



Anna Berke, Chair
Sharon Dennehy, Vice-Chair
Kat Zagaria Buckley
Phoebe Cole
Gillian Cook
Councilor Victoria Pelletier
Lindsay Hancock, Creative Portland
Kelly Hrenko, City Manager appointee
Jessica Lauren Lipton
Stephanie Motter
John Whipple

Management & Administration

Sean King
Urban Designer, Planning & Urban Development
Department

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

4:00 PM Portland Public Library, Room 3

1. Zoom Meeting Information

- A. Due to the existence of an emergency or urgent issue the **Portland Public Art Committee** will conduct this meeting by remote methods/technology at the Zoom link provided below, in accordance with the requirements of 1 M.R.S. section 403-B and the City Council's Remote Participation Policy.

Allow your computer to install the free zoom app to get the best meeting experience. For more information on how to use Zoom, please go to: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/remotepud>. Public comment will be taken; written comments may be submitted to publicart@portlandmaine.gov

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/81634418875>

Or One tap mobile :

US: +19292056099,,81634418875# or +13017158592,,81634418875#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 816 3441 8875

International numbers available: <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/81634418875>

2. Call to Order

- A.
- Roll call
 - Approve of meeting minutes from February 15, 2023.

3. Staff Updates

- A.
- Public art fund balance

- New committee member introduction of Stephanie Motter

4. Project Reports

- A. **Congress Square Park (Cook):** No updates. The Friends of Congress Square Park Fundraiser committee held a monthly Zoom meeting.

Gathering Stones (Hancock, Cole): No updates on relocation of existing memorial bench.

PPAC to determine next steps for signage, coordination with artist for stone base and location.

Passing the Torch (Zagaria): No updates on Mark Pettegrow's bronze sculpture.

PPAC to finalize verbiage for artwork description. Future tasks are to submit for shop drawings for purchase of (2) signs and installation to existing boulders at the corner of USM campus.

Bramhall Square Redesign (Whipple): Artist Chris Miller in design development phase and coordination with Mitchell & Associates Landscape Architects.

Conservation (Berke, Cole): Conservator - Jonathan Taggart (JT).

- Jewel Box glass replacement – Glass ordered, waiting for delivery, No update from last meeting.
- Begin conservation of *Untitled- Armillary* spring 2023.

5. Subcommittee Reports

- A. **Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Berke, Dennehy)**

- City Clerk recommended Stephanie Motter to fill vacant committee member seat. Motion was accepted unanimously by City Council on 3/1/2023.

Gifts Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria)

- Subcommittee members to share updates.
- Libbytown Neighborhood Association - Maine Med community art grant at Lowell Street Park.

Communications Subcommittee (Cook, Cole)

- Subcommittee members to share updates
- Photographs of the collection (Pinecone, Passing the Torch, Gathering Stones)

Site Selection Subcommittee (Cook, Dennehy, Hancock, Lipton, Zagaria)

- Subcommittee members to share updates

6. Other Business

A.

- ONGOING: Artful bicycle rack discussion, committee member Lindsay Hancock as volunteered as representative on ad-hoc group.
- ACTIVE: TEMPOart summer '23 application received, committee member Anna Berke has volunteered as representative to participate in review panel in April. This is a public meeting and an open invitation to all committee members to share feedback.
- ACTIVE: Portland Downtown Utility Box application received + call for artist, committee member Phoebe Cole has volunteered as representative to participate as jury member and in review panel once temporary art applicant is received. This is a public meeting and an open invitation to all committee members to share feedback.
- Waynflete High School committee member interview interests.
- **Portland Public Art in the Media: March - April 2023 Maine Home and Design**

7. Committee Updates

Next Meeting - April 19, 2023 at 4:00 pm

Public Art Committee Meeting Minutes February 15, 2023



PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

February 15, 2023

Call to order: Anna, Second - Pheobe

Roll call -

Approve of meeting minutes from January 18, 2022.

Present: Sean, Phoebe, Anna, Kelly Hrenko, Kat, Lindsay, John

Absent: Sharon, Jess

Staff Updates

Public art fund balance

- Not issued any payments or invoiced the past month
- Jesse Salisbury has been paid in full for Gathering Stones
- Waiting installation of glass at Jewel box but hasn't been invoiced yet

New committee member introductions

- Kelly Hrenko – city appointed member
- Introduction of committee members

Approve minutes from last week: Phoebe, John

Project Reports

Congress Square Park (King, Cook): No updates. Friends of Congress Square Park fundraiser committee held monthly Zoom meeting.

Gathering Stones (King, Hancock, Cole): No updates on relocation of existing memorial bench. PPAC to determine next steps for signage, coordination with artist for stone base and location.

- Phoebe let Jesse know committee was excited about signage project
- Provided signage template – still figuring out if Braille can be included
- Installation likely to come about in spring

- Is country of origin standard in signage?

