**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the North Port Commission

**FROM:** A. Jerome Fletcher II, ICMA-CM, MPA, City Manager

**TITLE**: Review and Approval of the Art Advisory Board Recommendation for a Piece of Art to be Placed Near Walgreen’s in Heron Creek at a Cost Not to Exceed $45,000.

**Recommended Action**

Approve the Art Advisory Board recommendation for a piece of art to be placed Near Walgreen’s in Heron Creek at a Cost Not to Exceed $45,000.

**Background Information**

During the City Commission Regular Meeting on March 2, 2021, Commission directed staff to remove the Roseate Spoonbill Sculpture located near Walgreens in Heron Creek. The Art Advisory Board was tasked with finding an alternative piece of art to be placed in the location. On December 14, 2021, the Art Advisory Board brought a piece entitled “Future Fish” to Commission for approval after receiving 14 submissions through a call for artists. Discussion ensued regarding concerns about the materials and the location of the sculpture. Commissioner Luke made a motion to approve the $47,785 piece, however the motion failed 3 to 2. The Commission had a unanimous vote that the artwork to serve as the Roseate Spoonbill replacement be made of materials that require low maintenance and that the piece be placed at a location near the intersection to maximize visibility.

At the May 9, 2023 Art Advisory Board Meeting, Mike Halligan, local artist, provided an overview of a sculpture proposal to be placed near Walgreens in Heron Creek. This piece would be created through the utilization of salvaged materials from Hurricane Ian. The inspiration behind the piece symbolizes the strength of the North Port community rebuilding in light of tragedy. Mr. Halligan will be using a solid log of either mahogany or eucalyptus that was recovered in North Port following Hurricane Ian. The sculpture will be mounted vertically to a thick aluminum base that will be bolted to anchors in the ground. At the top of this log, there will be mangled anodized aluminum that will wind its way around the log and work its way up into flowing metal hibiscus flowers that will also be anodized. A bronze plaque will be mounted on the piece that speaks to the meaning behind the artwork. The wood will be coated fully with specially formulated outdoor epoxy and all of the aluminum will be anodized to protect it from the elements.

After receiving a quote, researching materials, and providing feedback on the piece, the Art Advisory Board, subsequent to discussion at the December 19, 2023 meeting, passed the following motion, “to bring forward [*the proposal*] to Commission for approval and have a range of $41,550, but not exceed $45,000. As per the proposal, Mr. Halligan is requesting a deposit of $24,930.00 prior to beginning work. The completion of this piece would take place at Halligan Design Production Company and onsite of Price and Sumter when the piece is ready for instillation.

**Strategic Plan**

Quality of Life

**Financial Impact**

Per the proposal submitted, the cost for Mr. Halligan’s services are $41,550 which includes the costs of materials, labor, instillation, and bronze plaque. An additional $3,450 is being requested by staff as contingency for any unanticipated expenses associated with the project. As of September 30, 2023, the current accumulated balance in the accounts related to Public Art #001-0000-324-62-05 (a.k.a. the ‘Art Fund’) is $200,468.36. Upon approval of this item, staff will work with Finance to complete a budget transfer to allocate funds to account 001-0760-573-49-22 for the approved project expenses.

**Procurement**

The art services being procured are exempt from competition pursuant to Sec. 2-403 (a)(3)c of the City Procurement Code. Applicable forms will be submitted to Procurement pending project approval.

**Attachments**:

1. Halligan Proposal
2. 2021-03-02 City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
3. 2021-12-14 City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
4. 2023-05-09 Art Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
5. 2023-12-19 Art Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Prepared by:** Shelby Mendelson, Recreation Manager

**Department Director:** Sandy Pfundheller, Director