedback for a new public art installation by invitation and direct purchase from local artist Ride Art proposed for the Age Well Center (a new senior center) under construction in South Fremont, and to find that no further environmental review is required as a Mitigated Negative Declaration was previously prepared and adopted for the project as part of the PARC 55 master plan development in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which adequately addressed the potential impacts of the proposed project.

Interim Deputy Planning Manager Clifford Nguyen spoke to the project, indicating its background and origins, the features of the Age Well Center, and the

proposed location for the art piece. He also spoke of the sculptural art team out of Berkeley, Ride Art, who was selected by staff and whose artwork is being proposed for the project.

Human Services Director Suzanne Shenfil reported on the focus for the Age Well Center, its services, and target population. She explained that the name of the center was chosen to evoke a sense of energy and to engage participants. She then spoke to the theme of the art piece and its features, describing it as a colorful and kinetic piece.

Chairperson Meerjans opened the public hearing and invited the artists to speak.

Jonathan Russell and Saori Ide Russell, the collaborative team of Ride Art, spoke of their body of past works and to the specifics of the art piece proposed for the Age Well Center. They explained that the kinetic aspect of the piece was to inspire those who look upon the sculpture to move and be active. They described the artwork to be 20 feet tall, require minimal maintenance, and that it would require minimal power. The title of the artwork is *Lanterns*.

Chairperson Meerjans stated that this would be the time for public comments, but no public comments were submitted.

Following discussion, **Board Member Squires** moved to recommend to the City Council approval of the staff recommendation of the artist team Ride Art and their piece titled, *Lanterns*, using the version with stainless steel and the color red for the Age Well Center. **Vice Chairperson Deridder** seconded.

IT WAS MOVED (SQUIRES/DERIDDER) AND CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (5-0-0-0). THE ART REVIEW BOARD HELD PUBLIC HEARING;

AND

RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

APPROVE A NEW PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION AND DIRECT PURCHASE OF THE ARTWORK TITLED *LANTERNS* FROM LOCAL ARTIST RIDE ART FOR THE AGE WELL CENTER;

AND

SELECT THE VERSION OF THE ART PIECE THAT USES STAINLESS STEEL AS ITS MEDIUM AND THE COLOR RED;

AND

FIND THAT NO FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW IS REQUIRED AS A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREVIOUSLY PREPARED AND ADOPTED FOR THE PROJECT AS PART OF THE PARC 55 MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA), WHICH ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: 5 – Benton, Deridder, Meerjans, Squires, Valdez
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Item 2. **ART MURAL FOR FREMONT’S TEMPORARY HOUSING NAVIGATION**

CENTER – To receive a presentation with artwork submissions, provide feedback, and select artist for new art mural installation located at Fremont’s temporary Housing Navigation Center (HNC) at 3300 Capitol Avenue in the rear parking lot of City Hall in Downtown Fremont, and to consider an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule, which states that, where it can be seen with certainty that the activity will not have a significant effect on the environment, that activity is not subject to CEQA.

Management Analyst Anna Guiles gave a brief update on the project and spoke to the call for artists through the online tool, CaFE. She reported that there were 24 qualifying submissions and from that, staff chose three to recommend for consideration.

Chairperson Meerjans opened the public hearing and closed the public hearing, as there were no public comments.

Following discussion, **Vice Chairperson Deridder** moved to approve staff recommendation of the artist Cameron Moberg and his proposed concept for a new art mural installation for sites A and B at Fremont’s temporary Housing Navigation Center. **Board Member Valdez** seconded.

IT WAS MOVED (DERIDDER/VALDEZ) AND CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (5-0-0-0). THE ART REVIEW BOARD HELD PUBLIC HEARING;

AND

APPROVED STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF THE ARTIST CAMERON MOBERG AND HIS PROPOSED CONCEPT FOR A NEW ART MURAL INSTALLATION FOR SITES A AND B AT FREMONT’S TEMPORARY HOUSING NAVIGATION CENTER;

AND

FOUND THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PER CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15061(B)(3).

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: 5 – Benton, Deridder, Meerjans, Squires, Valdez
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Item 3. **BOXART! ART SELECTION** – To consider and select artwork for the *boxART!* program; and to consider an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule, which states that, where it can be seen with certainty that the activity will not have a significant effect on the environment, that activity is not subject to CEQA.

Susan Longini, *boxART!* program manager, reported on the current phase of the program in which students submitted their artwork for consideration. There are currently 10 boxes available, for which a total of 53 submissions were received by 36 artists/teams.

The Board reviewed, discussed, and voted on each *boxART!* submission. Submissions receiving four and five votes were compiled by Ms. Longini and chosen as the top 10; submissions that received three votes were deemed as alternates should any of the candidates withdraw. The Board also gave Ms. Longini authorization to decide from the list of alternates should a replacement be needed.

Board Member Benton moved to approve the aforementioned *boxART!* submissions (listed below) and to grant authorization to Susan Longini in deciding from the list of alternate submissions to replace any of the 10 selected should an artist withdraw.

Board Member Squires seconded.

IT WAS MOVED (BENTON/SQUIRES) AND CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (5-0-0-0). THE ART REVIEW BOARD HELD PUBLIC HEARING;

AND

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING TEN BOXART! SUBMISSIONS:

- APARANJITHA CONNUR TEAM
- ARUSH AND ANSH DOSHI
- HARNOOR NAGRA
- MALIA SANTOS AND SIRI SURREANI
- PUNYANUSH SRILERT
- WALTERS JR. HIGH
- AALIYAH RAMIREZ
- TRISHLA MEHTA AND KEYA THOTA
- CHRISTINA AND SARAH WANG, JULIANNA DONG – SUBMISSION #2
- STRATFORD SCHOOL

AND

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATE BOXART! SUBMISSIONS:

- KARI WU
- MAITRI KURANE
- KHUSHI KOLTE
- SHREYA SRINIVAS
- CHRISTINA AND SARAH WANG, JULIANNA DONG – SUBMISSION #3
- YOUNG INTELLECTS

- MICHELLE ZHAO
- JASMINE LEE
- KHYATI PALAHAM AND SOPHIA REN

AND

AUTHORIZED SUSAN LONGINI TO DECIDE WHICH OF THE ALTERNATE SUBMISSIONS WILL REPLACE ANY OF THE PRIMARY 10 SELECTIONS SHOULD AN ARTIST OR TEAM WITHDRAW;

AND

FOUND IT EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PER CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15061(B)(3):

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	5 – Benton, Deridder, Meerjans, Squires, Valdez
NOES:	0
ABSTAIN:	0
ABSENT:	0

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Information from Board and Staff:

- Information from staff, as reported by **Management Analyst Luciana Torres**:
 - The next Art Review Board meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2020 and will once again most likely be a virtual meeting, utilizing the Zoom teleconferencing application.
 - The Board’s recommendation for Inspiration Plaza (Fairfield Residential/Embark Apartments) was scheduled to go before the City Council on April 14, 2020 but was postponed to an uncertain date. Ms. Torres will inform the Board accordingly.
 - The call for artists for the Downtown Event Center has been postponed due to the Alameda County Shelter in Place Order. Ms. Torres will inform the Board accordingly.
- Information from Board: None
- Art Liaison Update – Christina Valdez: None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Luciana Torres, Secretary
Art Review Board