



City Council Report

Item: 11.
Category: New Business
Meeting Date: September 7, 2010

TITLE: Approval of Stojanovich Family Park Public Art (Resolution/Roll Call Vote)

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council adopt the attached resolution approving the Public Art for the Stojanovich Family Park Project.

BACKGROUND

On May 4, 2010 the City Council adopted Resolution 11158 approving Michael McLaughlin as the selected artist for the public art component of the Stojanovich Family Park Project and authorized the Public Works Director to execute a contract with Michael McLaughlin for public art in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. The contract has been executed and the artist has prepared four conceptual designs for the City's consideration.

DISCUSSION

Mr. McLaughlin has developed four conceptual designs, as shown in Attachment 2. Each concept includes an animal along with various food items. The concepts include: a turtle with selected produce on his back; a grasshopper sitting on top of an apricot; a group of three mushrooms with a frog sitting atop one; and a snail carrying an apricot. Each piece would be approximately 5 feet in total height, except for the frog and mushroom, which would be approximately 4 feet high. To add to the experience of visiting the park, all concepts would allow park users to interact with the art.

To provide a clearer idea of what the art would look like, the artist more fully developed the turtle and produce concept by creating a small bronze model to demonstrate what is possible in terms of fabrication and painted colors. Any of the pieces could be similarly colored, or, as suggested by the artist, minimally colored with a patina to be consistent with a traditional color of the animal and/or fruit shown.

The proposed location of the art sculpture is just south of the interior plaza near the middle of the park as shown in Attachment 3 (yellow oval). This location currently shows ornamental grasses and shrubs, but would be modified with a small grass area where the sculpture could be placed.

Staff presented the conceptual art designs, as shown in Attachment 2, to the Civic Improvement Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission at meetings on July

8th and August 4th, respectively. The Commissioners were supportive of the general artwork concepts; however there was a preference from both Commissions for the “grasshopper and apricot” concept. The Commissioners especially appreciated the use of the apricot, as it symbolizes a fruit with historical significance for Campbell as well as the Stojanovich Family Park site.

Commissioners requested that the ability of the antenna to withstand climbing activities be reviewed. Additionally, a majority of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners favored an uncolored sculpture and/or a sculpture that was only partially colored. Staff has discussed the issue of color with the artist, who believes that some type of patina or light coloring should be added to the sculpture to provide additional depth and interest to the piece. Attached for Council’s reference is a sample of a painted bronze grasshopper sculpture previously completed by the artist (Attachment 4) which provides an idea of how this coloring might work. Attachment 5 presents a revised sketch of the apricot and grasshopper piece that provides an indication of where color highlights would be used.

Based on the input from the two Commissions and discussions with the artist, staff is recommending that the Council approve the “grasshopper with an apricot” concept for installation in Stojanovich Family Park, with color highlights to be determined as part of the final fabrication process. Although staff has previously indicated to the Council that a more refined concept would be developed and presented to Council for “final” approval in conjunction with the approval of final construction plans and specifications for the park, staff no longer believes that an additional review by the Council is needed, given the relatively straightforward nature of the sculpture, the materials (bronze), and the subject matter.

The attached resolution has been prepared for Council’s consideration to approve the grasshopper and apricot sculpture, as proposed by the artist, Michael McLaughlin, for Stojanovich Family Park.

FISCAL IMPACT

An allocation of \$25,000 for public art is included in the Stojanovich Family Park project budget. However, authorization to fabricate and install the public art would not take place until after the Council has approved a contract for construction of Stojanovich Family Park.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Do not approve the recommended art and provide direction to staff on alternatives.
2. Request that staff return to the Council with a final art concept in conjunction with approval of final construction plans and specifications.

