**MINUTES**

**CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA**

**PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION (PAC) MEETING**

**May 6, 2015**

**6:00 PM**

**Attending:**

Commission members: Suzanne Holtkamp, Vickie Johnson, Lisa Winton, Dick Goodman, Cherie Heringer (arrived 6:24) (Absent Tim O’Brien, Berney Kirkland).

Staff: Denise Brinson, Toni Shrewsbury, Dan Robinson

**Call to Order**

Lisa Winton called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

**Approval of Minutes**

Vickie Johnson moved to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2015 meeting as presented (Lisa Winton 2nd). Motion carried 4-0.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Vickie Johnson moved to adopt the agenda as presented (Suzanne Holtkamp 2nd). Motion carried 4-0.

**Developer Presentations/Updates**

Atlanta Fitness, a boutique fitness facility, was represented by Michael Davis, Partner and Construction Coordinator for D&G Development Group. Davis was excited by the idea of including public art in the project and indicated that the owner, C.J. Thakkar, with NRCT, LLC, would be interested in participating in some form. Davis was encouraged to use the PAC as a resource for ideas. Options were discussed and ideas shared. (See attached for additional information.)

Suwanee Green, a 123 home subdivision on Martins Farm Road, was represented by Renee Mallein in Land Acquisitions for the developer, JEH Homes. Mallein presented a site plan indicating multiple locations marked for future focal features (see attached). He shared that the current thought was to incorporate public art over time as the development progresses. Lisa Winton suggested that if art were to be installed before development begins, buyers could be drawn in. Discussion ensued and ideas were shared. Mallein was encouraged to use the PAC as a resource.

**Artwork Donation Request – Ronald Secory**

Ron Secory, a Suwanee resident, appeared before the PAC to discuss his desire to donate artwork to honor his late wife. Secory requested the piece be located in Sims Lake Park. Mr. Secory shared a photo (see attached) that would serve as an inspiration/model for the design of an original wood-carved sculpture to be created by chainsaw artist Rick Pratt. Denise Brinson asked that each PAC member review the city’s entire donation policy (see attached). Lisa Winton requested that any questions/concerns resulting from the review be forwarded to her for further group discussion. Mr. Secory will be notified once a decision is made.

**Project Updates**

SculpTour – Toni Shrewsbury shared that 9 of the new SculpTour pieces had been installed to date with another 6 more to be in by Friday, May 8. The remaining 2 sculptures will be installed by May 19 for a total of 17 pieces. Toni further shared that there are currently 7 sponsors for the 2015 exhibit.

Denise Brinson asked the PAC to determine prize money for the 2013 SculpTour exhibit.

Discussion ensued. **Vickie Johnson moved that artists Jonathan Bowling and Jack Howard-Potter each receive $1,000.00 (Suzanne Holtkamp 2nd). Motion carried 5-0.**

Review Updated Developer Guide – Toni distributed the updated draft Developer Guide (see attached). Lisa Winston suggested another page be added to the document to include additional photos of public art depicting murals, mosaic and interactive art. The PAC members approved use of the new document.

Arts in the Park – Vickie Johnson gave an update on the festival scheduled for May 16. This year includes the most out of town artists to date. An Emcee, located on the stage, will be making SculpTour announcements as well as other festival announcements throughout the day. SculpTour brochures will be available at the NGAA booth.

Fundraising/Awareness Event – Cherie Heringer shared that the event will likely be held at City Hall or somewhere in the Town Center area. It will be held on a Saturday in March 2016 with the exact date to be determined. A “signature drink” has been created by a member of the committee with the thought to not only share the drink at the event itself, but also to offer the recipe to local restaurants with a percentage of proceeds going to the public arts initiative. Denise Brinson asked Cherie to work closely with Amy Doherty, the City’s Events Manager, while planning the event.

North Gwinnett Arts Association (NGAA) – Vickie Johnson shared that the location the NGAA organization had hoped to secure was not going to work out. They are in the process of putting together a comprehensive business plan in order to pursue other locations.

**Public Art Master Plan**

Denise Brinson shared that the advisory committee workshop held on April 27 and led by Public Art Master Plan consultants, Todd Bressi and Meredith McKinley, went very well. Todd and Meredith are planning to visit Suwanee again the week of July 13. Prior to their visit, the City will have received the first draft of the plan.

**Adjournment**

Dick Goodman moved to adjourn at 8:31 PM (Vickie Johnson 2nd). Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes submitted by Toni Shrewsbury.