

Basalt Public Arts Commission

July 7, 2020 – Special Meeting

In attendance:

BPAC: Karyn Andrade, Jeff Orsulak, Jeanette Bullock, and Liz Bell

Staff: Watkins Fulk-Gray

Susan provided background on the project that was given to her to quickly come up with a program. The Art Base suggested to Susan that she hire one artist to do the project rather than trying to manage multiple artists. They provided a list of potential artists. Sarah Uhl, Ray Langes, Ali O’Neal, and Chris Erickson were among them. Susan added Reina Katzenberger and Brian Colley after talking with them.

Jeff said if BPAC can pull it off then it would be a good thing and reflect well on BPAC.

Susan clarified that she refers to the concrete blocks as “pigs,” but they could also be called concrete barriers or jersey barriers. Liz suggested not using the word “pig” in the current political environment, and that not everyone knows the term anyway.

Jeanette said she thinks this is a large project for the artist and said that there might need to be an artist with a team of people, since there’s a lot of painting to do. Liz suggested putting parameters on message, mood, color, or something else, to help streamline the process. BPAC agreed that instead of one artist being selected, an artist could be selected for each restaurant. Karyn supported having a variety of artists. Susan clarified that the Town envisions only the outside of the barriers getting painted. Closing the street during painting may be necessary.

Karyn asked if the restaurants would have input on themes. Susan said the Town wants to avoid that, since the barriers will be used next year and the barriers may not be placed in the same location.

Regarding how to assign artists to restaurants, Liz suggested having artists rank their choices. She suggested taglining the project “go with the flow” to refer to the Chamber of Commerce’s tagline. BPAC supported this. Jeanette noted that by being outside all the time, they will need to be repainted eventually.

Susan asked that BPAC send her the email addresses for any artists they want to invite to participate. She said the deadline would be extended to Wednesday July 15, and the completion date to August 7. We want concepts of the designs. Regarding compensation for the artists, Susan mentioned prorating the cost per-barrier, or per location. BPAC agreed on a per-barrier cost basis with the option of providing an alternative schedule.

Karyn clarified that the barriers' locations are permanent for the season.

Liz suggested adding a disclaimer to the program saying that the Town might adjust or negotiate the program in order to accommodate the artist response.

Steps to follow up:

- Watkins to verify the number of barriers by location.
- BPACers to submit to Susan ideas of artists to reach out to.

Next meeting: July 9, 2020

Note: The chat feature on Zoom was not used.