WPB Arts Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2018

In attendance: David Ginople (chair), Mary Antonakos, Dan Murphy, Sam Marts, Alma Weiser, Sam Choudhury (SSA Program Manager), Jordan Miller (WPB/SSA Arts + Social Media Admin), Carron Little.

1. SC updated the committee on the status of Lynn Basa’s Workers Cottage Parklet and Mike Helbing’s Wicker Tree. Installation on both is moving forward. Basa has broken ground but needs a city approved electrical plan while Helbing has purchased the earth screws and is ready to move forward for installation by July 23rd. The committee discussed the need for signage and information for both works. It was agreed that signage not falling under the monument permit should be explored and should have a consistency in design, perhaps even based off of the new wayfinding design. SC to explore creation of plaques with chosen vendor.

2. DG/SC/JM described current plans for a vacant storefront activation program, Window Works. The committee agreed to pool funding across committees for the initiative but take a curatorial lead on the project. The committee was in agreement that money should go to artists and there was discussion around the scope of the stipend. The SSA agreed to look into the insurance coverage provided by the Chamber and will begin the process of developing the final RFP and open call for the project. A vote was taken to determine the stipend cap. Window Works will seek to activate 5 vacant storefronts for 3-6 months each at $500 per month, with a minimum payment of $1,000 and maximum stipend of $3,000. The stipend may be flexible based on complexity and quality of the proposal and at the discretion of the committee.

3. DG explains commission’s desire to form a year-round mural funding program. SC/JM confirm neighborhood interest and desire for such program. The committee discussed the potential to draw in international artists but the majority consensus was to keep the artists local or regional. 2nd Ward Alderman Brian Hopkins is also forming a database of public art and will want to add these future murals to the protected list. After discussing the stipend amount per mural, the committee agreed to rebate artists a stipend of up to $7,500 with flexibility by the committee to distinguish between murals of larger scales that may require more funding and smaller scale projects. The SSA will begin developing the RFP and open call application process for the project.

Motions for the SSA Commission

Motion 1: To approve spending not to exceed $15,000 from line item 2.06 (public art) to fund up to a maximum of 5 artists to create storefront activation art installations. Motion made by DG. SM seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.
Motion 2: To approve spending not to exceed $15,000 from line item 2.06 (public art) to fund mural installations on approved sites. Motion made by DG. AM seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.