



Lin Lisberger, Co-Chair
Julia Kirby, Vice-Chair
James Cradock
Jenna Crowder
Terry DeWan
Jere DeWaters
Alison Hildreth
Pandora LaCasse
Councilor Dave Marshall
Tony Muench

Management & Administration

Alexander Jaegerman,
Planning Division Director

Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Room 3, Portland Public Library

Attendance:

Lin Lisberger, James Cradock, Jenna Crowder, Jere DeWaters, Alison Hildreth, Julia Kirby, Pandora LaCasse, Tony Muench (Staff: Caitlin Cameron, Alex Jaegerman)

Not in attendance: Terry DeWan, Jessica Lipton, Councilor Marshall

Call to Order: 4:05pm

Approve Minutes with from December 18, 2013

Discussion about filling the vacant position left by Jessica Lipton who had to resign from the Creative Portland Board and effectively, from the PPAC.

Kirby arrives 4:12pm.

Langlais Installation update – a small group consisting of LaCasse, Hildreth, and Lisberger met to discuss installation and mounting strategies for the Langlais pieces. Lisberger reiterated that the Kohler Foundation would like to move all pieces at once for cost reasons. Because several pieces are outdoors this means the move would happen in the Spring when the ground thaws. Jaegerman clarified that for the City to pay for the installation and fabrication work, a contract with written scope and budget should be prepared and subsequently approved before work commences.

Lisberger wondered whether the committee could visit the Langlais Estate to assess some of the pieces for installation and potentially bring some of the smaller pieces to Portland early. Lisberger will contact the Kohler Foundation regarding this visit. Jaegerman added that if pieces were brought to Portland early they would also need to be stored. LaCasse asked what the time frame for installation was. Lisberger replied as soon as possible but because Kohler wants to move all at once we are limited by the weather. LaCasse asked whether the committee could still go to the estate with the purpose of designing the bases to which Lisberger thought the answer would be “yes.”

Email and Website updates – Kirby requested that each committee member contact their network to acquire 10 email addresses each to add to the PPAC notification email list. Cradock added that the website needs to be updated to allow members of the public to post their own photos with the collection. Lisberger announced the idea of using the February 27 Pecha Kucha event to promote the collection. Kirby

volunteered to apply and present. Cradock and Cameron will assist in finding images to use for that purpose.

Grants update – Kirby researched possible grant opportunities and had trouble finding a good fit for the activities the committee wishes to fund. The following Spring applications seemed like possibilities:

- Maine Arts Commission (March) – possible opportunity for Art in Our Front Yard
- Sam L. Cohen (2/1)
- Roy A. Hunt Foundation (4/15)
- Bernard Osher Foundation (letter may be submitted any time)
- Quimby Foundation (2/1 – 2/28) – this could be a large grant opportunity for something like Congress Square
- Vincent and Barbara Welch Foundation

Hildreth mentioned she knows someone at the Roy A. Hunt Foundation and agreed to call her contact with Kirby.

Kirby mentioned there will be other grant opportunities in the Fall. She asked that committee members please notify her if other opportunities came up. Hildreth asked about the Davis Foundation. Kirby agreed to look into it thinking the deadline may be in February.

Kirby also asked about the financial status of the PPAC. Jaegerman clarified that the PPAC is part of the City and the City of Portland would be the financial agent. The PPAC is not a 501c3 but is a tax-deductible organization and therefore can receive grants. The PPAC may create a 501c3 but that would require permission from the City. Lisberger observed that it would probably be easier to use Creative Portland as a financial agent rather than go through the 501c3 process.

Kirby also asked for access to the publicart@portlandmaine.gov account for the application process. Cameron agreed to look into that possibility.

Deaccessions – Lisberger asked procedurally whether pieces such as the Common Ground Gazebo can be deaccessioned through the Annual Report. Jaegerman suggested the group consult the guidelines for procedure. Guideline B3 lists the acceptable criteria for deaccession. In the case of the gazebo it would be deterioration. Cradock asked whether the committee should document the condition. Jaegerman agreed that someone needs to document. DeWaters agreed to take pictures. Lisberger agreed to contact the artist, Alan Holt, as per procedure. LaCasse asked whether any committee members knew how the community views the gazebo. Cradock mentioned he has seen children use it and the weeds tended to. Cradock will survey the neighborhood. The gazebo issue will be on the next meeting to give public notice on the subject and to review the documentation.

No further action at this time for deaccession of the gazebo or murals.

Annual Report - Lisberger commented that the Jetport and Langlais acquisitions need to be added to the website. Cradock suggested getting images from the event photographer that was present at the Jetport. DeWaters agreed to get images of the outdoor pieces. LaCasse emphasized the need for lighting. Jaegerman suggested the PPAC could pay to light the works of art at the Jetport. LaCasse had similar concerns about the Rustle Diptych and the Cloud Couch.

Further corrections were suggested for the report – removing Jessica Lipton from the committee list and adding recent images.

Kirby moved to accept the Annual Report with changes to the budget and to send to City Council. Hildreth

seconded the motion. Unanimous vote to accept and send to Council.

Lisberger asked whether the Annual Report needs to be presented at the Council Meeting. Jaegerman felt it appropriate and suggested he ask the Mayor for time to do so at the 2/3/14 meeting.

Other business – Lisberger announced there is a potential donor to the Congress Square art piece. She will write a letter in response to this interest.

Muench presented his research on % for art programs. There are two cities in North America that have a % for art requirement for private development. The committee discussed the idea and how to move forward. Before suggesting a policy the committee agreed that the city should build success stories of public art improving development and the built environment.

Meeting adjourned 5:51pm. Next meeting is Wednesday, February 19, 2014.