

AGENDA



Thursday, December 11, 2008

**Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 26

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of an artwork commission agreement with JERALD DON EVANS, Dallas, TX, to design and create a bronze figurative sculpture for the African American Firefighters Memorial at the George Washington Carver Museum, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$38,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Austin Fire Department. Funding in the amount of \$17,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Rodney Gonzales, Acting Director, EGRSO, 974-2313; Megan Crigger, AIPP Administrator, EGRSO, 974-9312; Greg Hager, FIRE, 974-4140

Boards and Commission Action: The Art in Public Places Panel approved the selection of Jerald Don Evans, Dallas, TX on October 6, 2008; The Austin Arts Commission approved the selection of Jerald Don Evans, Dallas, TX on October 20, 2008.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The sculpture will create a memorial to the first three African American firefighters: Willie Ray Davis, Nathaniel Kindred, and Roy Greene, who were hired by the City of Austin in 1952.

SELECTION PROCESS

A Request for Qualifications was issued in March 2008 to artists living in Texas through mailing lists and numerous arts organizations across the state with a deadline of April 7, 2008. Artists were notified of the project through postcards, local media and the City website.

On June 12, 2008, the Selection Panel and Advisors committee reviewed the qualifications (letters of interest, resumes, images of past work, image lists, references and letters of recommendation) of eleven artists/artist teams. The Selection Panel and Advisors selected three finalists: Gary McElhaney (Austin, TX), Jerald Don Evans (Dallas, TX), and Solomon Perry (Austin, TX). The three finalists were placed under a contract for proposals. On October 6, 2008, the Selection Panel and Advisor reviewed the proposal submissions, interviewed each finalist, and unanimously selected the proposal by Jerald Don Evans.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Selection Panel

Beatrice Thomas, Visual Artist & AIPP Panelist

Faith Weaver, Arts & Education Specialist, George Washington Carver Museum

Deborah Roberts, Visual Artist

Project Advisors

Chief Gregory Keyes, Austin Firefighter Department representative

Bobby Johns, African American Firefighters Association representative

Bernadette Phifer, Curator and Program Manager, George Washington Carver Museum
Dusty McCormick, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office
Richard Kindred, Kindred family representative
Cora Wright, Davis family representative
Rodney Greene, Greene family representative