



Julia Kirby, Chair
Councilor Pious Ali
Kifah Abdulla
James Cradock
Jenna Crowder
Diana Greenwold
Alison Hildreth
Jessica Lauren Lipton
Lin Lisberger
Daniel Minter, Creative Portland
Corey Templeton

Management & Administration
Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

Portland Public Art Committee
Wednesday, March 20, 2019
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Portland Public Library

Attendance: Julia Kirby, Chair, James Cradock, Jenna Crowder, Alison Hildreth, Jess Lauren Lipton, Lin Lisberger, Daniel Minter. Not in attendance: Councilor Pious Ali, Kifah Abdulla, Diana Greenwold. Staff: Caitlin Cameron Members of the Public: Anne Pringle, Diane Davidson

Call to Order 4:01pm

Other Business:

- Request from Friends of Deering Oaks – Black Hawk sculpture proposed with private funds; proposal includes making a gift of the sculpture to the public art collection. Two artists are under consideration. Parks Commission and Historic Preservation Board must also be consulted with this proposal. The artwork would include a life-size bronze of the bird, pedestal, and informational signs with an educational component. Hildreth asked whether they had considered placing the sculpture within a tree – Davidson answered it was discussed but artist was not comfortable with that idea and the sculpture would be obscured with the leaf cover and is not a permanent placement. Siting would be near the evergreen trees and ravine – trying to site near where the bird spent time. Lisberger asked how big the bird/sculpture would be – 22” tall. Hildreth asked about materials – bronze, pedestal uncertain. Lisberger would like the maintenance to be considered as part of the budget for the fundraising campaign. The artist would include a maintenance plan which should also be reviewed by the conservator. Cameron suggests that the proposal should come back to the committee for review when more details have been determined. Lisberger asked whether the artist/landscape architect of the ravine should be consulted – does not seem necessary, part of City property/collection. Lipton asked how public the process will be considering it is a private commission – the project will be presented and reviewed in three public forums (Public Art Committee, Parks Commission, Historic Preservation Board) where meetings are open to the public. Lipton agreed that maintenance funds would show good faith in adding new work to the collection. Cradock added that a public meeting specifically for the project would make a difference; recommends a stand alone public meeting.

Approve February 20, 2018 minutes, correct one typo [**Lisberger; Crowder 8-0 approved**]

Project Reports

Luminous Arbor: Cameron learned that the graffiti will be removed once weather is warm enough for the solvents – on the work list. Cameron also asked DPW to install the plaque but has not gotten a response.

Portland Brick: Scope of work and budget provided for PPAC review and approval – this would come from the contingency budget. Kirby asked whether this scope reflects the extent of work needed – yes. Crowder asked what the expected budget will be – near \$1,000. The committee approved scope for *Portland Brick* website maintenance not to exceed \$1000 [**Minter: Lipton 8-0**]

Conservation:

- **Glimpse:** Lisberger met with Taggart to discuss – report will come with a recommendation for a power wash on-site. Taggart agrees the sculptures are stable and further work does not need to happen at this time.
- **Puffin:** Lisberger and Taggart assessed the situation and found the sculpture is being affected by guano from small birds on the horizontal surfaces. Paint would be removed if the sculpture were washed – Taggart recommends a vacuum clean and brush rather than using water or wire brushes. The guano/dirt is not visible from the ground. Nick Mavadones and staff from Casco Bay Ferry Lines were present. Cameron will update the MOU with Casco to reflect this new maintenance plan.
- **Cleaves:** Taggart is currently working on repairing and resetting the hitching posts. The fence was tested for lead and found to be negative. He suggests fence should be power washed or sand blasted in place and repainted with coating – this means the work can be covered by the current contract/budget. Cameron raised the coordination of the sidewalk replacement with the work on the fence – need more information from DPW before making a decision on timing of work. Lipton asked what the schedule for the sidewalk work is. Lisberger agreed that until committee knows the schedule and scope of the sidewalk work, it is difficult to make a decision. Committee will not authorize Taggart to proceed until this information is gathered from DPW.
- **Bus Shelter:** Taggart and Lisberger also assessed the Jewel Box Bus Shelter and consider there to be more damage and graffiti, steel corrosion, glass needing to be replaced. Roof appears to be fine, a few rusty bolts. The project has not lasted the expected 20 to 30 years. Lipton asked how long the shelter will last without maintenance – projected 5 – 10 years longer. Lipton suggested having a conversation with METRO about making a plan for the shelter and functional needs as a bus shelter. Committee asked Taggart to do some exploratory work to understand the extent of the damage before authorizing further work. Taggart should submit a contract scope addendum with staff. Lisberger added that we have to consider the shelter functionality while any work is being done – still needs to function as a shelter. Committee voted on this approach to the additional work **[Cradock, Lipton 8-0]**.

Congress Square: Hildreth reported ready to authorize design development; Portland Museum of Art is interested in being part of an event with Sarah Sze. Cameron added that the Department of Transportation has put the project on the 2021 work plan for \$2.6 million.

MLK Memorial: Minter was asked to be a part of a committee for this project but does not have any further information. Lisberger asked what the draft RFP calls for – no one had additional information but Cameron thought that a member of the public art committee would be asked to participate in the artist selection.

USM Roundabout: Minter announced the public meeting to be held Thursday, March 21 at 5:30p in Abromson. Several artists were contacted to find out interest – lots of enthusiastic response but no artist contacted has existing work that would be suitable for the project. Therefore, a new commission will be necessary.

[5:30 Cradock, Hildreth leave]

Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development: Three positions will expire this fiscal year. Kirby will renew, Crowder will not renew, Hildreth has termed out. Committee members asked to encourage people to apply. Committee will also send a letter to the nominations committee regarding the needs and skills preferred. Posted on March 25th.

Communications:

- **Marketing:** none
- **Sculpture of the Month:** Sculpture of the month is the Lobsterman.
- Lisberger will remind CTN to finish the video they were paid to produce. Map on the website is not functional – does not include the pinpoints for the sculptures – consider funding for a different map application.

Site Selection: none

Temporary Art:

- Student temporary art proposal revised to location approved by City Arborist. Friends of Deering Oaks and Historic Preservation staff were contacted for feedback.
- TEMPO submitted an application for one-year, summer installation in Fox Field with Daniel Minter as the artist. The temporary art panel will be convened to review.

Other Business:

- Crowder and Greenwold attended MECA public art class as jurors on 3/15.

Adjourn at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Caitlin Cameron