Prepared by: Edward Arango by MC
Edward Arango, Associate Civil Engineer

Reviewed by: Michelle Quinney
Michelle Quinney, City Engineer

Reviewed by: [Signature]
Robert Kass, Public Works Director

Approved by: Daniel Rich
Daniel Rich, City Manager

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Resolution
- Attachment 2 – Conceptual Art Designs
- Attachment 3 – Final Conceptual Design for Park with Proposed Artwork Location
- Attachment 4 – Sample Painted Grasshopper Piece
- Attachment 5 – Grasshopper and Apricot Concept

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMPBELL
APPROVING THE PUBLIC ART COMPONENT OF
THE STOJANOVICH FAMILY PARK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2010 the City Council adopted Resolution 11158 approving Michael McLaughlin as the selected artist for the public art component of the Stojanovich Family Park Project (08-10) and authorized the Public Works Director to execute a contract with Michael McLaughlin for public art in an amount not to exceed \$25,000; and

WHEREAS, staff reviewed the conceptual art designs with the Civic Improvement Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission at meetings on July 8th and August 4th, respectively; and

WHEREAS, both Commissions indicated a preference for the grasshopper and apricot concept, favoring an uncolored and/or partially colored sculpture; and

WHEREAS, funding for the public art component is included in the Stojanovich Family Park Project budget and no additional allocations are necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Campbell hereby approves the "grasshopper and apricot" for the public art component of the Stojanovich Family Park Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of September, 2010, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

APPROVED:

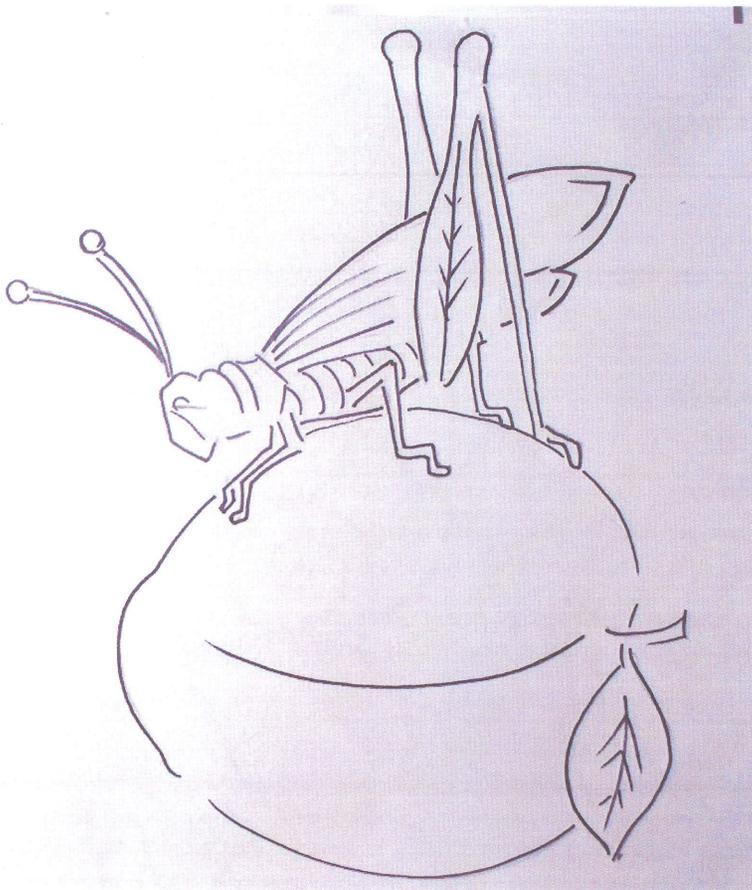
Attest:

Evan D. Low, Mayor

Anne Bybee, City Clerk



1. Turtle and Produce



2. Grasshopper and Apricot



3. Frog and Mushrooms



4. Snail and Apricot

Previous sculpture done by artist to illustrate a sample of a grasshopper piece cast in bronze.



Michael McLaughlin

Bronze Sculpture

31 Torrington Heights Road.

Torrington, CT 06790 USA

(860)626-1123

contact@mjmssculpture.com

Attachment 5

Stojanovich Park
Sculpture Sketch



Grasshopper & Apricot