



**City Arts & Culture Commission
Meeting Minutes – Special Meeting
Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 6:30 pm
Executive Meeting Room, City Hall, 111 North Main St., Bristol, CT**

ATTENDEES: Lindsay Vigue, Kim Villanti, Samantha Cloutier, Juliet Norton, Bill Stortz,
Mark Walerysiak
ABSENT: Andrea Adams
COUNCIL LIAISON: Greg Hahn
GUEST: Corey Pane, Nick Stafko

I. The City Arts & Culture Commission was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chair Lindsay Vigue.

The written answers to the Committee's questions for the artists on the submission form were distributed. The questions on the form were:

- How many outdoor large-scale murals have you done?
- What is your artistic background/education?
- What is the biggest challenge you have faced while creating a mural?
- Do you have experience in engaging the community in your artwork?
- How long do most of your murals take to create?
- How long do your murals last?
- What kind of paint do you use?
- Do you incorporate the environment in your murals?

II. Interview Mural Artist #1

Lindsay introduced Corey Pane. Lindsay asked questions about his experience:

- How big a mural have you done? Corey said he has done wider ones but this one would be taller.
- Lindsay asked about a boom lift rental. Corey replied yes, this would be needed and he would be able to work faster.
- How long would it take? Corey replied about a week. Lindsay reminded him that he would need to work around the banking hours.
- Therefore, can he work at night? It's not ideal, but he could make it work if he had a light. He prefers to start early in the morning and work all day until it gets dark.

Juliet Norton joined the meeting.

- There was a discussion of lifts – the location where it would be and the anticipated cost. Approximate cost is \$2,000/week. Possible lane closure was discussed.
- There was discussion on how to incorporate the community into the mural and what he has done in the past. A couple of ways – once he did a paint-by-numbers system, other times – he bounced ideas off the public and took that into account when he made his sketch.
- The committee asked about the adherence of paint at this time of year. The paint dries very fast and during October and November it is OK and preferable to winter.

- The artist was asked would he recommend a clear coat and the type of paint that would be used. Corey said the clear coat would make it last longer and you can get it with UV resistance so the colors won't fade as much and this building has a southern exposure, however, this can get expensive. However, without the clear coat the mural will last 5-10 years.
- The artist was asked who does the preparation of the site and what needs to be done. Corey said that the site is usually prepped in advance but this wall was pretty good as it was white, but the brick at the top should be scraped before painting on it.
- The artist was asked how would he prepare the surface and would he recommend power-washing. Corey said the concern was mainly the top portion and it would be best to power-wash it as it appears to be old paint on the brick that may be loose. Lindsay remarked that the lift would probably be needed to do the power-washing. Corey said that he could do the power-wash in one day and even begin to sketch while he is up there and then paint the following day.
 - Julie mentioned that they would need to figure in the clean-up of the paint that comes down.

The committee agreed it was impractical to involve the public in any type of actual painting of the mural as the lower portion is obscured by vines and this was occurring on private property. Publishing the hours that the painting would be taking place was a more practical suggestion as the public may wish to observe the process. The committee will discuss a time-lapse video.

Corey asked if there was an outlet available for him to use. Samantha suggested would it be possible to use a generator?

- The Commission asked if Corey had any questions and design ideas for them. He said he would like to incorporate some elements of Bristol but also make it vibrant and bright and something that would catch people's eye. Lindsay said yes there can be something about Bristol's past, present, future but it should be something that is alive. Corey agreed that the Bristol elements would be more subtle and the mural would not be a history piece.
- Corey asked when would they like this project to begin? Lindsay said by the end of the month.
- Kim asked how long would he need to develop a concept? Corey replied one week.
- Lindsay asked if he had liability coverage? Corey replied he was an LLC.
 - Kim said that he should call his insurance company and ask for an umbrella policy.

Corey Pane left the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

The committee briefly discussed publicity. There was brief discussion of Mr. Pane's answers.

II. Interview Mural Artist #2

Nick Stafko jointed the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Nick brought a laptop and showed some of his work. The Committee asked questions about his past experience. Nick spoke about his background and where he apprenticed and got his experience. He named a number of projects that he collaborated on.

