

Oak Grove Community Council - **Special Meeting Minutes**

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| Meeting Name: | Oak Grove Community Council Special Business Meeting | | |
| Meeting Date: | May 8, 2019 | Start Time: | 6:30 p.m. |
| Location: | Oak Lodge Water Services | End Time: | 8:00 p.m. |
| Address: | 14611 SE River Road, Oak Grove | Minute Taker: | Jan Lindstrom |
| Board Members Present: 6 | Apologies: | | Jane Civiletti |
| Valerie Chapman, Joseph Edge, Jan Lindstrom, Jim Meyer, Jason Schreppel, Greg Wenneson | | | |
| Voting Members Present: 17 | | | |
| Kathleen Chapman, Valerie Chapman, Joseph Edge, Annette Guarriello, Pat Kennedy, Leta Kriens, Ron Kriens, Jan Lindstrom, Jim Meyer, Paul Savas, Jason Schreppel, Linda Seals, Casey Snoeberger, Fred Swingle, Baldwin van der Bijl, Greg Wenneson, Robert Zimmer | | | |
| Non-Voting Members Present: 0 | | | |
| Visitors and Guests Present: 1 | | | |
| Luke Peters, Owner, Leon Capital Group (via phone) | | | |
| | Meeting Agenda | Discussion led by: | |
| 6:40 p.m. | Welcome and Introductions | Joseph Edge | |
| Joseph explained that the purpose of this special meeting is to review proposals, discuss and make a recommendation for a muralist for the Oak Grove Mural Project at the self-storage facility at Oak Grove Blvd. & Kellogg Ave. | | | |
| Joseph and Secretary Jan Lindstrom counted voting members in attendance to determine if there was a quorum for an official vote and recommendation on the muralists. As 17 voting members and 6 board members were present, a quorum was established. | | | |
| | Program / Topic | Discussion led by: | |
| 6:50 p.m. | Self-Storage warehouse muralist concepts and discussion. | Joseph Edge | |
| Joseph noted that we are fortunate to be able to provide input about this mural, since it's a voluntary process on the part of Leon Capital Group. At present, unincorporated areas like Oak Grove have no formal process to review and approve designs. In this case, we are providing a recommendation. The City of Milwaukie Arts Committee helped out a lot with this process. Artist Chris Haberman connected Joseph to other artists. Seven muralists were identified and three proposals were submitted from Ursula Barton, Chris Haberman and Kristopher Kanaly. | | | |
| Luke Peters reviewed the site location of the mural (the narrower of two walls facing SE Birch Ave.) and then each muralist's submission via a slide presentation. Seven muralists originally submitted proposals. The top three finalists are: Ursula Barton, Chris Haberman and Kristopher Kanaly. | | | Luke Peters |
| In response to questions from members, Luke Peters clarified the following: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All three artists are accomplished muralists. The artist chosen will paint and seal the mural so it will last for many years without touch-up. ● Ursula Barton's black-and-white design are intended to be in color once the final images are selected for inclusion in the design and the color palette is selected with community input. ● The chosen artist will take the community's input on the specific images to be included in the mural. | | | |
| In response to the presentation, community members commented: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paul Savas said that he went door-to-door talking to property owners on Birch Street. There were mixed reviews about the mural concept. People are concerned about maintenance in the years to come. ● Luke Peters explained that all exposed outside walls have a flat metal surfaces, that paint adheres well, and that will be sealed when done and lasts a long time. The sealants are waterproof, helping to repel graffiti. | | | |

- Casey Snoeberger said he originally understood the location of the mural to be on the west side so it can be seen on McLoughlin.
- Joseph responded that the County Hearings Officer's decision was to put the mural on the south-facing wall parallel to Birch. It was chosen because it's a big blank wall and according the County code, there can be no huge blank walls visible from a public street.
- Jason said he liked Ursula's rendering but wondered if she also does color? Luke Peters explained that her proposal includes a color study.
- Pat Kennedy asked what information about our community was given to the artists (since most of the images are of Milwaukie or tall buildings / the Portland skyline).
- Joseph explained that no guidance was given to the muralists in terms of content. He noted that our goal for today is only to identify which concept to recommend, but not the exact concept.
- Jim Meyer wondered if we would have time for an interim step, to provide feedback on content to the artists, given that it appears the mural is slated for completion next month.
- Joseph said there is no guidance from Zoning & Development regarding this process, because there is no ordinance.
- Valerie suggested we provide information to the chosen muralist about the history of the Oak Grove area.
- Joseph said our goal is to identify the concept, provide comments and then take a look at another draft by the selected muralist. The builder is still working on drainage systems for the building. The goal is to finish by the end of June.
- Given the short timeframe in which to provide feedback, a suggestion was made to have the deadline for community input extended.
- Luke Peters agreed to extend the deadline for feedback to end of day Monday. The email for feedback is oakgrovemural@leoncapitalgroup.com. We will post the slide presentation and email on our website and send out an email announcement.
- Baldwin van der Bijl suggested getting the rough draft of the images for review by the larger membership.
- Pat Kennedy said our community has a lot of history and is known for its trees, sequoias and oaks. It would be good to reference images of the people who were here first.
- Paul Savas said he appreciated Ursula's design because it is more natural looking, the way it's laid out. He likes the idea of trees, because he's sensitive to his neighbors who have a bird's-eye view of the building.
- Annette Guariello found the designs too busy, with everything going on. She mentioned the Concord School, birds, trees. Something other than the image of a building on the side of a building. In general, suggestions from those present included: references from local history (steamboats, Trolley Trail, the old drive-in, the Bomber, and less busy overall.
- Paul said it's too bad we can't have the mural on the longer wall, because it appears it will be hidden when new houses are built along the neighboring street. He suggested having a bird or something on the longer portion, some kind of image moving from the mural onto the other wall to connect it.
- Thelma Haggemiller mentioned the public art guidelines that were drawn up relative to the Trolley Trail. Those might prove useful to the community. Thelma will try to locate her notes on this subject.
- Valerie Chapman thanked Luke Peters for allowing us to give feedback on the muralists.

● **MOTION:** Valerie Chapman moved that we defer a decision on the muralist recommendation until after 5 p.m. Monday, when the window for community feedback will end. The motion failed by an 11-5 vote.

● **MOTION:** Paul Savas moved that we review the three artists and poll those present in order to rank them. We will add the community's feedback after the window for feedback ends on Monday. The motion passed by a 12-4 majority vote.

● **POLL:** Joseph polled the membership in order to rank the muralists. The vote was 9 for Ursula Barton, 8 for Kris Haberman and 0 for Kristopher Kanaly.

● **MOTION:** Valerie Chapman moved that we notify the membership of our first and second choices for the muralist. Paul added we should note that Ursula's design will include color and that we will have input on the working design. Jan agreed to post the results on the OGCC website with a notice about feedback remaining open until Monday. We also will send the artist the Trolley Trail art guidelines, if Thelma or someone else can locate them. The motion passed unanimously.

8:00 p.m.

Adjourn