

June 27, 2020

Martin County Public Art Advisory Committee & Project Subcommittee Members

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Robert Kennedy
Mark Palazzo
Micheal Reading
Saadia Tsafarides
Catherine Winters

Annie Potts
Eric Henderson
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Chuck Smith
Carolyn Smith
Kylie Yanchula

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To the Art Advisory Committee and Subcommittee,

Thank you for including my proposal in the grouping for continued consideration as the selection process proceeds for the Public Art Sculpture at the Peter and Julie Cummings Library!

At the first public meeting on May 26th, there weren't any specific notes or Subcommittee Members available, so it was unclear what exact aspects of the original proposal concept yielded a lower ranking from the Subcommittee.

However, it might be partially due to my error of inadvertently submitting an incorrect Artist Statement! Only after receiving the Meeting Agenda, did I noticed that I'd mistakenly attached an unrelated one for a completely different series of work meant for a different juried exhibition due in December as well! Although the ALPP did see the correct one at their meeting, I have included the proper one again here, so that the Subcommittee may now also have a better understanding of my original intentions for the work.

Nonetheless, there were other questions discussed at that previous forum, regarding my work: scale, weight, installation method and handicap accessibility. So, I would like to respond to this opportunity of providing some additional information and a design reconfiguration - for the Subcommittee's 2nd Review on Monday, June 29th.

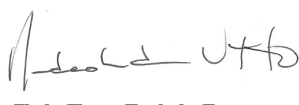
Please find attached:

- An Additional Information document
- 5 images which illustrate the modified Proposal #2
- Artist Statement

I will be available by cell phone @ 561.762.9202 for any questions or comments. from noon till 5:pm.

Thank you again.

Nadia

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PROPOSAL

~~INITIAL PROPOSALS #1~~

- LARGE LETTERS ALONG PRIMARY AREA SIDEWALK AND SECONDARY AREA MEADOW
- LARGE BOOK IN THE SECONDARY AREA
- WITH LITTLE LETTERS EMERGING FROM 'PAGES
- OR
- SMALLER BOOK IN PRIMARY LOCATION, ALSO WITH LITTLE LETTERS

NEW PROPOSAL #2

- ALL ELEMENTS IN THE PRIMARY AREA
- TWO LARGE A & Z AT START OF SIDEWALK PATH
- TWENTY-FOUR SMALLER LETTERS PLACED FURTHER DOWN ALONG PATH
- BOOK & SMALL LETTERS OF VARYING SIZES EMERGING FROM PAGES
- AT THE CORNER LOCATION AT THE END OF THE SIDEWALK
- SHOULD ADA ASPECT BE MANDATED OR REQUESTED, A CONCRETE SLAB TO BE INSTALLED FILLING IN THE ENTIRE ZONE BETWEEN THE PAVILION'S SOUTHEAST CORNER AND THE SIDEWALK'S END CORNER TURN.
- THE BOOK WITH ITS EMERGING SMALLER LETTERS WILL BE PLACED ON THIS SLAB
- A "'J', 'P', 'C', 'L' AS WELL AS A FEW OTHER LETTERS WOULD BE ON THE EDGES OF THE SLAB

SCALE

- Two LETTERS of Artwork's Title: A Z - in larger scale
 - 50" Height
 - 6" square width/depth of letter's stem, legs, arms, bars (24"perimeter)
 - 36" Length
- The Hashtag '#' and the remaining twenty-four LETTERS to be
 - 24" H
 - 4" square width/depth (16" perimeter)
 - Varying lengths of 6" (letter I) to 36" (letter W)
- BOOK would be approx.
 - 6'L open book form
 - 4'W 'height' of 'page'
 - 5 - 12"H in the 'page' actual arched curve height
- LETTERS coming out of the Book 'pages' will vary in size
 - from approx. 5" - 10"H
 - 2½ " Deep (10" perimeter)
 - Varying footprint lengths of 2½" to 8"
- SLAB is approx.
 - 15' long from Pavilion Corner edge back to main sidewalk
 - 8' from Pavilion Entrance sidewalk to Pavilion Corner
 - 4" - 6" Deep (Engineer recommendation)

