

Lin Lisberger, Chair
James Cradock
Terry DeWan
Jere DeWaters
Alison Hildreth
Julia Kirby
Pandora LaCasse
Jessica Lipton
Councilor Dave Marshall
Tony Muench

Management & Administration
Alexander Jaegerman,
Planning Division Director

Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 21, 2013

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

Attendance:

Lin Lisberger, James Cradock, Julia Kirby, Tony Muench (Staff: Alex Jaegerman, Caitlin Cameron)

Also in attendance: member of the press (Carol McCracken from the Munjoy Hill News)

Call to Order

Approve Minutes with corrections from July 17, 2013 – minutes could not be approved without quorum.

PROJECT REPORTS

-JETPORT UPDATES - LISBERGER

Jetport gifts will need to be accepted by City Council. Ms. Cameron will get the item on the agenda for September.

JAY SAWYER “Spirit of Its Own” PRESENTATION

Mr. DeWan and Mr. Muench concluded that the site selected is certainly not ideal. If the intent is to display a piece of donated art on a long-term (but not necessarily permanent) basis, then it is adequate.... but really doesn't do the piece justice. The guardrail, warning arrows, light fixtures, speed limit sign, and chain link fence all are important, but largely unmovable parts of the Jetport's infrastructure. The fear is

that the piece will get visually 'lost' and may be seen as a distraction. On a sliding scale of 1-10, Dewan and Muench rate this location as a 3±.

If this is the best location for the piece, and the Jetport and the artist are committed to it and feel it will work, and they will take full responsibility for its siting, then the committee will accept the placement.

It does raise the question as to where else might sculptural pieces be located at the Jetport. It would be an interesting assignment to take a look at the Jetport property as a whole and explore sites for future works, without the pressure of having a piece that needs to be sited. Ms. Lisberger established a volunteer group to go to the Jetport to select sites for future installations. Mr. Cradock, Mr. Muench, and Ms. Kirby volunteered.

- LANGLAIS – LISBERGER

Current placements are as follows:

Hanging lion's head – Peaks Island Library

Elephant and Acrobatic dogs – Portland Main Library

Ms. Lisberger requested a brainstorming session to place the remaining bear sculptures.

Ms. Kirby asked whether the 6 heads and 2 heads need to remain together – ask Kohler Foundation for this. Ocean Gateway remains the first choice for the tall bear sculpture. Ms. Lisberger requested staff to determine who in City Hall is in charge of that facility. Other suggested locations include: East End School, Post Office, Ocean Gateway, Transportation Center, Children's Museum, MECA lobby, PMA, Eastland Gallery (proposed event space), Muskie Center/USM, Casco Bay Lines

- WEBSITE

Mr. Cradock is updating pictures on the site and the facebook page. The committee would like to add a category for "other public work" to the website and to do that, is requesting \$200 for a change order for PERCH to make the necessary adjustments to the site. No one has kept track of the traffic as of yet. The committee would also like to allow people to add their own pictures to the site.

Ms. Lisberger reminded that the party will be relocated to Deering Oaks in September. She further commented that Ms. Lipton is no longer able to handle the planning on her own and has requested help. Ms. Kirby and Lisberger will assist. The proposed date is September 26th.

- CIVIC CENTER – UPDATE CAMERON

Ms. Cameron apprised the group of the recent developments regarding the Free Street wall at the Civic Center. A plan has been agreed upon which includes a temporary mural which will be designed and installed by MECA students as part of a fall studio. An RFQ/RFP has been drafted and will be released on October 1, 2013. It is anticipated the selection process will be done by the summer of 2014.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET DISCUSSION

- Langlais placement costs

The committee will be required to pay for the installation of the Langlais pieces. It was determined that \$30,000 is a good estimate for this cost.

- New acquisition(s)

Mr. Jaegerman and Ms. Lisberger estimate there is \$200,000 in the budget for the committee. Less \$30,000 for the Langlais and \$5,000 for conservation, that leaves \$150,000 for a new acquisition.

- Temporary Art fundraising

This would be for financial assistance to the artists. Ms. Kirby suggested that finding corporate sponsors might be a more fruitful and appropriate approach for this. Staff is asked to look at purchasing requirements for donations.

GOVERNANCE/BOARD DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE – LISBERGER

- Appoint Vice - Chair

Ms. Lisberger would like to appoint a Vice-Chair which will have to be tabled until quorum.

- August appointments

Possible appointees to the committee to fill vacancies include Craig Nale, Kate Cox, and Libby Margolis-Pinneo. The posting is scheduled for Monday.

- Appoint sub-committee for Temporary Art

Potential sub-committee members include Mr. Muench and Alice Spencer.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – LISBERGER

- Art in Our Front yard

It was determined that the committee needs to find ways to increase attention and attendance of this program. Timing would be once a month or once every two months in the summer with the possibility of an event around the holidays.

SITES SUBCOMMITTEE

- Relocation of Cloud Couch

Jim Cradock reported on 4 sites that he had scoped out. The two that the committee wanted to consider include a place in Payson Park on Ocean Ave. near the top of the sledding hill, and at the intersection of two paths near the Hannaford on Back Cove on the way to the soccer fields.

Other Business

- NEFA conference report – Cradock / Lipton

Jim Cradock reported on some of the talks he went to.

Adjourned 6:00pm

Next Meeting Wednesday, September 18, 2013