

**City of Lawrence**  
**Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission (LAC)**  
**April 13, 2016 Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**City Commission Room, City Hall, 6 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Members present:** Kate Dinneen; John Hachmeister; Jerry Johnson; Patrick Kelly; Michel Loomis; Mike Maude; Sean Reardon; Richard Renner; Katherine Simmons, Chair; and Kristina Walker

**Members absent:** Joshua Falleaf

**City staff present:** Porter Arneill, Director of Arts and Culture

**Guests:** Phil Collison, Amanda Davis, Josh Davis, Tim Herndon, Dave Loewenstein, Tom Mac Ewan, Arch Naramore, Sarah Robinson, Cindy Suenram, Dennis Enslinger, Brad Gibson and Jen Unekis

**A. Regular agenda items**

**1. Call meeting to order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Katherine Simmons at 7:03 p.m.

**2. Approve March 9, 2016 meeting minutes**

The minutes were approved as presented.

**B. New Business**

**1. East Ninth Concept Phase I Design Final Presentation**

Josh Shelton of el dorado, inc. presented the final concept design development package which has been approved and recommended by the East Ninth Citizen Advisory Committee by a vote of 12 Y, 2 N and 1 Abstention. el dorado has only been contracted for Phase 1, concept design, thus far. Phase 2, if approved by City Commission, will be for technical drawings. Public comments were received.

Josh reviewed the project history and provided a block by block description.

Proposing a storm water management didactic at Delaware.

Will save the Wishing Bench per feedback from the ELNA meeting.

Landscaping plan - move to a more indigenous planting scheme  
Little blue stem, big blue stem, can handle the climate and all the street stuff, salts, oils, etc.

Technical phase to work out details with Parks.

Referenced Portland plant wells – concerns about trash accumulating and trash removal.

Bartlett & West proposes to take water through hard scape first to stop trash for easier cleaning.

Power and lighting, there are no speakers or outlets in the design. Burying power lines with Westar as part of their strategic plans

Demolition and repair plan.

Preserve north half of Delaware.  
Identified historic limestone curbing which will be removed carefully and will be retrieved and reused.

Artist integration plan

Derek Porter – strategic LED low-level lighting – lights the path in front of the traveler.

Jim Woodfill – Interested in “cross hatching” – recognizing the many areas of intersection and activity vs. the “barbell” concept between mass and Delaware. Plans to acknowledge poetic “sweet spots” with subtle and directed light and sound features (okay if only 1 out of 5 people notice)

Jarrett Mellenbruch - stone seating areas - low slung rocks - street furniture - primitive front porch

East Ninth artists - local artists

Zia-how people connect, fire as ritualistic

Stephen T. Johnson-document overlooked sites in a book

Nick Carswell-music, maybe work with Woodfill

Rachael Perry-nit sure yet

Meridith Moore-find secrets, revelation of information

Budget-est. \$3.568 million

Original plan was for six blocks but the seventh block has been added. Even with added block, stayed at block-to-cost ratio. The design team and Bartlett & West were calibrating cost-to-scope during the design process.

Enjoyed the process and working with Lawrence and learned.

Katherine-public comment first then questions from LCAC.

Brad Gibson East Lawrence resident:

\$300k lighting budget - does that include the art installs?

JS: Derek Porter is "marrying" his budget with lighting as part of the integrated aspect of the infrastructure.

Is city responsible for any of the art installation?

Covered by the art budget but city takes over responsibility upon completion.

Bike path-looks like where the plantings are, there's curb areas identified - 4" or 6" curb

JS: Typical street curb at some sites and curves to street.

Church parking-why take it away?

JS: For overall balance. Verdell sits on the citizen advisory committee and understands the situation. There is a give and take. Shared path and historic aspects are saved in lieu of parking.

Parking study was not included in scope of services for this project.

Used city studies where provided.

Street analysis of traffic study was pulled from various online sources.

Dave Loewenstein - CAC member – LCAC question. As a prior LCAC member, I'm assuming that this will require same review as other public art projects.

Katherine Simmons – We're reviewing this as a unique project, not a typical public art project but yes, where applicable, the same review will be implemented.

(Mr. Loewenstein referenced prior criteria that has been developed.)

Dave Loewenstein - All of the criteria should be applied in context.

Apply the same criteria and application process as all other projects.

Simmons – I agree that the LCAC should have continued oversight related to the public art in the project.

Tim Herndon - CAC member – It gives great pleasure that in my career as a design professional who's worked on a range of projects including streets and who was involved in the Oread process to see how well this design provides blending into the fabric of the neighborhood. I've never seen a public improvement project so meticulously analyzed and redesigned. Never seen a project so delicately and thoroughly parsed.

Phil Collison - CAC Member - I listened to very carefully to the language used here tonight and it scares me. Parking is a significant concern. I agree that Verdell understands but going from 43 to 6 spaces is significant. *Pachamamas* will have a big impact. Better approach is to look at the neighborhood and lose the bike lanes to 8th and 10th and re-install parking. Shared use path is dangerous and intersections add to the danger. Feel like I have to settle for less.

JS: Public parking plan-published the max amount per city standards.

Collison: I never got a firm sense of where we are or what other approach the city might take.

Nicholas Ward - 11th street would be a more viable bike path. The focus on 9th ties back to arts center proposal.