MATERIALS

- Concrete
- Rebar
- Metal Mesh
- Sand / Gravel for Slab
- Concrete Colorants / Exterior Paints / UV Sealant

WEIGHT

- 2 Large Letters - Approx 600 - 900 lbs
- 24 Medium Letters - Approx 200 - 350 lbs
- Smallest Letters - Approx 20 - 50 lbs
- Slab - over 2,000 lbs

DETAILS

- The Letters will all be Capitals
- The font and particular attributes will be modified for some individual letters - to enable optimum strength for concrete material with rebar & mesh and the letter's form (examples: the tail for Q / the 'bowl' for B)
- Most Letters will be 'pre'-colored with varying concrete colorants
- Letter edges will not be sharp - they will be ground smooth for safety
- Some will have accents of: muraled images / "literafitti" / decoupage / embedded fossils, etc. as inspiration for future embellishments
- In the future, at various planned or spontaneous actions - it is intended and welcomed for members of the community to add personalized surface decoration to the letters - so that the poetry of the overall work can change, refresh and mature through time

INSTALLATION

- I will enlist engineering approval for final design criteria
- I will enlist guidance and support from a regional concrete company
- Letter forms will be cast at my studio with rebar and mesh
- They will be delivered with professional equipment & assistance
- They will be anchored and installed with professional assistance
- Slab would be professionally installed directly on site
- To be determined - Book could be cast at the studio or onsite.
- Each larger Letter will have an extension "leg" to it (as depicted in attached photo with the original submission in December) which will be anchored with concrete into a ground hole between 24" - 36" Deep
- Some letters might benefit from being anchored into and through a below surface cinder block - which would also be filled in with concrete. (Example: "I", "T")
- Smallest Letters will be anchored with both bolts and concrete construction glue to the Book surface

PROACTIVE MAINTENANCE

- All forms will initially receive a concrete sealer
- After the first layer of decorative work, they will also receive a UV sealcoat

ONGOING MAINTENANCE

- They might benefit from a garden hose cleaning annually
- They might benefit from gentle pressure-wash every few years
- They could receive a refreshed UV or sealant brush coat after a group enhancement activity or every five years or so
- The grass in the immediate few inch vicinity of the letter bases could simply receive the same weed spray utilized around the neighboring tree plantings and elsewhere on the property and/or kept trim with a 'weed-wacker' pass-thru during general landscape maintenance

NADIA UTTO - ARTIST STATEMENT

"From A to Z"

All of us are individually engaged with the "who, what, why, when, where and how" of LIFE - in order to understand, create and live a personally successful one.

In the midst of that osmosis process is the simultaneous inclination to reach out and share our perceptions with others...

The fundamental methods of that intake and cultural exchange occurs through ever expanding new education modalities and equally diverse modern methods of communication.

This sculpture proposal speaks directly to the archetypal heart of that learning and connection - which is through the intimate and primary vehicle of LANGUAGE.

Ideally, these stand-alone monoliths of vowels & consonants will emerge and flow from the center source of a 'book stage' in the lawn area, with the letters getting larger as they dance across to and along the sidewalk....

Perhaps a few - like the P, J, C & L, could even skip over to the main building, celebrate the entrance there and encourage a visual and spatial campus connection back with & to the pavilion!

Like a playful combination of 'Stonehenge' and the 'Periodic Table', they serve as symbolic reminders, that from basic individual elements - greater concepts and realities are achievable.

I imagine this site-specific sculpture will encourage plenty of reflective and lively experiences with children and adults alike - as they wander through the garden of letters, gravitating to sit on, lean against and even 'selfie' by a favorite.

I particularly hope that 'we' will be able to establish an enduring interactive happening, that encourages visitors to contribute to the surface decoration with invitational & intentional 'Literafitti' and Mural activity.

