



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, June 17, 2015

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

Attendance;

Lin Lisberger, Chair, Julia Kirby, Vice-Chair, Jenna Crowder, Christopher Devlin, Penny Harris, Alison Hildreth, Pandora LaCasse, Corey Templeton (Staff: Caitlin Cameron, Alex Jaegerman) Member of the Press: Carol McCracken.
Not in attendance: James Cradock, Tony Muench, Councilor Marshall.

Call to Order 4:01pm – no quorum

Project Reports

Langlais: Lisberger reported that the posters were printed and waiting to be installed. The committee needed to decide placement of two posters. Committee defers decision to Crowder and Lisberger. Bill Hamill is sponsoring an additional information board for the Jetport. Kirby suggested that Crowder should also design any additional posters for consistency.

[4:12 Hildreth arrived]

Bronze plaques are completed and ready for pick up and install. The contract with Jonathan Taggart needs to be completed before installation can happen. The Jetport installation is approved and ready. Historic Preservation office gave the okay for the Eastern Cemetery installation but need to know where to install – Jaegerman reminded the committee that Spirits Alive and the Maine Fifth Regiment should be consulted. The location for the Link plaque also needs to be confirmed with the artist. Lisberger will follow-up.

Approve Minutes from May 20, 2015. Kirby moves, Crowder seconds, unanimous (6-0) approval (Penny Harris not present for vote. Cradock, Muench, Councilor Marshall absent).

[4:23 Harris arrived]

Murals: Lisberger has still not been able to get in touch with Andrew Schoultz regarding the murals in Bayside. The committee agreed it is time to proceed with deaccession of the Community Art mural with that wall being open for future Temporary Art mural installations. Tess O'Brien is interested in the site for the Portland Mural project. Jaegerman suggested combining the public meetings for the mural and Common Ground gazebo.

Collection Assessment: Cameron confirmed that Jonathan Taggart is on hold until the contract is finished.

Art Underfoot: Lisberger tried to get in touch with the artist regarding the four missing bricks to ascertain whether the original molds still exist. Jaegerman remarked that in future the PPAC should keep molds of work in the permanent collection. Lisberger enumerated the options for replacing the bricks – recast existing bricks, artist could create new bricks.

Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development: Committee member renewals – all three standing members were reappointed.

Communications Subcommittee Report:

Art in Our Front Yard: There will be no more Art in Our Front Yard presentations in June. July 3rd at the Armillary is pending based on artist availability. The committee continues to wait for grant funding to pay for the filming of the presentations. The logistics for the October Jetport event are still being discussed. Lisberger suggests Saturdays work best for the Jetport artists but CTN does not film on the weekends. Monica Wood will present the Longfellow statue in October. Vivian Beer will present her work on a Sunday in August.

Website: no updates

Site Selection Subcommittee:

The Congress Square Art Selection: The Parks Commission agreed to use \$35,000 of their CIP budget towards the Congress Square redesign project. Cameron provided an update on the previous Art Selection Panel meeting which continues to narrow down the list of artists being considered. Hildreth also reported on the decision between the Friends of Congress Square and the PPAC to combine the fundraising efforts between the redesign and the art as a whole. Devlin asked how expensive the artists on the list would be – Cameron responded that it is a wide range but some are as high as the millions. Cameron agreed to send the vision statement and rubric to the PPAC members.

Common Ground Gazebo: The subcommittee met to determine a new location for the gazebo because the previous proposal was not supported by the Longfellow Garden Club and the City Arborist. The new proposed location is next to the playground in Payson Park. This item will be on the next Parks Commission agenda and the next PPAC meeting is proposed to be the public meeting regarding this relocation. At that meeting the PPAC will vote on the relocation. The proposal calls for the Department of Public Services to move the work and for PPAC to repair it. Lisberger asked whether any committee members have contacts at Portland Pottery.

Fire Memorial: Family related to victims of the fire approached LaCasse to produce a memorial in Longfellow Park. Lisberger asked whether the memorial has to become part of the permanent collection. Jaegerman responded that it would need to be vetted by the PPAC if located on public property. The Armenian memorial was raised as an example – it was not clear whether this memorial is a part of the collection. Lisberger agreed that someone from the PPAC should be a contact for the patrons and walk them through the process. Devlin asked if the memorial became part of the collection whether the PPAC would be responsible for the conservation – yes. Devlin volunteers to be the contact for this item.

Puffin: Lisberger reported that *Puffin* siting at Casco Bay Lines terminal is still awaiting approval from the Casco Bay Lines board on June 25th. The Puffin sculpture will temporarily be on display in City Hall until the siting is resolved.

Gifts Subcommittee: The subcommittee reviewed the Abby Shahn and Hannah Nelsbach proposed gifts which were both rejected. The Abby Shahn painting is large and includes content about war and so an appropriate site could not be determined. The PPAC agreed to approach the library as a last attempt to find a site. The Hannah Nelsbach work did not fit the Jetport criteria for permanent artwork. She was encouraged to submit the work as a temporary art application.

Other Business

Grants Update: Lisberger missed the discussion of the Maine Arts Commission hearing grant applications but will receive the meeting minutes. It is not known when the decision will be announced.

Lincoln Park Fountain: Cameron announced that the City/Friends of Lincoln Park received a grant for \$83,000 towards the engineering of the Lincoln Park fountain. Kirby and Hildreth agreed to coordinate with the City/Friends of Lincoln Park on next steps.

Art in Public Places: LaCasse and Lisberger attended a lecture at the Boston Society of Architects given by Christina Lanzl of the Urban Culture Institute on the topic of Art in Public Places. The Congress Square Art Selection Panel will meet with Christina Lanzl Wednesday, July 24th to discuss Congress Square.

[5:16 Devlin leaves]

Retirement: Lisberger announced Jaegerman is leaving the City, this is his last public art committee meeting and all are invited to the reception on Thursday, July 25th in the State of Maine Room.

Adjourn at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Caitlin Cameron