Questions from the Committee:

- Lindsay asked about a boom lift. Nick said he would arrange for this to be provided.
 - Nick produced a written cost quotation and described the lift process in detail. This would be needed for a week or two. If he could get the left lane at Webster it would go faster.
- He provided a copy of his insurance. He would increase the policy slightly – currently he has 3 million and was concerned with the traffic in case a car goes through the ATM at night and doesn't see the closure. He had become familiar with the site.

- Site Preparation: Nick said he would paint the entire surface first with a superior exterior paint. He is a contractor for one company and he gave the cost. With regard to power-washing, he has reviewed the site and would clean and paint. The preparation would take a day. Nick asked about the landscape and vines and asked what would they want to do with it. Should this be incorporated into the mural or cut back. If the vines are cut back they will grow back.
- Nick would want to get the exterior acrylic latex paint (Sherwin-Williams "Resilience") on there before painting. He would then cleanup and chip and mortar back any chipped areas. He has reviewed the site and said it was in good shape and the brick part is the concern. Sherwin-Williams guarantees the paint for four years.
- Lindsay asked if "Resilience" has UV in it and Nick said yes. The paint is paint and primer in one and will be incorporated into the design. He would need about 20 gallons. Nick spoke about the paint he uses – "Montana Gold." This is professional acrylic and holds up well. He discussed other paints that he did not like.
- Nick provided a price breakdown for the entire project. The high end would be \$32,000+. He detailed what this would provide. With various discounts he would bring the price down and asked what the budget was.
- Kim asked how long would it take and Nick said about a month. He said it would be difficult but it could be done by November 1st but then the weather can be tricky.
- The boom is \$1800/week.
- Nick said he would like to get the top done in a week.
- Nick then showed one possible design but wanted input from the committee.
 - Lindsay commented that they wanted something that would make a splash and is a unique piece – not so much "this is Bristol."
 - Nick showed examples – a simpler design with less colors.
 - He noted that depending on the design and time frame the price could come down by \$5,000-10,000 as there would be less people working the site and this would cut down on the labor cost.
 - If the more detailed part of the mural was on the lower half that could cut down on the lift time.
 - Nick showed the design he is doing in City Hall and the other sketches which showed how it would look on the wall. He keeps some sketches in rough form then finalizes in Photoshop. He would be ready to move fast on this and can get the paint quickly. What he needs is in stock at Sherwin-Williams. He needs the other workers to assist with the time frame but he does most of the detail work himself.
- The ATM does not need to be closed down but it would help to have the lift for a shorter time. The lane doesn't have to be closed but it is a safety issue, especially while moving the lift. There was more discussion on the lift.
- Nick said that the other workers do mostly the background and prep work.

There was discussion over the time frame, use of additional workers or not, and painting in cold weather. Nick said that the price could come down if he could get a lane closure because he would be on the lift a shorter time. There was a discussion of ways of bringing the cost down.

Discussion of concepts and type of concept: Nick is proposing a simpler concept, at least at the top, and this would cut down on lift time and therefore would cut the cost. A lane closure for 2 to 3 days would be helpful.

Nick Stafko left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

IV. Review of Interviews, Discussion and Vote

The Committee discussed the budget and the artists, and the differences in the way they work, the technical aspects and the artistic aspects.

Kim Villanti made a motion seconded by Bill Stortz, to hire Corey Pane contingent upon him submitting a written itemized quote and approval of a concept and proof of insurance. All present voted in favor and the motion was passed.

Bill Stortz excused himself from the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

V. Video coverage of mural

Lindsay asked what type of video do they wish to have? Brief discussion.

Mark Walerysiak excused himself from the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Kim said that this discussion should be tabled pending contact with the City's marketing specialist, Dawn Nielsen to inquire whether it is possible for marketing to incur or share the cost. Lindsay will contact Dawn. She will also speak to the Parks Department about use of a power-washer.

VI. Adjournment

Samantha Cloutier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m., seconded by Kim Villanti. All present voted in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cooper,
Recording Secretary