



Date: March 9, 2018

Attendees: Meagan Atiyeh, Randy Blazak, Eugenie Fontana, Sabina Haque, Victor Maldonado, Valerie Otani, April Slabosheski

Absent: Mohamed Alyajouri

Guests: Debra Kolodny, Sarah Farahat, Jamaali Roberts

Staff: Roberta Altstadt, John Fall, Jennifer Koozer, Scott Nance, Michelle Traver, Tia York

Subject: Hollywood Transit Center Tribute Advisory Committee Meeting

MEETING NOTES

March 7, 2018

3 - 4:30 p.m.

Valerie Otani, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order. Mohamed Alyajouri had a work-related emergency and could not attend.

Artist Sarah Farahat began her presentation of the revised proposed design for the Hollywood Transit Center tribute. She named her team members and collaborators, and then described her proposal with several slides and a video of it rendered three-dimensionally. Farahat read the excerpt of the poem *Mural* by Mahamoud Darwish, which she is proposing to paint on the ramp wall. Her design showed the excerpt of the poem as a multi-lingual thread that winds through the space; the poem is composed of eight different languages, each of which are a different line of the poem. Sarah indicated that the plant in the mural had changed to a native Western Peony because of its relationship to grief and healing. She also summarized the proposed collaboration with Beaumont Middle School students.

Sarah introduced Rabbi Debra Kolodny, who described the Interrupting Hate workshops proposed in conjunction with the mural proposal. Jamaali Roberts, a member of the tribute team, spoke to the design on the inside wall of the transit center ramp that is painted to appear as a train filled with intricate Hamsa symbols of protection. Committee members asked a series of clarifying questions of the artist.

A call for public comment was made, but no members of the public chose to address the committee. In lieu of public comments, Public Art Administrator Michelle Traver mentioned several of the private sector offers of support for the project.

The committee then moved into closed session that included solely committee members to discuss the artwork. The committee was supportive of the overall direction of the proposal and approved it with the following comments:

- Increase the relationship of the project with the community by including words and phrases from the spontaneous memorial
- Consider providing a “key” with the multi-lingual version of the poem next to the English translation
- Professionally vet all translations.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for April 4, 2018.

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