



Julia Kirby, Chair  
James Cradock  
Jenna Crowder  
Diana Greenwold  
Alison Hildreth  
Pandora LaCasse  
Lin Lisberger  
Dinah Minot, Creative Portland  
Tony Muench  
Corey Templeton  
Brian Batson, City Councilor

**Management & Administration**  
Caitlin Cameron, Urban Designer

**Portland Public Art Committee**  
Wednesday, July 19, 2017  
4:00-6:00pm, Public Library Room 3

Attendance: Julia Kirby, Chair, James Cradock, Jenna Crowder, Diana Greenwold, Alison Hildreth, Pandora LaCasse, Dinah Minot, Tony Muench Members of the Public: Jessica Tomlinson, Kimberly Gregg, Elizabeth Spavento, Rose Morasco, Shoshannah White, Amy Geuren, Dela Taylor, David LaCasse, + one more unknown Staff: Caitlin Cameron Not in attendance: Councilor Batson, Lin Lisberger, Corey Templeton

**Call to order 4:04pm**

**Congress Square:** Sze Studio submitted the design proposal of the Shattered Sphere scheme for review, discussion. Sarah Sze called into the meeting and described the updated proposal and commented on color, height and shape, marking the space, enclosure and open air, activity embedded in work itself, represents a moment in time (image), "museum in the round," green space expanded to encompass the work – possibly even more, part of the space/surrounded by green, how do you frame landscape?, positive/negative space, exterior reflection would change with time/season while interior stays the same.

**Questions:**

- Hildreth: Would there also be polished steel pieces in front? SS: No, that confuses the concept, want to keep them separated. Flat space vs. real space.
- Kirby: The scaffold has a light quality while still sturdy – balanced
- LaCasse: Reflective surface – will it truly be reflective or will scaffolding get in the way? SS: The scaffolding might also have reflective surface but that would be expensive.
- LaCasse: Scaffold should be integral – welded or fastened? SS: Not sure but large pieces welded.
- LaCasse: Are the sphere pieces in the same plane? SS: Interior is a perfect sphere.
- Muench: A physical model would help us visualize, especially the reflection. SS: Next step would be a full scale physical model but need more understanding of the scale of the landscape.
- Minot: Like the scaffold nest. Is the vibrancy of the color correct in the rendering? Will we see samples? SS: Want it to look natural.

**Public Comment:**

- Elizabeth Spavento: Art in the public realm creates an image in the community's mind of how art serves us – reflects how art will be received. How does your work fit in and what kinds of comments will be elicited by it? SS: Public art can make an important long-term contribution; hope is to describe the complexity of person/landscape in space, live space; it is an intimate reflection, moments in time, doesn't have a static quality; questions the idea of monumentality,

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landscape, architecture. It is a threat to public art to have the idea that it will be accepted by everyone.

- Elizabeth Spavento: Have you seen the site in person? SS: yes
- Elizabeth Spavento: What makes this work specific to Portland? SS: The piece evolved from experience in the space; creative connection between soul, mind, and space; surprised how many people/activity there; inside the park is intimate; sculpture tries to engage with the museum; hoping for casual ownership of piece
- Elizabeth Spavento: The budget mentions documentation – what is that? SS: The new budget files expand on that.
- Diana Greenwold: I'm curious about the decision to make the concave surface the static one. SS: That has been an important question; it has to do with the presence of the piece, color will help make it more visible, the concave surface would not reflect people because of its position.
- Rose Morasco: Stainless steel texture/surface? SS: totally smooth
- Rose Morasco: Regarding the views/frame techniques of Chinese/Japanese landscape – is it your hope that the two pieces will indicate a sphere shape? SS: To far apart for that to happen but eye will imagine a sphere.
- Rose Morasco: Can you discuss the three pieces scale and proportion? SS: The 1<sup>st</sup> section is scaled for street presence, 3<sup>rd</sup> is to feel like a remnant.

#### **[5:16pm Muench leaves]**

##### Discussion:

- Cradock: Has Jonathan Taggart weighed in on the design? No. Would suggest a condition of approval for that.
- LaCasse: Taggart could also help us understand cost of maintenance
- Minot: Have we negotiated the budget? Would like to be involved with that.

The Portland Public Art Committee moves to approve the design proposal for Congress Square Public Art Commission as proposed by Sarah Sze Studio as presented in the materials for the July 19, 2017 meeting with two conditions:

- 1) That the landscape details and location of the artwork be coordinated and finalized with WRT and
- 2) 2) that the design development take into consideration comments from the conservator

**[7-0 approved, Kirby, LaCasse]**

#### **[5:33pm Minot leaves]**

Staff will have a follow-up call to Sze Studio with these comments.

Approve minutes from June 21, 2017 **[Hildreth, LaCasse 6-0]**

#### **Project Reports**

**Art Underfoot:** No update.

##### **Maintenance/Conservation:**

- *Portland Brick* – A new sign has been ordered.
- *Armillary* – The Rotary Club has requested additional work to the artwork – lighting and a commemorative engraving in the trail. Kirby asked whether it would set a precedent expectation to light all artwork if we light this one. Next steps would be to find out the cost and how much the Rotary Club is willing to fund.
- *Glimpse* – The committee decided to wait until next fiscal year to fund conservation work on Glimpse. The item will need to be added to the conservation contract and the conservator hired will need to collaborate with the artist at that time.

- *Loring Memorial* – Cameron will respond to the Lorings and will talk to the Friends of Eastern Prom about fundraising for signs. The committee is not willing to fund the sign.

**[5:43pm Cradock leaves]**

**Subcommittee Reports**

**Governance Committee:**

- Welcome to new member Diana Greenwold.

**Communications Committee:**

- PSA: no update

**Other Business:**

- The committee will receive a donation of \$2,500 from a developer as part of a site plan approval. The committee will need to determine how to use this money.
- Temporary Art: Temporary Art installations through TEMPO for July and August.
- City Hall: The space next to Council Chambers has been cleared and re-painted. The committee is invited to add artwork to that space.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:59pm**

**Submitted by:** Caitlin Cameron