

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO

Minutes

On October 15, 2018, the Beautification and Public Arts Advisory Board met at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall at 509 S.E 7th Avenue, Room 306 for a Regular Meeting.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	TOTAL ATTENDED	TOTAL MEETINGS
Jason Boyett	Y	8	8
Jacob Breeden	N	7	8
Beth Duke	Y	7	8
Keith Grays	Y	6	8
Sonja Gross	Y	7	8
Angela Knapp Eggers	Y	7	8
Eddy Sauer	Y	7	8
Kelley Sims	N	5	8
Andi Wardlaw	Y	8	8

Also in attendance were:

Sherman Bass Amarillo Civic Center Complex General Manager
Courtney White Assistant City Attorney
Michael Kashuba Director of Parks and Recreation
Paul Matney Guest
Karen Shipley Amarillo Civic Center Complex Administrative Assistant

- Item 1. **Call to order.** Chair Jason Boyett called the meeting to order at 4:36 PM.

- Item 2. **Minutes.** Sonja Gross noted an error on last month’s minutes. She was listed as absent, but she was at the meeting. After the minutes were corrected, Ms. Gross motioned to approve the minutes and Angela Knapp Eggers seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- Item 3. **Discuss and Consider Current Board Members Length of Service.** Chair Boyett stated the board has been meeting since March 2018 but officially the term of the board began in January 2018. Also, he said the members want to avoid rotating off at the same time. The City Council wants two-year terms. He ask if anyone would like to volunteer to rotate off. It would be best to have half of the members rotate off and half stay for another year. Sherman Bass said all the board is good until December 2019, but we would like for half of the members to volunteer to ask the Council to be renewed for another two years in November. That way half the board would rotate off in December 2019 and the rest would rotate off December 2020. Beth Duke and Ms. Knapp Eggers wanted to know if they are considered the same way. Mr. Bass said that their organizations appointed them to this board, so their organization would

decide when or if they would rotate off. Ms. Duke said she was appointed by Center City and Ms. Knapp Eggers was appointed by the Convention and Visitors Council Arts Committee. Chair Boyett said the rest of the board members are at large and approved by the Council. Ms. Gross said she finds herself over extended and would like to rotate off, but she would like to stay until the Gateways are updated. Chair Boyett said he might relinquish the Chair, so some new blood could come in. Mr. Bass asked if we should speak for those not here, and Ms. Duke and Chair Boyett both said they thought we needed to ask them and not make the decision for them. Everyone present indicated their desire to be reappointed. Mr. Bass said that November is the new appointment time. He said that half would be chosen by lots if all want to remain on the board. Ms. Knapp Eggers so moved as presented by Mr. Bass, Chair Boyett seconded and all were in favor. Mr. Bass will contact the members not present. Mr. Bass said he would count all five of present members as requesting to stay on another two years.

Item 4. **Presentation and Discussion of Roosevelt Monument.** Chair Boyett said that this is not something that has been discussed before, but because of the interest of Dr. Paul Matney, he will present information about the Roosevelt monument. Dr. Matney thanked Chair Boyett for letting him share his findings with the board. Dr. Matney said there is a monument in Ellwood part that was put there to commemorate the visit President Roosevelt made to Amarillo July 11, 1938. 100,00 people showed up to hear Roosevelt. Very few people know about this monument in Ellwood Park. At that time Amarillo was the heart of operation Dust Bowl. Congressman Marvin Jones had been telling President Roosevelt about Amarillo for 5 ½ years. He wanted President Roosevelt to see what our great citizens were doing for soil conservation, crop rotation, contour plowing, planting shelter belts and building reservoirs. Dr. Matney's hope is to cause celebration of our history and to enhance the monument. At the current time it is just a flat monument on the ground. It is believe that the monument qualifies to be an historical marker.

