

Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board Report 20-3

To: Greenbelt City Council
Date: March 13, 2020
Subject: Proposed Gift of Artwork from Kathy Karlson, Artist in Residence

At their March 3, 2020 meeting, the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board reviewed a public art proposal from painter Kathy Karlson. Ms. Karlson, a resident of University Park, MD, has been an Artist in Residence at the Greenbelt Community Center since 2006. She is interested in creating and donating a painting with one or more panels for long-term display in the interior, brick stairwell of the Greenbelt Municipal Building. The composition would be colorful and non-representational, with an estimated overall scale of about 4' wide by 8' tall. The artwork would be created with the above location in mind, but it would not be installed in a permanent manner; it could be relocated at a later time as needed. In accordance with the city's public art procedural guidelines, the minimal duration of display would be three months; however, the painting is intended to remain on view indefinitely.

Ms. Karlson's proposal letter, her resume, and examples of her work are attached here for your reference. This report is provided for Council's information; no recommendation is being made, and no action is needed at this time.

Ms. Karlson is requesting installation assistance and reimbursement for her material expenses. Her precise costs have yet to be determined pending resolution of technical questions concerning the substrate and installation methods, but the total is not expected to exceed \$600. The estimated value of the painting which Ms. Karlson intends to donate is \$3,000, based on her prior sales.

AAB members present at the March 3 meeting were receptive to the proposal and unanimously decided to advance it to the next step. In accordance with the city's public art procedures, AAB will invite public input concerning the proposal at a future meeting, TBA.

The stakeholders for this project include city staff who work at the Greenbelt Municipal Building as well as the general public. Prior to board's meeting, AAB staff liaison Nicole DeWald will reach out to all applicable departments to invite staff input either at the meeting or by email. Staff will also provide enhanced advertisement of the meeting. The Arts Advisory Board will consider the input of citizens and other stakeholders. Per procedural guidelines, the Board will make a recommendation to Council in a separate report, advising as to whether the city should accept Ms. Karlson's generous offer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristin Stenson, Chair, Arts Advisory Board

Attachments: Initial proposal (subject to revision), resume and sample images from Kathy Karlson