

Arts, Grounds & Aesthetics Meeting

January 11, 2022

Attendees: Corrin Le Vasseur, Ernest Haffner, Eliaz McCullen, James Meyer, Anna Romskog, Gavin Watts, Elizabeth Murakami, Gary Coulton, Kathryn Funk-Baxter, Mary Flood, Stephanie Black, Joseph Pickering

Absent: Justin Korver, Valerie Barrera, Sarah Castillo, Michelle Janysek, Lanie Perez, Cecilia Espitia

Minutes from October 28, 2021

- Asked for any corrections or updates

Grounds, Gardens and Outdoor Spaces Improvement Subcommittee – Mary Flood

- Have not met since the last meeting
- Repair and reinstallation of the Sebastian Art sculptures
 - Working on contract for them
 - Going to send the sculptures back to Sebastian for repair
- 50 picnic benches that will be delivered started Wednesday
 - 2 day installation
 - Should start seeing the new pieces around campus
 - Intend to replace the wooden framed picnic tables which have lined the walk away from cab and MADLA to Esperanza hall.

Fostering Community Partnerships Subcommittee – Justin Korver

- Fall semester there was a joint project with student engagement that displayed photos
 - Along Esperanza hall
 - Planning a community partnership with the campus

Student Volunteer Lead Opportunities Subcommittee – Joseph Pickering

- No update

Projects in progress

- Street names are going to be submitted
 - Agave Avenue
 - Monarch Manor

- Cypress Corner
- Patriots' Parkway
- Kathy: This past week, the new building the library and COB, the architects for the building have helped us engage in looking for educational graphics. Could possibly share these at the next meeting because they are still in draft form.
- Road going past classroom hall will be named Cypress Corner and some of the graphics will be in correlation Cypress tree.
- Names for future streets will be named after unique features of the campus and region.

Memorial Garden Update – Ernest Haffner

- Had a meeting with the architects Friday
- Concern for the fees that were given to us because they were over budget
- Will receive a new proposal for the new location of the Memorial Garden
- This will affect the new proposal within the pricing figures
- President originally identified the spot of the tree that is honoring a previous campus member in the MADLA courtyard area.
- Predominately used for large events and community events
- Lights of Esperanza
- Would not be the best place for the Memorial Garden because this could affect future events
- Location change:
- Possibly look behind CAB and between Classroom Hall where Sebastian Art is
- Joseph Simpson Agrees that this might be a good spot for the Memorial Garden because this spot could be secure for the future and don't have to worry about anything taking it over.
- Kathy mentions that this might not be a road way in the long term
- Mary asked if we have considered the President's rose garden because it is secluded.
- Kathy mentions that students might want to keep this as a student memorial instead of a community memorial
- Joseph Simpson mentions that the students wanted to keep this as a section to honor students and alumni. Likes the idea to use it for programming vs taking it offline and making a full time memorial space.
- Possibly look in front of Classroom Hall there is a green belt with nothing in it

- These locations would be a better fit for the Memorial Garden because they are out of the way of events etc.

Mural Committee – Corrin Le Vasseur

- After the press release will meet in February
- Committee review of the press release
- Wrote with a sense of trying to collaborate with the contemporary art month city of San Antonio and with TAMUSA so that everyone understands what we are doing with the community.
- This is not about picking 1 or 2 artist and using the same ones. There will be multiple artist used over a period of time using open call as we build the campus.
- Will start the open call on the 17th and close it on the 21st
- Trying to get 3 artist between the 21st and the end of the month and then bring the 3 individuals to bring to the committee.
- Kathy mentions that we are going to use a wall that is part of the mechanical wall that will be used for the 2nd memorial.
- The 3 finalist that we pick might be able to be used for the next 3 murals because the wall is massive
- Ernest ask if the theme of that wall will be reflective of Patriots' Casa or just generic
- Corrin mentions that this will be related to students. Student's parents, graduation, campus, and sports.
- Kathy mentions that we want the students to feel wanted and engaged so that is why the wall will be reflective of this.
- Mural Subcommittee had a question on the budget that is we release the budget so that the artist knows what we are paying etc. This will allow artist to know what we are paying and can find the artist that is willing to do it for that price.
- Kathy mentions that it should not be in the press release but should be up on the site
- Budget was shown to the committee
- PO has already been done for the open call costs and will go up on January 17th
- Could possibly combine the community dialog events into 2 instead of 3
- Kathy mentions that the material costs for the artists and the University need to be separated on the budget breakdown.

Black Lives Matter Sidewalk Painting

- Pricing has been sent back for them to do the paint work
- Having problems with getting paint

- Estimate it will be \$2000 - \$2300 to do the work
- Jarrick Brown and the Black Student Union would be the approvers for the colors

Ring Monument – Joseph Simpson

- Tuesday the 4th update: The foundries have made a lot of progress in the construction of the brass ring
- On target for late March or early April
- Just need to know what is going to go on the front granite part of the monument.
- Kathy mentions that is we are putting the seal on the wall behind it then she is fine with that. Could they design a podium stand for the ring that would allow us to take it outside for students to take pictures during ring day etc? If it gets moved outside it won't have the University seal anymore. Should we have the University seal on the ring?
- Joseph Simpson mentions that he is fine with that because it makes it more distinct.
- Possibility that the wall behind the ring monument might be changed to allow for more pictures
- Ernest mentions that the background is a little too busy. If the ring is on the podium against the background there is a feeling that the ring will be lost. Secondly, if we have the seal on the wall then it should not be on the podium. It should be one or the other. Possibly have 2 podiums, one with a seal and one without.
- There are only 2 ring days a year
- Joseph mentions that the ring details are more important than the seal because it will tell more of a story.

Entryway to A&M San Antonio – Kathryn Funk-Baxter

- Renderings of the entryway are shown
- No final selection has been made yet as they are still working on a couple items to add to the entryway
- Ernest mentions that he is working with the city to try and get the primary address of One University Way added to for the two 5 acre sides of the entryway
- This process is still ongoing
- A&M System is paying for the bulk of the project
- Going to be a substantial form of branding right off the access road of 410

Open Topics

I LOVE A&M SA letters

- Large letters that would be I <3 A&M SA

- Would be a great place for students to take pictures
- They would be on a concrete platform somewhere near the south quad possibly
- This would be in a permanent location so that it can be lighted
- Would students want this lighted for special occasions or every evening? – Question to ask the students.
- Promotes a sense of belonging and student pride
- The background of this need to be deep in thought along with possibly a concrete pedestal.

Livestream video of the library building

- Do we have a livestream of the Library?
- There is a fly by video of the Library – 3d imagery
- Joseph mentions that having the livestream allows to keep the community involved. Using a webcam.
- Post updated pictures weekly or monthly to the website to allow people to see the transformations.
- Ernest mentions that the pictures could serve as a teaser because people that have not seen the building before can get excited about the building.

Next Meeting Topics

- Digital Signage future use
- Plans to replace the dead trees around campus
- Livestream Video of Library and COB building