

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Leawood, Kansas, met for a Work Session Meeting at City Hall, 4800 Town Center Drive, at 6:00 P.M., on Monday, December 17, 2012. Mayor Peggy Dunn presided.

Councilmembers present: Debra Filla, Jim Rawlings, Julie Cain, Gary Bussing, Carrie Rezac, James Azeltine, Lou Rasmussen and Andrew Osman

Councilmembers absent: None

Staff present: Scott Lambers, City Administrator
Chief John Meier, Police Dept.
Captain Dale Finger, Police Dept.
April Bishop, Cultural Arts Coordinator
Patty Bennett, City Attorney
Joe Johnson, Public Works Director
Deb Harper, City Clerk
Pam Gregory, Assistant City Clerk

Others Present: Mary Tearney, Leawood Arts Council Chair
Dr. Ann Kenney, Leawood Arts Council
Pinky Kase, Leawood Arts Council
Carl McCaffree, Leawood Arts Council
Anne Blessing, Leawood Arts Council

Discuss Justice Center Art Pieces

Welcome by the Mayor

Mayor Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M. Introductions were made by those present.

Presentation – City Administrator Scott Lambers

The City Council directed staff to meet with the Arts Council to discuss placement of the art, at which time the consensus was to place it along Tomahawk Creek Parkway. Subsequently, the Arts Council contacted some artists, which showed the art to be placed at the corner of 117th and Tomahawk Creek Parkway. Mr. Lambers suggested instead that this come before the Council to decide how to proceed since the City requires developers to design corner features. He presented examples of four renderings from HWA [Hoefler Wysocki Architects] for corner water feature designs that could be used in conjunction with the art as a focal point to represent the building. The project will be funded from the Contingency Fund with the 2014 County Sales Tax, which is approximately \$900,000. Depending upon the scope of the project, additional funds could be taken from the ending cash balances of 2014 and replenished with the County Sales Tax in 2015. Because this is a City project, he recommended the art cost be included in this funding. The Justice Center building is anticipated to be completed by fall of 2013; however, the landscaping should be completed by spring, 2014.

Councilmember Cain wanted to ensure the Arts Council is involved throughout the entire process of designing this corner.

Arts Council Chair Mary Tearney noted there is approximately 100 feet from the edge of the corner to the building.

Councilmember Rasmussen felt it was important for the art to represent the function of the building and suggested they consider proposals from national artists and establish a maximum dollar amount, and then determine the landscaping, water features, etc.

Councilmember Cain thought the initial Arts Council meeting included discussion to begin the RFQ [Request for Qualifications] process, which could take 6-8 months; however, they ran into a timing issue when they discussed moving the art to the corner.

Mr. Lambers confirmed they plan to install a bike/hike trail on the north side of Town Center Drive and obtain an easement from the condominium property to install additional landscaping and street lighting. This would eventually connect under Roe to tie into Town Center Drive to Park Place. A crosswalk will be installed at the corner of 117th and Tomahawk to connect to the Tomahawk Creek trails.

Councilmember Osman thought the art, water feature, landscaping, etc., should be designed together to create a gateway for the entire project. He felt it was important from a development standpoint to give the artists a concept of the scale and cost of the art.

Dr. Ann Kenney, Leawood Arts Council, confirmed local and national artists would be given the opportunity to submit proposals. The current RFQ states that the art piece may/may not include a water feature. Some artists have reservations regarding water features due to their affect on the art piece and how they are maintained.

Councilmember Azeltine was in favor of the art being installed in conjunction with a corner feature and to have the art funded by the City. Mayor Dunn noted the City's art is actually funded by the Leawood residents.

Councilmember Azeltine suggested they schedule a joint work session with the Arts Council, Art in Public Places Initiative [APPI] and Planning Commission to discuss the project. Mr. Lambers replied a joint meeting could be scheduled; however, as the project owner, the City Council will ultimately decide the outcome.

Dr. Kenney stated qualified artists would be narrowed down to five. These artists would then be invited to view the parameters of the site and to discuss their concept and work history before selecting one. This process could take up to six months and could be up to eighteen months before they are ready to proceed.

Councilmember Rasmussen proposed a \$400,000 budget for the art only (not installation) and it be funded from the Arts Council budget. Mayor Dunn felt \$400,000 was extremely exorbitant.

Councilmember Filla suggested they provide the Arts Council a price range rather than a specific budget amount.

Mr. Lambers stated they could provide the sidewalk configuration and stake out the corner area to give the artists an approximate square footage. Installation costs could be 20%-25% of the cost of the art and would be paid for through the Capital Project Fund of the Justice Center.

Dr. Kenney preferred the City Council provide the Arts Council a price range in order to complete the RFQ process.

Councilmember Bussing agreed they should provide the artists some parameters and a vision of the use of the building; however, allow the artists to present their own unique designs for that corner and budget everything accordingly, whatever the cost.

Councilmember Bussing left the meeting at 6:15.

Mayor Dunn stated the City of Leawood has been very fortunate to have their cultural arts funded by the residents and wanted to ensure the cost of the art stays within reason.

Mr. Lambers confirmed the City would pay all art impact fees.

Dr. Kenney stated there is currently \$750,000 in the APPI funds.

Mayor Dunn received the following consensus from the Council:

- Place the art on the corner of 117th and Tomahawk Creek Parkway
- Price range of \$200,000-\$250,000 for the art only
- Art to be funded from the APPI funds

Mr. Lambers estimated the entire cost of corner feature to be \$500,000-\$700,000.

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Pam Gregory, Assistant City Clerk