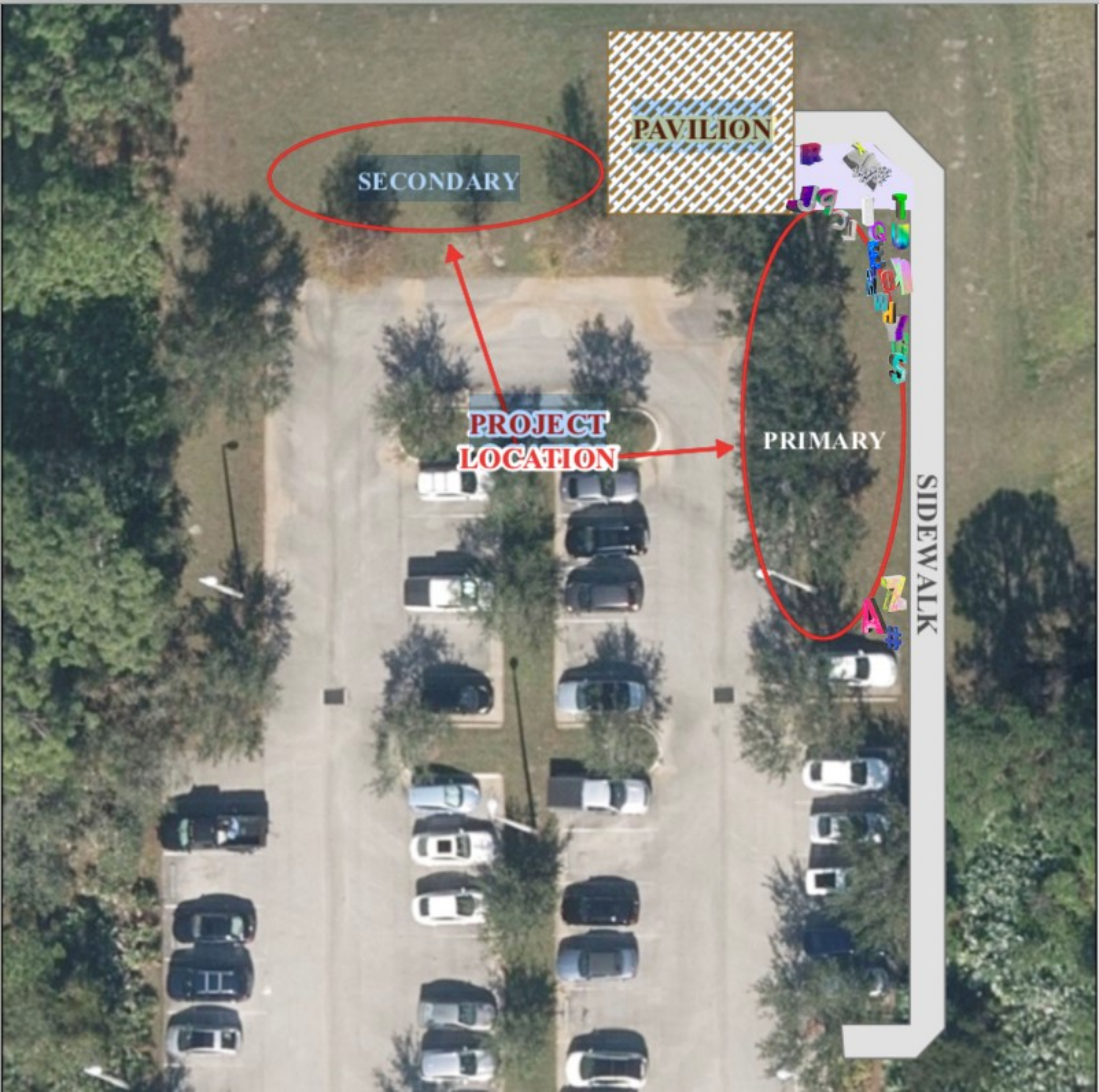
Finally, a public art sculpture that invites individuals and community to interact, changes as it matures and creates a deeper enriching sense-of-place!











PAVILION

SECONDARY

PROJECT
LOCATION

PRIMARY

SIDEWALK