

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING REPORT
FEBRUARY 24, 2015 – 2:00 P.M.
CITY HALL – 1737 MAIN STREET
3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**



Members of City Council conducted an Arts and Historic Preservation Committee Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 in the City Hall 3rd Floor Conference Room located at 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Moe Baddourah (Chair) called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman and The Honorable Leona K. Plough were present. Committee recommendations to the Columbia City Council, if any, will be made only by the committee members. There will be no official City Council action or votes taken at the committee meeting.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

1. Proposed Public Art in the Parks Program – Mr. Lee Snelgrove, Executive Director of One Columbia

Councilor Baddourah introduced the concept of public art in the parks. He discussed the placement of public art in parks such as Finlay, Hollywood and Greenview.

Mr. Jeff Caton, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department reported that they've been in discussions to determine the type of art that would be appropriate; proper locations; mobile art; and maintenance responsibilities. He said that Parks and Recreation would determine the neighborhoods that are interested in the program.

Mr. Lee Snelgrove, Executive Director of One Columbia added that they already have a committee in place for choosing public art they have an existing database of artists representing various genres; and they would only need the City's requirements and specific locations.

Councilor Plough asked that they look at all City parks.

Mr. Jeff Caton, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department suggested the Parks Foundation as a funding partner.

Councilor Plough suggested that the neighborhoods be invited to participate in the cleanup and preparation of the parks.

Mr. Jeff Caton, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department said that input is sought from neighborhoods before any renovations are done and there is opportunity for buy-in.

2. **Hospitality Tax Line Items

Mr. Lee Snelgrove, Executive Director of One Columbia discussed the designation of cultural districts by the South Carolina Arts Commission. He noted that the Vista Guild is interested in applying for this designation and City Council will have to endorse the application. He noted that there are no financial benefits or tax incentives; it makes the districts more competitive.

Mr. Andy Smith, Nickelodeon Theatre advocated for designated funds for capital projects outside of the hospitality tax funding process. He also advocated for line item funding for planning contingent upon the availability of funding.

Mr. Larry Hembree, Trustus Theatre suggested that the City have guidelines for capital projects.

Councilor Newman suggested multi-year funding under one category.

Councilor Baddourah suggested that the committee review Dr. Simon Hudson's recommendations before the committee makes a decision. He also suggested a three-year threshold for funding.

Councilor Plaugh inquired about annual reporting; the issuance of debt if the City doesn't own the building.

- **Council adjourned the meeting at 2:48 p.m.**

Submitted by:

Connie Lucius