



# STAFF REPORT

AGENDA NO:

MEETING DATE: July 3, 2017

**To: Honorable Mayor and City Council**

**Date: July 3, 2017**

**From: Margaret Glomstad, Parks and Recreation Director – (650) 558-7307**

**Subject: Discussion of Public Art to Honor Anson Burlingame**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council review the update from the ad hoc Subcommittee assigned to explore and develop a public art piece to honor Anson Burlingame and provide feedback.

## **BACKGROUND**

On February 21, 2017, the Council held a study session to discuss a public art display to honor Anson Burlingame (Exhibit A). The Council agreed that further work on this matter should be done by an ad hoc Subcommittee, and Mayor Ortiz appointed Vice Mayor Brownrigg and Councilmember Beach to this group.

The members of the Subcommittee and staff held a preliminary discussion, and then staff conducted research to learn how other local cities have addressed the commissioning of public art. In addition, staff met with representatives from the Cities of Redwood City and South San Francisco, who have public art programs, and talked with Ruth Waters from the Peninsula Art Museum and Cindy Abbott from the Sanchez Art Center in Pacifica. Based on the information gathered, the Subcommittee agreed to meet with Lance Fung and John Tally with Fung Collaboratives.

Fung Collaboratives is an arts organization founded in 1999 by Lance Fung. Their mission is to explore and develop interesting conversations between and through the arts. Through the development of curatorial, commercial, and educational events under a single organizational umbrella, Fung Collaboratives fosters the collaboration of both emerging and established artists in intimate and ambitious projects with domestic and international settings. Recently, they have been working with Redwood City to develop their Public Art Master Vision.

The Subcommittee met with Lance Fung and John Tally on Tuesday, June 6. The Subcommittee was very impressed with the knowledge and background experience of Fung Collaboratives and felt that they would be a valuable resource to educate the Burlingame community about public art and to help guide the commissioning of a public art piece.

## **DISCUSSION**

In order to ensure that there is adequate input from the community, the Subcommittee will be supported by Ruth Waters from the Peninsula Art Museum, Russ Cohen from the Burlingame Historical Society, and David Chai, who has extensively researched Anson Burlingame and will be available to the Subcommittee to provide background information as needed. In addition, the Subcommittee is currently recruiting three additional community members who can contribute input and guidance.

The process has been developed to include three phases and will be coordinated by staff and Fung Collaboratives in conjunction with the Subcommittee and community working group.

### Phase 1:

1. Plan and facilitate two educational workshops, for the Councilmembers and community members, about what public art is, the benefits of public art, national and local views on public art, best practices, how the public can get involved, and what art can mean in Burlingame.
2. Hold one meeting of the Subcommittee and community working group to begin the conversation, talk about ideas and locations, and create a list of potential artists and/or ways to advertise the project.

### Phase 2:

1. Research possible grant opportunity to help fund the art.
2. Meet with potential local funders, such as businesses or patrons.
3. Create the Call for Artist.
4. Present to Council to update the status of the project.
5. If appropriate, request Council approval to commission an art piece.

### Phase 3:

1. Select the final location and artist to commission the new site-specific artwork.
2. If on The Bay Trail, coordinate with ABAG and BCDC for site planning.
3. With the City Attorney, develop and execute a contract between the City and the artist.
4. Work directly with the artist to create the final proposal.
5. Present the proposal to the Council and get approval for a detailed proposal, timeline, budget, artist statement, renderings, etc.
6. Schedule meetings with City stakeholders to provide information about the work.
7. Work on installation details such as engineering, safety, ADA compliance, and signage.
8. Schedule and complete a ribbon-cutting event.

Phase 3 would not begin until funding has been secured and the Council has approved moving forward.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The cost for Fung Collaboratives to facilitate phase 1 is \$5,000, while the cost for phase 2 is an additional \$5,000. There are adequate funds in the Recreation Division's Operating Budget in FY

2017-18 for phases 1 and 2. Funding sources for phase 3 have yet to be determined and will be developed in phase 2.

Exhibit:

- Study Session Staff Report