



CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Item # 3

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: February 12, 2019

Subject: Donation of sculpture: *Guardian*

Prepared by: Jon Maginot, Deputy City Manager

Approved by: Chris Jordan, City Manager

Attachment(s):

1. *Guardian*

Initiated by:

Public Arts Commission

Previous Council Consideration:

July 9, 2013

Fiscal Impact:

None

Environmental Review:

Not applicable

Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:

- Does the City Council wish to accept the donation of the *Guardian* sculpture and add the piece to the City's permanent collection?

Summary:

- The loan period for *Guardian* has expired
- The artist has offered to donate *Guardian* to the City

Staff Recommendation:

Accept the donation from Karen Cauvin Eustis of the *Guardian* sculpture

City Manager

Reviewed By:

City Attorney

Finance Director



Subject: Donation of sculpture: *Guardian*

Purpose

To consider the acceptance of a donation of *Guardian* sculpture.

Background

On July 9, 2013, the City Council approved the installation of the *Guardian* sculpture by New Orleans-based artist Karen Cauvin Eustis along State Street near the intersection of Fourth Street. The *Guardian* was installed as part of the City's Sculpture Loan Program and was loaned to the City for a period of five years.

Discussion/Analysis

The loan agreement for *Guardian* expired on September 30, 2018. Around that time, the artist contacted the City regarding a possible purchase of the piece by the City. Members of the Public Arts Commission (PAC) met with the artist to discuss the potential purchase. The PAC discussed the price proposed by the artist and on December 13, 2018 agreed to end the loan agreement and return the piece to the artist.

Subsequent to the PAC meeting in December, the artist contacted the City and offered to donate the sculpture to the City. On January 24, 2019, the PAC voted unanimously to recommend the City accept the donation of *Guardian*.

Options

- 1) Accept the donation of *Guardian*

Advantages: *Guardian* becomes part of the City's permanent collection of public art and an asset of the City

Disadvantages: The City will be responsible for maintenance of the sculpture, though it is not anticipated that this piece will require much maintenance

- 2) Do not accept the donation

Advantages: None identified

Disadvantages: *Guardian* will be returned to the artist and will no longer be a part of the City's public art collection

Recommendation

The Public Arts Commission and staff recommend Option 1.

10th Annual Public Sculpture Search City of Los Altos, California

Entry Form

Artist Name Karen Cauvin Eustis

Title of Piece The Guardian

Value \$59,000

Medium (including finishes) Cast Bronze /Patina finish

Artwork Measurements (h" w" d") 72"x 60"x 30" Total weight 500 to 600 pounds

Type of base recommended poured concrete circular column 30" high with diameter of 18"
(square base also acceptable)

Your street address

City, State, Zip New Orleans, LA 70119

Home Phone/Cell Phone

E-mail address

Brief Description highlighting your inspiration for the piece

THE GUARDIAN

The Guardian evolved over a two year period. She was due to be installed in Waveland, Mississippi literally the day hurricane Katrina ravaged Waveland destroying the entire beach front for miles. Nothing was left there at ground zero where the center of the storm came ashore. She was conceived and worked joyously to be displayed at this beachfront property. She was to be a Guardian of the coast line: a bit ironic and heart breaking to say the least. As time passed, I realized her destiny had changed and evolved with this event. Her original purpose was still there but she had developed a new meaning.

She was destined to be a symbol of *new hope*. Conceived from joy and wonder she was born out of tragedy. I now believe she acts as a 'guardian of hope'. The Guardian is a loving reminder that "We are the stuff of miracles, dreams, *new hopes* and new futures."

Karen Cauvin Eustis

Where did you hear about the Los Altos sculpture search?

Recommended by a friend in the art field that thought we would be a great fit

ATTACHMENT 1