Dennis Enslinger – The East Lawrence planning document that’s online (E. Lawrence Revitalization plan?). Where was this document in helping to inform this process?

JS: We were made aware of prior plans and information and referenced them. I want to be very clear that the city in doing a street rehab which is a complete street approach which includes all modes of traffic.

City is at the root of focusing on 9th street.

Joshua Davis - Resident - good points. A lot of time was spent getting input from the city and neighborhood. Vote has been done by CAC and ELNA. We’re losing parking too but we recognize that there are other options.

There’s traffic during school, boy scouts, etc. but most of the day is fairly light.

Close public comment. 8:34 p.m.

KS: In regard to Dave Lowenstein’s comments related to evaluating public art, the effectiveness of design is appropriate to area quality of design. At this stage, proposed artwork is appropriate and the LCAC will conduct further review during phase 2 design if applicable.

Focus on aesthetics and art moving forward.

Kate Dinneen recuses herself as a paid member/Associate Artist on the art team.

Sean Reardon: There's never going to be 100% success on a project like this. This seems to accomplish making a complete street. This creates a place with art and lighting. Scale is good. Sitting walls and added green space make sense long-term.

JS: in response to something that was said-grown sensitive to all the aspects of this. Want to celebrate and conserve a place. We fell in love with East Ninth and how to balance. It's both a great place now and hope it is in the future.

John Hachmeister: Public art requires maintenance. Is there any budget to cover those costs?

It's in discussion now but not resolved. Lighting for Jim-15yr LED. Derek-city acknowledges that it's a different fixture type but is willing to explore that option. Jarrett-have to design stones to certain standards.

KS: Will lighting require more than usual maintenance?

JS: With LEDS, likely better sustainability than older technologies. Derek has incorporated simple and effective maintenance methods in his lighting plans.

Patrick Kelly: I encourage us to talk about what depth we want to delve into the artwork as about 10% of the overall project.

KS: I agree that this is at a conceptual level and can't be scrutinized at that level yet.

Jerry Johnson: Gigantic things in size. We have long checklists for other things. It seems to me we should analyze each artwork individually.

PK: I'm on board with conceptual but want to ask city to continue being engaged in artwork during further design.

JH: This could negatively impact or imperil future public art. There are 7 semis a week on 9th. When it gets choked down, it'll come back around to art.

KS: Some of those conversations were addressed at CAC meetings.

JS: We will be meeting code and will provide appropriate turning radiuses on the alleys.

JH: KCK put a bunch of street amenities and art in the streets in the 60s. Can go wrong and the artists were blamed.

Debate on the analysis and depth.

JH: Recent example of Henry Moore piece on campus (Columbia U.) and the surrounding controversy; the students don't want "old art."

KS: Obviously the LCAC wants to further participate in the process.

PK: the art is integrated in a way that--disappointingly--it's not as big a part of the project as I hoped or imagined. Other elements may be blamed. Thus far no one has complained or said anything about the art, it's all been about parking, historic sidewalks, etc.

Sean Reardon reminded the group that there's already art there too.

**ACTION:**

**Moved:** That the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission recommends to the City Commission that the East Ninth Concept Design Development Document be advanced to Phase 2 with the request that the Commission will be given the authority to continue to be involved in the approval of the specific arts elements of the project as they are developed. Moved by Patrick Kelly; second by Sean Reardon

**Approved - 9 Y, 1 N, 1 Abstained.** Kate Dinneen abstained due to her involvement as an Associate Artist in the project.

**2. Community Arts Grants**

Those associated with specific grant applicants recused themselves from scoring and deliberations: Patrick Kelly, Michel Loomis, Richard Renner, and Kristina Walker.

KS: We have a 25,000 budget but requests this year from 15 applicants for more than \$77,000.

Start with top of the prioritized list

JH: Can we award less? We've done partial awards before.

KS: Yes.

**ACTION:**

**Moved:** That grant awards may be less than the sums requested.  
Moved by John Hachmeister; second by Jerry Johnson.

**Approved Unanimously.**

The LCAC members reviewed the preliminary scoring results and, with deliberation over each applicant, selected this year's awardees.

The following grants were **approved** for a total of \$25,000:

Confabularryum, Lawrence Unified School District #497 - \$5,000

National African American Quilt Convention - \$4,000

Echoes Through a Green Space - \$1,550

Lawrence Children's Choir - \$2,000

Spencer Museum of Art - \$2,335

Ballard Center - \$2,000

Van Go - \$4,000

Lawrence Opera Theatre - \$2,000

Art in the Park - \$2,115

**3. Mural Review Update**

No discussion. Tabled.

**C. Old Business**

**1. Transient Guest Tax Grant Program Update**

No discussion.

**2. Cultural Plan Update**

Katherine and Porter will have Commission members' priorities collated for discussion at the next meeting.

**3. Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 - Update**

It was agreed to use Doodle Poll or other sign-up for Commission members to volunteer for times during Busker Fest and other events to survey attendees.

**D. Committee Updates (as needed)**

**1. Governance**

No discussion.

**2. Programming**

**a. Public Art**

Eight outdoor installations have been accepted by the juror.  
The Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit reception will be June 10.

No other discussion other than action taken above on Community Arts Grants.

**3. Strategic**

No discussion other than the update above regarding the Cultural Plan.

**E. Director's Report**

As distributed.

**F. Miscellany**

None.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 pm.