

Tape No. 597

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Leawood, Kansas, met for a Work Session at City Hall, 4800 Town Center Drive, at 7:00 P.M., on Monday, August 4, 2003. Mayor Peggy J. Dunn presided.

Councilmembers present: James E. Taylor, Sr., Patrick L. Dunn, Louis Rasmussen, Gary L. Bussing, Mike Gill, Shelby Story and Jim Rawlings.

Councilmembers absent: Scott E. Gulledge

Staff present:

Scott Lambers, City Administrator
Diane Binckley, Planning & Development Dir.
Deb Harper, City Clerk

Chris Claxton, Dir. of Parks & Recreation
Jerry Snider, Cultural Arts Coordinator
Emily Gleasure, Deputy City Clerk

Also present:

Mary Tearney, Chair, Arts Council Committee
Dr. Ann Kenney, Chair, Public Art Selection Panel
Nate Fors, Artist
Tod Haren, Haren & Laughlin Construction Co.
Betty Geiger, Public Art Selection Panel
Dan Throckmorton, Arts Council Committee

50 Mary Tearney introduced artist Nate Fors, who presented his proposal for a sculptural structure for Leawood City Park, 10601 Lee Boulevard. Mr. Fors described the dimensions, construction and special features of the sculpture, as well as how he arrived at the artwork's name, "Lllooppi" (lū'- pē). The 40' sculpture would contain seven discs, patterned from old 45 RPM phonographic records, intertwined with fluorescent fiber optic cable.

286 Mayor Dunn gave appreciation to Tod Haren who was donating his time and that of his firm to the art project.

Bette Geiger arrived at 7:05 PM.

378 Councilmember Rawlings questioned Mr. Fors concerning the height of the sculpture and concerns of possible vandalism due to the proposed location of the sculpture. Mr. Fors stated he felt the design was as safe as possible.

486 Councilmember Taylor discussed with Mr. Fors how he came up with the conception of the piece and what the message was to the viewer. Councilmember Taylor stated he was concerned that the fiber optic cables would not give off enough illumination as shown in the handout provided by Mr. Fors. Councilmember Taylor also had concerns regarding the placement of the sculpture at the park entrance. He felt it would not blend in with the traditional brick and wrought iron entrance and asked that more thought be given to placing this sculpture in another location within the park.

645 Councilmember Bussing questioned Mr. Fors as to how structurally ridged the upper section of the sculpture was and if it would stand up to day-to-day maintenance. Councilmember Bussing questioned Scott Lambers as to the City's responsibility for insurance and safety of the piece.

Councilmember Dunn arrived at 7:10 PM.

Dan Throckmorton arrived at 7:12 PM.

Mayor Dunn stated she had similar concerns. Although she felt the sculpture belonged in the park, perhaps it could be placed within the main quadrant of the park's entrance.

690 Mayor Dunn confirmed that the next review on the artwork would be Tuesday, August 12, 2003, with the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Mayor Dunn suggested that the sculpture be placed in the first quadrant of the park near the pond to be set off by the water. She asked that there be a review of the cost of placing it at alternative locations.

781 Councilmember Rasmussen questioned Mr. Haren as to whether a structural engineer had been chosen. Councilmember Rasmussen's concerns included whether the fiber optics could maintain their original shape over a long period of time, and if the sculpture could withstand winds up to 125 MPH.

840 Councilmember Rawlings stated he felt the greatest visual impact for the sculpture would be where the park streets all come together within City Park.

868 Councilmember Rasmussen questioned the electrical preparation for the sculpture and whether there would be separate metering. Mr. Haren stated that the power company required a separate meter and his company has begun to formulate plans for placement of it. Mr. Haren stated the voltage needed was 120V.

Mayor Dunn stated this proposal would be presented at the August 12, 2003 Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting and if approved, would be forwarded to the Governing Body at a subsequent Council meeting.

Ms. Tearney confirmed with Mayor Dunn that concerns from tonight's work session to be taken back to the Arts Council Committee included 1) placement of sculpture; 2) structural soundness of pole and fiber optic cable; and 3) intensity of illumination by fiber optic cable.

915 Mayor Dunn adjourned the meeting at 7:32 P.M.

Emily Gleasure, Deputy City Clerk