

DRAFT February 15, 2012

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 15, 2012

Attendance: Terry DeWan, Jere DeWaters, Peggy Golden, Alison Hildreth, Pandora Lacasse, Lin Lisberger, Tony Muench, Pat Murtagh (staff: Alex Jaegerman, Jennifer Hutchins)

General Public: Carol McCracken, Nancy Page-Akers

Welcome and Minutes Review

January minutes reviewed and approved unanimously without changes.

Professional Development

Ms. Hildreth announced the lecture series by the Maine Historical Society once a month on Tuesdays in the spring that may be of interest to the Committee. Mr. DeWan is moderating the Feb 21 event. Mr. Jaegerman is on the panel for the March event. All are at 7:00 p.m. Details are available on the MHS web site.

Map

Ms. Hildreth shared a print-out of a Portland map identifying existing and available/possible sites with the City's art collection. It also displays thumbnails of the works. Ms. Hildreth said that it is just a working map and not meant for public consumption.

Next Tuesday, Mr. DeWan, Ms. Lacasse, Ms. Lisberger, Mr. Muench and Ms. Hildreth will be touring the city to view potential sites. Ms. Lacasse said that the group would come back to the Committee and share their favorites.

Communications

Ms. Golden and Ms. Lisberger present the Committee with the presentation folder that Committee members will be sharing with councilors over the next few weeks to discuss the Bayside Trail Seating project.

Mr. Jaegerman distributes letter from Portland Trails to add the presentation packet. The Bayside Neighborhood Association also voted to support the project and a letter will be added to the public. Ms. Lisberger said that she is going to the East Bayside Neighborhood Association next week, and will try to have an electronic letter sent around.

Mr. DeWan will have the collection listing brochure with photographs ready by February 21. He'll have it printed out with copies left at Greenhut Galleries.

Ms. Lisberger suggests that Committee members set up meetings for after February 21, so that Mr. DeWan's brochure will be included in the folder.

Ms. Lisberger confirms that each Committee member has received the materials and knows who they are assigned to approach. She then goes through the talking points and instructs on how to present the material to councilors at the individual meetings.

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Ms. Lacasse asks about providing technical information about the seating project. Mr. Jaegerman will provide the information to the Committee via email.

Ms. Lisberger encourages members to use the term, “place makers,” since the project has a much broader purpose than simply a bench.

Ms. Golden asks members to remind and possibly inspire the councilors about the vast possibilities there are for having a compelling public art collection.

Ms. Lisberger emphasizes the importance of getting across the message of place-making and value it has to growing the City.

Ms. Murtagh thanks the subcommittee for all of the work that they put into pulling the information together and the plan for communicating with councilors.

Mr. Jaegerman said that taking the Bayside Seating project to City Council is a month or two away.

Gift Guidelines

Ms. Lacasse said that the subcommittee has not had a chance to pull any changes together for Mr. Jaegerman to update and share with City Council. He doesn't have a date for presenting an annual report where they would appear for the Council.

Board Development/Governance

Ms. Murtagh appealed to Committee for more members to serve on this subcommittee, especially since Ms. Spencer will be cycling off the Committee at the end of June. At that time, there will be three open seats. Ms. Lacasse and Ms. Murtagh have applied for reassignment to the Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Hildreth asked that the Committee have more of a discussion in the future about sponsoring seating for the City since it can be difficult to implement a cohesive plan with case-by-case gifts. She said the Committee needs to talk about the long-term vision for the Bayside Trail. Mr. Jaegerman said that the seating panel addressed that question often and the recommendation was that the Skye design meets the considered criteria.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Page-Ackers presents an idea to create a public/private partnership to investigate the lost art of 9/11 in New York. She asked if the Portland Public Art Committee could help with this project.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 21

Ms. Murtagh adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m. Notes prepared by Jennifer Hutchins.