

**Spoon River College**  
**Canton, Illinois**  
**CDB Project Number 810-090-016**  
**Thursday, July 02, 2015**  
**10:00am**  
Fine Art Review Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attendees**

Jim Zimmer, Illinois State Museum  
Bruce Maxey, BLDD Architects  
Karla Kunzeman, Illinois Art Council  
Curt Oldfield, Spoon River College  
Linda Norbut Suits, Capital Development Board

- Ms. Suits started the meeting by explaining the Committee must choose three artists out of the seven she that responded to the Request for Qualification to create a specific design proposal for the project.
- Ms. Suits also explained to the committee that all new projects are on hold until further notice because the General Assembly has not yet reappropriated project funds.
- Ms. Suits began by stating the Committee must choose the three artists based on aesthetic quality, skill, and creativity.
- Ms. Suits described the location for the artwork. Mr. Maxey assisted by bringing in a layout of the Multi-Purpose Building identifying where he and Mr. Oldfield would like to put the piece.
- In answer to Ms. Kunzeman's question, Ms. Suits stated the budget for this project is \$17,500.
- Mr. Zimmer asked Mr. Maxey the size of the wall and the ceiling height of the area. Mr. Maxey replied the artwork area is eight feet by sixteen feet with a twenty foot ceiling height.
- Mr. Maxey explained the lighting to the committee and that there is plentiful natural light in the southwest-facing area.
- Ms. Suits introduced the first artist on the list, John Bannon.
- The committee looked through the slides while Ms. Suits explained his previous work and background.
- Ms. Suits introduced the second artist, Davis McCarty.
- Ms. Suits stated that she was intrigued by his work which is large-scale laser cut instillation art. The committee agreed.
- Ms. Suits introduced the third artist, Jason Peot.
- Ms. Suits went on to explain that his aesthetic is based in light and shadow and that he just completed a project at Parkland College.
- Ms. Suits introduced the fourth artist, David Rubman.
- Ms. Kunzeman asked Ms. Suits, when looking at the images, if Rubman's area of knowledge is quilting to which Ms. Suits replied, yes. Ms. Suits also mentioned that Rubman had done a previous art piece with Scrabble pieces.

- Ms. Suits introduced the fifth artist, Joyce Symoniak.
- Ms. Suits mentioned that both Symoniak and Rubman are new artists to the AIA program.
- The committee seemed to enjoy Ms. Symoniak's work. Mr. Oldfield mentioned he liked the nature aspect of her art.
- Ms. Kunzeman asked what the media of Joyce's work was to which Ms. Suits replied, colored pencil.
- Ms. Suits then introduced the sixth artist, Holly Wolf-Mattick.
- Ms. Suits mentioned that Ms. Wolf-Mattick has worked on a project at University of Illinois.
- Ms. Suits went on to explain Ms. Wolf-Mattick's medium is glass, which Holly blows and cuts herself.
- The committee addressed the rest of Ms. Wolf-Mattick's slides in a positive light.
- Ms. Suits introduced the seventh and final artist, Michael Young.
- The committee was informed that Mr. Young does three-dimensional inside and outside sculpture and also uses light to enhance his pieces.
- Ms. Suits redirected the conversation back to the beginning so the committee could begin narrowing down artists they wanted for their main three.
- Mr. Oldfield stated that he wanted a natural reflection of the surrounding area in the art piece. i.e. natural light and colors and curves and flow that complement the Spoon River. Mr. Oldfield and Mr. Maxey agreed that they both wanted a three-dimensional element to the artwork along with some depth and texture. Both agreed they wanted nothing flat and two-dimensional but something that compliments nature.
- Mr. Zimmer informed Mr. Oldfield and Mr. Maxey that most artists visit the site before starting their project to get an idea about the specific site.
- Mr. Zimmer also explained that the maintenance for the piece is the responsibility of Spoon River College after the artwork is installed.
- When the committee was asked about John Bannon they all agreed that he has amazing skill and wonderful pieces of art involving neon.
- Everyone on the committee enjoyed Mr. Bannon's work but agreed it would not fit at Spoon River College.
- Next Davis McCarty's work was considered.
- Mr. Zimmer personally enjoyed Davis McCarty because of his use of inexpensive materials and using three-dimensional space.
- Mr. Maxey and Mr. Oldfield thoroughly enjoyed McCarty's work because of the three-dimensional aspect that of his art.
- Mr. Zimmer mentioned to both, Mr. Maxey and Mr. Oldfield that McCarty's piece might need to have a projector involved to get the three-dimensional aspect of the art that they both want. McCarty was chosen to be one of the three artists.
- Ms. Suits reintroduced Jason Peot to the committee.

- Ms. Kunzeman began by stating that Mr. Peot worked very well with nature but adding a geometric aspect to his art as well creates a visually pleasing piece.
- Mr. Maxey thought Peot had a very organic approach to his work but also restated that his work had a geometric aspect to it as well.
- Ms. Suits reassured Mr. Oldfield and Mr. Maxey that Peot's pieces are very sturdy.
- Ms. Suits also stated Jason takes a lot of time to perfect the lighting that goes into his pieces.
- Mr. Zimmer questioned Mr. Maxey about the floor, whether it was dark or had patterns to which Mr. Maxey responded that the floor has a pattern but nothing noticeable that would clash with the art piece.
- All committee members agreed that Jason Peot would be the second artist
- Mr. Maxey asked Ms. Suits about a plaque for the piece of art and if they would have to purchase it. Ms. Suits responded that the state will cover the cost of the plaque.
- Mr. Zimmer also explained that Mr. Oldfield will need to consider dimensions of the piece and that the budget for this piece is only \$17,500.
- David Rubman was not selected.
- Mr. Oldfield enjoyed Joyce Symoniak's work. Mr. Oldfield, Mr. Maxey, and Ms. Kunzeman all agreed that Ms. Symoniak's work fit their idea of nature very well because her pieces were nature landscapes done in colored pencils. However, the committee also agreed that her work was too two-dimensional for what they envisioned for this project and could fade in the harsh southwestern light.
- Michael Young was considered by Mr. Oldfield and Mr. Maxey. He was not selected.
- Finally, Holly Wolf-Mattick was reintroduced to the committee.
- Mr. Maxey and Mr. Oldfield enjoyed Holly's installations.
- The committee agreed that Holly did beautiful work and used amazing and natural colors which is what Mr. Oldfield was looking for. So, she became the third artist chosen for the Spoon River College project.
- The committee all agreed that McCarty, Peot, and Wolf-Mattick were the best choices for the project.
- Ms. Suits filled out the final paper work and the whole committee agreed on the final ratings.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.