Item 5. **Discuss and Consider Beautification Project.** Chair Boyett asked Michael Kashuba if he had a report on lighting options for Martin Luther King Park. Mr. Kashuba met with Keith Grays and then parks worked on estimates. For six trees it would cost about \$45,000 for a permanent solution, \$10,000+ for a temporary solution. Mr. Grays suggested an alternative to MLK Park is doing some holiday lighting at Bones Hook Park. Ms. Gross suggested that maybe we could put some banners on the lights at MLK park using some artists. Ms. Duke said that we have a local vendor for the banners like the downtown uses. Chair Boyett said that he liked the art idea for MLK park but more than that he liked the idea that Mr. Grays brought out about the historical aspect that part of town has for Amarillo. Chair Boyett asked the board if they want the beautification idea for MLK park or does it need to be interactive or something broader by mixing those things together. Ms. Duke ask Mr. Grays what he envisioned since it was his idea. Mr. Grays says that the lighting is cost prohibitive. He wants Amarillo to know that Wild Horse Lake is the center of Amarillo not the north. He thinks it would be a perfect place to get some students or artists to paint some murals. The skyline is beautiful from MLK park. Chair Boyett reminded the board that we would put the large letters for people to stand by and take pictures. Dr. Sauer also said that we don't need to give up on the lighting, because in a year's time we could raise the money to do the lighting, however, we would need to think

about retrofitting the current lights to the same as the new lights. The \$45,000 - \$46,000 also included color changing lights. Andi Wardlaw said we need to make it interactive. Chair Boyett said that a photo frame for taking pictures of the skyline might be our most cost-effective option. If we did a proposal, what would we be facing in terms of the structural aspect of it? Mr. Kashuba said it would be turned over to staff so that all legal and structural items would be done correctly. If it were going to be climbed on, then we would have to make sure the structure was sound. He said we need to come up with some ideas and the execution of the project would be done by the City. Mr. Grays said that in Bones Hook Park there are only four trees to be lighted. There is a stage that will seat a full orchestra. He thinks that it is picturesque as well. He suggested waiting on MLK and just wrap just the four trees in Bone Hooks for holiday lighting. Mr. Bass said that we might be able to get someone to donate the equipment and labor. Chair Boyett suggested that we could do the lighting in two or three parks to see how it goes over. Mr. Kashuba is concerned that he may not have enough staff to do the labor for several areas. Mr. Grays is going to call Krause Landscaping to see if he would participate. Mr. Kashuba is going to check with the legal department to see what needs to be drafted in order to light the trees. Mr. Grays said let's just try this for just this holiday time and see how it goes. Ms. Gross made the motion to have Mr. Kashuba to get with legal and for Mr. Grays to reach out with Mr. Krause and the two of them work together to make it happen. Dr. Sauer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item 6. **Present and Consider Grant Opportunities.** Chair Boyett said the reason we want to address the grant opportunities is we have had some chances to apply for a grant, but the time was such that we didn't have the ability to apply before the deadline. He thinks we need to get all the grants on our radar, so we can decide what we might want to apply for in the future. Ms. Knapp Eggers and Ms. Gross agreed that we need to make a list of the available grants. Chair Boyett ask Ms. Knapp Eggers how nonprofits address this. Ms. Knapp Eggers said to probably do a quarry through the Amarillo Area Foundation because you can tell them what we are looking for. Some are annually, or every other year. Chair Boyett asked if the City has to be involved with the grants and Mr. Bass said that it depends on the dollar amount, but he will check with legal to make sure. Ms. Knapp Eggers said she will start the list of grants.

Item 7. **Update on the North Heights Arts Project.** Chair Boyett said this is a project presented earlier. We became involved a little while after it got started. Ms. Huntley with Potter County spearheaded this with a number of other citizens. It is an arts project that is designed to allow local artists, students and professional artists of every category to help tell the story of certain historical buildings and locations in the North Heights area. So many of those buildings are deteriorating and many are not even known about. Much of that history is not a documented history but an oral history. The artists are depicting the structures in art as a way to celebrate that community and educate Amarillo about that neighborhood. The contest is currently ongoing, and the website is northheightsartsproject.com. It is a project that combines history with art. The entries have to be received by December 14. They will have a citizen's forum on January 23. Other works will be shown throughout February at the galleries at Sunset Center.

Item 8. Discuss and Consider Master Plan. Mr. Breeden was not present. Report to follow next month.

Item 9. Public Forum. None

Item 10. Consider Future Agenda Items

- Beautification project – Bone Hooks and MLK parks.
- Mural project – future murals

Item 11. Next Meeting. Tuesday, November 13th at 4:30 pm

Item 12. Adjourn. Chair Boyett adjourned the meeting at 6:13 PM.

ATTEST:



Sherman Bass, Secretary



Jason Boyett, Chair