

Item 24-0698: Request from the Appleton Police Department to paint a mural to be located on the east-facing concrete wall, between the lower garage and the upper parking deck, located at 222 S. Walnut Street

Appleton Public Arts Committee

Wed, Jun 05, 2024, 8:00AM

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 02:12

Okay, action item number one. We have a request from the Appleton police department to paint a mural to be located on the east facing concrete wall between the lower garage and the upper parking deck located at 222 South Walnut Street as described in the attached document and subject to the conditions in the attached staff to memo.

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 02:44

I can give an overview on that.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 02:46

Okay.

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 02:47

Okay. So my name is Lily Paul. I'm the Economic Development Specialist now for the city of Appleton. The request that we received from the police department actually is using ARPA dollars, and this is going to be kind of a community outreach project. As you guys look through your packet, there is going to be a mural at the parking garage for the police department. So actually—so the address says to do to Walnut Street. It's actually going to be on Elm Street. When you're facing—I think it's you're going to be facing west. When you're on Elm Street, you'll see the lower garage, and then there's the upper parking deck, there's a nice like concrete block there that—and it's going to have a nice display of like couple hands reaching out. And the message is going to be "It takes all of us."

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 03:37

Let's see, who's going to be doing this mural is going to be Irineo Medina. He's done a lot of murals in the area. He's actually doing this with Appleton Area School District students. So he's kind of kind of coordinating it all. They're going to be painting it together, and then he'll button it up, make sure it all looks crisp by the end of it.

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 03:56

Let's see. The expected start date is July 15. Obviously, this is weather permitting. Right now, there's lots of rain this week especially. So I think the goal is in July in general. But it's gonna be a three-day project. So two days with the students, and the last day for the artist to finish it up.

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 04:19

Let's see. Kind of just like read through my memo here. You know, just making a trying to keep this art going into the city in accordance with our comprehensive plan. But based on the guidelines outlined in our Art in Public Places policy, staff recommends to approve the mural with the conditions below, if you want me to read them all...? Or no? Okay. Any questions?

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 04:56

I do.

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 04:57

Yep.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 04:58

I think we discussed last week, what are the age ranges of these students who will be participating?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 05:06

High school.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 05:07

High school. Also, it is a three-day project with the last day with the artist completing the project?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 05:20

Yes, yep.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 05:22

The artist will be with the students those first two days as well?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 05:25

Correct. Yep.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 05:27

Do we have a timeline as far as when they will be starting and ending?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 05:35

During the day? I do not have that information. I can gather it and give it to you.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 05:44

Okay, do we also have plans for—being that these are students—for hydration purposes and nourishment purposes for that time, just being because it is a very warm temperature?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 06:06

Sure. So they are going to be near the police department. So applicant, Mackenzie Wagner, and then is it lieutenant Cash—and Lieutenant Cash. That's something I can bring up to them and just make sure that they are aware that, you know, it would be nice to have supplies or things for them, you know, like water and maybe like a snack. Absolutely.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 06:29

I would also add that there are AASD personnel involved in the project here, and so their staff members are accustomed to working with youth and I think will plan accordingly.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 06:46

Also, the materials being used to paint the mural, prep the mural, finish the mural—would they cause any kind of health issues with children? Do we know if alcohol is a concentrate in the paint or anything like that that may cause an issue?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 07:14

That's a good question. I am not aware of the materials or the substance, I guess, of the paint. I guess the paint is just going to be appropriate for being able to adhere to the concrete. In terms of you know, like, health issues, I think it wouldn't be allowed to be used if it had, you know, a concern of that. That's my understanding at least, and they're not going to be using something that's potentially dangerous.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 07:44

I would add just a couple things. One, we will, if approved, enter into an agreement with the parties involved to ensure that there's proper precautions taken and that liability is being addressed. But also did want to point out that this particular artist has worked previously with Appleton Area School District. They did the mural that's on the east side of Kaleidoscope Academy last summer, and they're working with middle school aged students. So I think, again, they're accustomed to working with this age group and taking the proper precautions to make sure that the students are participating in an engaging way but doing so in a safe manner.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 08:28

And being not of the age of 18 yet, do you have some maybe some kind of form for the parents to sign and give approval?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 08:43

I think that's handled by the school district.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 08:45

I think because the school district is actually the one the entity that is arranging with the particular students, that they would take the proper steps to ensure that there's a sign off from their parent or guardian.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 09:00

And one last question. I see that the end date is the 17th? We're shooting for a July 17 end date. I believe that is a day—the day before a parade, is it? Do we have a parade? A Flag Day Parade?

Lily Paul (Economic Development Specialist - Community Development) 09:24

Flag day's in June.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 09:25

Flag Day's in June. Like a parade—

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 09:27

Oh, okay. Okay.

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 09:30

There is the children's parade later on in July. I don't recall the exact date offhand. But just given the location here on the east side of the Police Department property along Elm Street, I mean, it's not a major part of a parade route. It's literally a one block segment. It doesn't—it's not a through street where it would be a concern from a traffic congestion standpoint.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 10:00

That is all I have. Does anybody else have questions?

[Committee members indicate they do not have any questions.]

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 10:16

Okay. Could I have a motion to approve? And a second?

Jayne Laste (Public Arts Committee Member) 10:25

I'll motion to approve.

Catherine McKenzie (Public Arts Committee Member) 10:27

Second.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 10:30

All in favor say aye.

All Committee Members 10:32

Aye.

Beu Vang (Public Arts Committee Member) 10:46

I'm sorry. There's information items. Is that—

Someone 10:51

We have any information items?

Deputy Director David Kress (Community and Economic Development) 11:04

Okay. So just one note regarding an update on the photo contest. I believe back in January or February, this group voted on a theme for this particular year's photo contest. Given the staffing turnover that we've had and just overall workload and capacity, our determination at this point was to put that on hold for now and revisit it in a few months once we've kind of got our staffing situation settled. So just wanted to provide an update. Obviously, it's a priority moving forward, but it's just not something that's going to happen as quickly as previously anticipated. That's the only information item that I'm aware of.