

**Public Meeting of the
Art in Public Places Advisory Board
Tuesday, February 25, 2019, 5:15 p.m.
City of Bonita Springs
9101 Bonita Beach Road, Room 118
Bonita Springs, Florida 34135**

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

I. ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 5:22 p.m.

Present

David Martin

Jennifer Perry

Janet Flanders

Nigel Fullick

Jackie Hauserman

Staff

Nicole Perino

Amy Quaremba

Absent

Melissa Layner

Susan Bridges

Joanie Licitra

II. PRESENTATIONS FOR THREE FINALIST

Gene Salerno Presentation

Highlights:

- Mr. Salerno has been an artist for 50 years.
- Extensive experience in art
- Teaching
- Sign painter
- Art director
- Personal painter.
- Created a painting to help with efforts to save a lighthouse on Cape Cod.
- Painting, Hurricane Category 5, painting was an attempt on Mr. Salerno's part to show what it is like to express a difficult subject like a hurricane in a still piece of work.
- Mr. Salerno lives in Spanish Wells and would love to work with the other artists in Bonita Springs and help the City.

Questions:

How does Mr. Salerno plan to use the cottage?

Answer: Mr. Salerno would use the cottage as a studio. Mr. Salerno has been a teacher, but does not know how that could be arranged at the cottage, but stated it could be figured out and adjusted.

What is the price range?

Answer: Mr. Salerno replied, depending on the piece, reasonable prices that everyone can afford. Price range for a produced piece, oil painting \$250 - \$5000.

Are you here year-round?

Answer: Mr. Salerno stated he would use it all year round.

Would you be willing to hold classes/demonstrations?

Answer: Yes to demonstrations, but because it is such a small space, probably no to classes.

Would you be willing to be open during events?

Answer: Yes.

What would your projected scheduled be?

Answer: Mr. Salerno stated he works 40 hours a week and would work the same amount on artwork, evenings, Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Fullick, any questions from the Board.

Kristi Pimentel

Highlights:

- Lives in North Naples about five miles from the cottages.
- Ms. Pimentel has been doing her artwork for seven years. Her business is growing and she is interested in a working studio.
- Ms. Pimentel has an online shop, which has been growing.
- Ms. Pimentel wholesales to one or two shops in Florida and is referral based.
- Ms. Pimentel creates mirrors, chandeliers, wall brackets and Christmas trees out of shells.
- Ms. Pimentel could teach a class on how to make shell flowers.
- Bulk of her shells are collected on local beaches, Bonita Beach and north.
- All other sources are from Florida distributors.
- It would be a working studio.
- In season, Ms. Pimentel works 7 days a week.
- She would like to be at the cottage at least 5 hours a day and at least 5 days a week with maybe the hours scaling down in the summer.

Questions:

Would you be available during events?

Answer: Ms. Pimentel stated that yes, she plans to be there during events.

What is your timeframe during the summer?

Answer: She would probably be working the whole time if not physically making something, housekeeping or advertising.

Will you have anything for the tourist who wants to spend a smaller dollar amount?

Answer: There is a whole range, from \$35 to \$1,200.

If someone came to watch you work, what are the steps/techniques you would be demonstrating?

Answer: Ms. Pimentel would use the small shells on the interior and then use the bigger shells on the exterior. She has an idea of the look.

What kind of glue do you use?

Answer: hot glue and on bigger pieces, she uses a silicon based glue like E6000. For the mansion she did downtown, one of the contractors helped her and suggested a fast grab that will last over time. Pimentel said she is always learning.

Would you be willing to do a schedule of classes maybe once or twice a month, would that be worth exploring?

Answer: Ms. Pimentel replied it would be worth exploring but she would like to get in and be established.

Would you be willing to sign an agreement with the City that you would not be using any live creatures?

Answer, yes, she would be willing to sign an agreement that does not harvest live shells. Ms. Pimentel asked if they are including shells purchased from another country. Mr. Fullick said no, just collected from our local environment.

Aqua Rose

Representatives from Aqua Rose, Marcie Karavakis, Laura Abernathy, and Amber Conran presented their experience and qualifications.

Highlights:

- They would like to be at the cottage at least 5 hours a day and at least 5 days a week with maybe the hours scaling down in the summer.
- They would continually post videos and photos.
- Ms. Conran has background in radio and will do some radio work.
- One of artists' husband is an amateur filmmaker and is planning to make a short film of their work.

Questions:

How would you conduct a workshop?

Answer: We would have a regular schedule so people would know. Artists would have a rotating schedule and two or more artists available for events. They would have easels outside with an artist painting to draw people in.

What is the price point, lowest to highest?

Answer: \$5 for earrings up to \$65.

Ms. Perino brought up her concern regarding the kiln. The cottage does not have the type of wiring needed, so it would be up to them. In addition, there are some concerns regarding temperature and ventilation. It may involve quite a bit of modification and since it is a historic structure, it would have to go before the Historic Preservation Board. When the kiln is on someone would have to be there the entire time. Mr. Fullick asked if there were any insurance considerations having a live kiln on premise.

Mr. Martin asked about painting and drawing classes.

Ms. Flanders asked if they could maintain stock. The artists confirmed that they could maintain stock.

Mr. Fullick asked the artists if they had any questions.

- There should be a sign to draw traffic because people do not know the cottages are back there.
- The artists asked about the bathrooms. Ms. Perino explained the tenants are given a fob for the Liles Hotel and guests can use the rest room at the band shell.

Mr. Fullick thanked the ladies from Aqua Rose.

Board discussion

The Board discussed the applicants and rankings. Comments included:

- Excellent presentations
- Concern about the rotations of Aqua Rose and how to advertise four types of artwork
- Aqua Rose - Concern about the kiln for the glass jewelry
- Kristen Pimentel has a good product and she would use it as a working studio
- Aqua Rose offers different art from what is currently there
- Aqua Rose would draw people because of the price point
- Gene Salerno has a good product

Ranking:

Mr. Martin:

Kristen Pimentel – 1

Gene Salerno – 2

Aqua Rose – 3

Ms. Hauserman:

Kristen Pimentel – 1

Gene Salerno – 2

Aqua Rose – 3

Ms. Flanders:

Kristen Pimentel – 1

Aqua Rose – 2

Gene Salerno – 3

Ms. Perry:

Kristen Pimentel – 1

Gene Salerno – 2

Aqua Rose – 3

Mr. Fullick:

Kristen Pimentel - 1

Aqua Rose - 2

Gene Salerno – 3

Councilwoman Quaremba:

Kristen Pimentel and Gene Salerno – likes both

Aqua Rose – 3

The Board unanimously agreed that Kristen Pimentel would be the first choice. The Board discussed their selection for second choice.

Ranking for second Choice:

Mr. Martin:

Gene Salerno – 2

Aqua Rose – 3

Ms. Hauserman:
Gene Salerno – 2
Aqua Rose - 3
Ms. Flanders:
Aqua Rose – 2
Gene Salerno - 3

Ms. Perry:
Gene Salerno – 2
Aqua Rose – 3

The Board unanimously selected Kristen Pimentel as their first choice. Mr. Gene Salerno was selected by the Board as second choice with a majority of three votes and Aqua Rose as the third.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nadine Chiaramonte, Office Assistant

APPROVED:

Date: 4/11/2019

AUTHENTICATED:


Nigel P. Fulliek, Chairman

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TWO OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MAY BE PRESENT AND MAY PARTICIPATE AT THE MEETING. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS MEETING MAY BE AN ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION AT A FUTURE BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING.