



Lin Lisberger, Co-Chair
Julia Kirby, Vice-Chair
James Cradock
Jenna Crowder
Christopher Devlin
Penny Harris
Alison Hildreth
Pandora LaCasse
Councilor Dave Marshall
Tony Muench
Corey Templeton

Management & Administration
Alexander Jaegerman,
Planning Division Director

Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

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

Attendance:

James Cradock, Jenna Crowder, Christopher Devlin, Alison Hildreth, Julia Kirby (Staff: Caitlin Cameron, Alex Jaegerman), Corey Templeton present but not sworn in

Also in attendance: Elise Pepple, Ayumi Horie, and Pilar Nadal

Not in attendance: Penny Harris, Pandora LaCasse, Lin Lisberger, Councilor Marshall, Tony Muench

Call to Order 4:06pm

*Approve Minutes from October 20, 2014 Cradock moves, Devlin seconds, unanimous (5-0) approval (Penny Harris, Pandora LaCasse, Lin Lisberger, Councilor Marshall, Tony Muench absent).

Introduction of Corey Templeton as the new member.

Project Reports

Portland Brick:

The applicants presented the project to the PPAC. The following questions were raised:

Cameron – Have the applicants considered the longevity of the project? Given that pieces in the collection are required to last 20-25 years, how will the audio portion of this piece be maintained?

Response: The applicants would like to find a partner for archiving such as the Portland Room at the Library or the Maine Historical Society.

Kirby – Will the project materials be available in other media formats such as print materials or ways of directing people other than smart phones? Response: Applicant desire is to have printed materials and an application but this requires further funding.

Jaegerman – Would there be a plaque for this project, as with Art Underfoot, and where would it be placed? PPAC would need to work with artist on this.

Crowder – What is the scope of the website work? Response: It is responsive and includes audio hosted through SoundCloud and will work on mobile devices as well as computers.

Kirby – Does the PPAC have a follow-up process after granting the money?

Devlin – What entity does the money go to? Response: Applicants are not a non-profit entity and will need to find a financial partner. Jaegerman added that this will require a contract and payment plan and refer to the Community Art Guidelines for guidance. Kirby added that the fiscal sponsor

could be MECA, India Street Neighborhood Association, or the Maine Jewish Museum but the applicant should find a partner that won't charge a fee.

Devlin – Did the \$4,000 from the Maine Arts Commission grant already come through? Response: Yes, it went through MECA so perhaps MECA should be the fiscal sponsor.

Applicants leave.

Discussion of proposal:

Devlin asked whether there is any concern about the content of the bricks being uncertain and a potential embarrassment to the PPAC/City? Crowder suggested there could be a review process. Jaegerman added that there might be language in the Community Art guidelines that we could reference. Crowder could stay in contact with them throughout the process to check in on these kinds of issues. Devlin also asked about maintenance and who would take responsibility for that. Department of Public Services will install and the PPAC is responsible for maintenance of public artworks. The applicant has proposed to provide extra bricks for replacement if needed in the future. Cradock asked what the decision was about whether it is okay for the money to go towards funding their website. Is it allowed? Jaegerman responded that it could be categorized as documentation/archiving of the work. Devlin also asked whether this project needs Council approval. Jaegerman clarified that yes, all additions to the collection must get Council approval. Cameron will put in an agenda request for this. Templeton asked how quickly the money would be distributed. Cameron responded that first it needs Council approval, hopefully in December. Then a contract must be created so it will be a couple of months.

VOTE: The Portland Public Art Committee accepts the Portland Brick project into the collection as a Community Art granted artwork. Crowder moved, Cradock seconded [5-0 in favor]

Langlais:

Langlais installations are complete at this time. If any committee members have a red scarf to borrow for the holiday season, let Lisberger know. Lisberger would like to do a press event now that the installations are complete. Devlin asked what that would look like. Kirby clarified that would include press release, newspaper coverage, photos, and having a press event at Ocean Gateway. Kirby and Lisberger will organize this and notify the PPAC. Crowder updated the group on the plan for the signage and posters. Small scale posters will be created for each site and then enlarged to make the Jetport posters. There is a need for a higher resolution image of Langlais – Kirby will ask for this from Hannah Blunt. Kirby will also clarify whether we have rights to reproduce the photograph. The timeline for this is still undetermined. Kirby mentioned some photos still need to be taken of the acquisitions for this purpose.

Governance Subcommittee:

Corey Templeton is the new City Manager appointee to the PPAC.

Jetport Curator: Kirby asked if there was any update on the proposed revisions to the letter that went to Paul Bradbury. Cameron did not know the status. Jaegerman asked what the process with Council would be. Cameron responded that it is a communication from Paul Bradbury to the Council. Devlin asked whether the letter should clarify that this position is not a member of the PPAC. Jaegerman suggested using the word, "designation" rather than "appointment" to distinguish that point. Cradock suggested that the letter retain a positive spin. Jaegerman reiterated that the letter should be clear that this position does not change the composition of the PPAC in the Council agenda memo.

Communications Subcommittee:

Art in Our Front Yard: A subcommittee needs to be formed – Kirby volunteers to be on the subcommittee but no other volunteers at this time. Kirby asked whether it might be productive to begin the celebrity Art in Our Front Yard presentations without the additional funding to build the interest and help the grant application for next year. Pictures and video could be taken by PPAC members to begin. Also, the schedule of these events was discussed – the proposal was rather than having a hard and fast day and time for these events, perhaps it would be more productive to schedule them in accordance with other events going on such as First Friday or the Farmers Market.

Website: Cradock, on the topic of the website, mentioned that better photographs are needed for several works and asked whether Templeton could assist. He removed some of the problematic aspects of the website making it more useable and navigable. Work still to be done include review of the site analytics and improve the map features. Cradock also asked whether Creative Portland could add a link to the PPAC website on their site.

CultureNOW: Cameron updated the committee on the status of the CultureNOW website - the collection is now listed on the Museum without Walls page. We will need to apprise them of new additions to the collection to be added to the site.

Sites Selection Subcommittee:

The Congress Square Art Selection Panel: Cameron remarked that the next steps for this process will be to begin fundraising. The panel also drafted a vision statement and a short list of artists whose work meets this vision. A future meeting will take place in December or January.

New Proposal: Crowder announced a new proposal that she will submit to the Site Selection subcommittee for review.

Other Business:

Bloomberg Art Challenge: Cameron updated the group on the status of the application which is due December 15.

Temporary Art: Cameron updated the group on the conditional approval of a temporary art project on a pier near Ocean Gateway by the artist Andy Rosen. The project will be installed next summer if the artist receives funding.

Adjourn at 5:48pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Caitlin Cameron