



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

Management & Administration
Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

Portland Public Art Committee

Wednesday, August 17, 2016

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

Attendance: Lin Lisberger, Chair, Julia Kirby, Vice-Chair, James Cradock, Jenna Crowder, Christopher Devlin, Penny Harris, Pandora LaCasse, Tony Muench. Staff: Caitlin Cameron. Not in attendance: Alison Hildreth, Councilor Jill Duson, Corey Templeton.

Call to Order 4:05pm

Approve Minutes from July 20, 2016. Devlin, Crowder unanimous (7-0) approval (Muench, Hildreth, Templeton, Duson absent).

Project Reports

The Congress Square Art Selection: The public forum was Monday, August 8th where the four finalists presented their work. LaCasse reported that the selection committee met on Monday, August 15 to make the final selection and had hoped to announce that to the full committee at this meeting. Unfortunately, we have not gotten confirmation from the artist selected so an extra meeting will need to be scheduled for this item. Kirby asked whether the meeting needs to be in person – Cameron replied that it does. The PPAC selected Monday, August 22nd at 4pm for that special meeting, Cameron will send a confirmation email to the committee members and post notice of the meeting.

Langlais: Acrobatic Dogs is now located in the Jetport. There was concern about possible mold on the abstract relief for the Burbank Library Branch. Cameron and Lisberger investigated with Kohler Foundation and found there is no mold on this or any other of the pieces. Kirby added that the branch will reopen on August 23rd. Puffin lighting is in progress.

Art in Our Front Yard: Video of Jonathan Taggart will be first this year. Lisberger never heard back from Vivian Beer. SeaDogs have not been approached. LaCasse will contact John Raimundi and also suggested asking Andrew Eschelbacher to be a speaker – LaCasse will contact him. Lisberger recalled that a group of students were supposed to be making videos about John Ford and will follow up with that. LaCasse asked if conservation schedule could be posted online for the public to follow. CTN is still working on the Jetport videos.

[Muench arrives 4:17pm]

Art Underfoot: Crowder will contact those proposing the memorial. Lisberger asked the artist about a strategy to replace the additional missing bricks – either a memorial brick or recast is okay with artist.

Portland Brick: Sign and final 3 bricks have been installed. Final payment issued.

Gazebo: Cameron reported that the Parks Department has removed the gazebo.

Maintenance and Conservation:

Conservation: Contract is signed; waiting to hear from Taggart about schedule.

Loring Memorial: Installation should happen in August.

Room 24: Lisberger is waiting for payment of invoice for the prints in order to pick up and deliver to Casco Bay Frames. Kirby will help if needed.

Subcommittee Reports

Governance Subcommittee: Lisberger proposes strategic plan and budget sessions for the September and October meetings. Guidelines continue to be revised. LaCasse asked how the strategic planning exercise intersects with the Annual Plan – Cameron responded that part of the annual plan will be the proposed budget and goals for upcoming years.

Communication Subcommittee:

Site Selection Subcommittee: There are some potential new sites to plan for during the strategic planning/budget.

Gifts Subcommittee:

Farnsworth Proposed Gift: The Farnsworth is offering two sculptures from its collection. Lisberger commented that the dog artwork is not eligible for the Jetport because it does not meet the criteria. Lisberger sent the conservation report to PPAC – the conservator does not recommend accepting the artwork. The Gifts Subcommittee does not recommend accepting these gifts from the Farnsworth [Lisberger, Crowder 8-0]

City of Portland Proposed Gift: The City Manager is requesting the committee consider accepting into the collection the City-owned painting of William Pitt Fessenden. Lisberger fears that if the committee accepts the artwork into the collection, the PPAC will have to fund the remainder of the conservation efforts. Devlin asked whether this is part of the group of City paintings that were proposed to be added to the collection two years ago and what happened to those paintings – Cameron: Not sure what came of those. Cradock asked whether the City would then display the painting. LaCasse asked who the artist is and whether the committee will be asked to accept other paintings as well. Lisberger is not sure about the value to the public to use PPAC money in this way. The PPAC is already spending a lot of money on the Lincoln Park Fountain. Muench agreed that the PPAC is stretching its money thinly and we don't know the value of the artist or the work. Lisberger does not think the painting meets the criteria of the guidelines for the collection. The consensus was that more information was needed. Devlin asked whether the conservator could attend the meeting or present.

Woodfords Corner Concept Presentation

Artist Aaron Stephan presented three preliminary concepts for the public artwork proposed in Woodfords Corner. Five members of the public were present and asked questions regarding scale, lighting, base design, interaction with the clock tower, and safety. A summary of the comments and questions can be found in the memo dated August 26th. The committee generally favored concept 1. The next steps will be to bring the refined design proposal back to the committee in the fall.

Adjourn at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Caitlin Cameron