

Zach Tusinger

From: Deanna Gardom <deannagardom@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:20 PM
To: Zach Tusinger
Subject: Mural

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,
I like the mural. It suits the improvements of Doc Wilkinson's. I like all of the murals in Calistoga and wish there were more. Art is always good and the artist can't please everyone.

Deanna Gardom

Sent from my iPhone

Zach Tusinger

From: Emma Higgins <pomegranatemarmel@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:11 PM
To: Zach Tusinger
Subject: Agenda Item H-1

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Commissioners,

As a fourth generation Calistoga Native and as an Artist, I am writing to voice my support for the Dr. Wilkinson's Mural project. There is something about seeing Murals in a community that makes a city feel more alive and I hope this is the first of more projects like this. The diversity that each Artist's style and voice brings to the table makes the community richer and more vibrant. Having to fit a certain aesthetic is stifling and to me, not very welcoming or inclusive. There is nothing offensive in the mural and the artists and owner's seem to have accommodated the changes that were asked for.

I would like to also weigh in on the businesses' logo: a simple drawing of a female form. There is also nothing offensive here. To me it looks like a Matisse line drawing. I thought that it was a joke when I looked at the logo and heard that there was any controversy. Especially when half, if not the majority of the clientele may look just like that. To use the "me too" movement to justify not approving a line drawing of a female nude is offensive in itself. When we make the female body something obscene or shameful, we are telling women that they are offensive just by existing. The myth that women are vulgar and that men and boys cannot control themselves and shouldn't have to if women would just cover up has been told for ages by the dominant culture. As a citizen of a resort town full of healing waters and soaking facilities that people use to reconnect to and heal their own bodies, I support this body positive imagery.

If all murals in the historical district of Calistoga are required to represent the history of Calistoga, let us ask ourselves whose version of history do we support depicting? Maybe we should ask some Mishewal Wappo tribal members what they would like depicted on the walls of Calistoga as this is their land too. My heritage is also Italian and European settlers and they raised me to appreciate the arts in all forms. Let us remember that grapes were not native to this land.

What I would like you to take away from this letter is that not everyone has to love every artist or style and that Calistoga has many differing voices that should be allowed to be expressed. I personally feel that it is the creative force behind public art that can be inspirational in itself. If seeing a colorful mural demeans your idea of what Calistoga is, I ask you to please examine your values and the future you see for this town. Change is the only constant in this life and clinging to the past, whatever version it may be, will lead to stagnation. Let art breathe!

Emma Higgins

Zach Tusinger

From: Liese Rugen <liese.rugen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:51 PM
To: Zach Tusinger
Subject: For the mural

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm for it! It's awesome!