Passing the Torch (King, Zagaria): No updates on Mark Pettegrow's bronze sculpture. PPAC to finalize verbiage for artwork description. Future tasks are to submit for shop drawings for purchase

of (2) signs and installation to existing boulders at the corner of USM campus.

- Waiting to hear back from Mark on verbiage – modified version
- Longer paragraph will be used on website – how to add this to what's already available/history of project?
 - o Call out box "From the Artist"
 - o Artist statement from Jesse Salisbury too?
- Need to see how Braille first and ADA standards for Braille
- Sean reached out to communications department about Braille/ADA standards

Bramhall Square Redesign (King, Whipple): Artist Chris Miller in design development phase and coordination with Mitchell & Associates Landscape Architects.

- No updates
- Artist working with landscapers to make sure art will integrate with planters

Conservation (King, Cole): Conservator - Jonathan Taggart (JT).

Jewel Box glass replacement – Glass ordered, waiting for delivery, No update from last meeting. Begin conservation of *Untitled- Armillary* spring 2023. Contract signed with insurance certificate by Jonathan Taggart.

- Jewel Box - Glass replacement has yet to be receive/installed.
- JT provided insurance for Armillary and signed contract
- Under contract – waiting for invoice

Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Berke, Dennehy)

- City Manager's appointment of Kelly Hrenko accepted unanimously by City Council on 2/6/2023.
- Appointment for the public art committee member vacant seat to be confirmed at the City Council meeting on February 27, 2023. City clerks office received applicant. – they will be proceeding with swearing in of individual on Feb 27.

Will attend March meeting.

Option to finish Ryan's term then re-apply for full 3year term.

Sharon needs to be re-nominated in June.

Gifts Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria)

- Subcommittee members to share updates.
- Libbytown Neighborhood Association - Maine Med community art grant at Lowell Street Park.
 - Maine Med Community funds for art or lighting within Libbytown neighborhood through AIP?
 - Considering Lowell Street Park as site
 - Considering sculpture –
 - Sean requested photos/materials of location they are proposing and other pertinent information
 - Monetary gift needs to be reviewed by city council
 - Artist/site materials/ proposal will be reviewed by PPAC
 - Discussion over amount of funds and caretaking responsibilities
 - Discussion over accessibility of location
 - Discussion of improvements to Doherty park and whether public art will be included in that

Communications Subcommittee (Cook, Cole)

- Subcommittee members to share updates
- Photographs of the collection (Pinecone, Passing the Torch, Gathering Stones)
 - Moving forward with putting photos of Pinecone and Passing the torch on the website. Will help us move social media forward

Site Selection Subcommittee (Adams, Cook, Dennehy, Hancock, Lipton, Seshachar, Zagaria)

Subcommittee members to share updates

- Discussion of Riverton Trolley park improvements. So far no funds slated for public art. But has potential to be a site. Would need to use public art funding
- Could be put as a priority on 2024 annual report to get something placed there

Other Business

Artful bicycle rack discussion

Could be included in Doherty park improvements

Lindsay and Sean had meeting with public works and PW does have some funding for this look at other funding means

Looking at need for bike racks- updating location map of current bike racks

Also looked at whether there is an opportunity to include this art initiative into current and upcoming developments (ex. Congress Square).

UPCOMING: TEMPOart summer '23 application review panel UPCOMING:

- TEMPO art submitted proposal for temporary art. Protocol to establish review panel. Sharon expressed interest to participate as the PPAC rep/liaison. Under review from planning dept.

Portland Downtown Utility Box call for artist

- Replication of what was done 4 years ago with utility boxes. Proposal to have 6 utility boxes painted. Engage the PPAC to have a liaison to review utility box applications. Portland downtown may be selecting artists in conjunction with PPAC – Sean to check. Have not received application from Portland Downtown yet.

Coloring sheet distribution at General Assistance office

- GA asked if there was an opportunity to distribute public art coloring sheets at their office.
- 200-300 coloring sets available
- Committee agreeable to this

Good of the order - Ryan Adams and wife have show opening March 3rd with around 17 artists.

Casco Bay Artists reception March 30th over by Wex.

Adjourned 5:34

Next Meeting – March 15, 2023 at 4pm

Public Art Fund Balance: July 2022 - July 2023

FY23 - Proposed Budget (July 2022-June 2023)

TOTAL PPAC Balance		
A	Total Balance	\$ 329,764.52
B	Total Encumbrances	\$ 222,672.00
C	Remaining Balance	\$ 107,092.52

Remaining Encumbrances from approved budget plans			
	Activity	Description	Budget
A	Congress Square Public Art	New Commission - Sarah Sze artist	\$ 176,000.00
B	Bramhall Square Artwork	New Commission - Chris Miller artist	\$ 25,000.00
C	Conservation-Armillary	Conservation and Maintenance	\$ 10,000.00
	Total Encumbered		\$ 211,000.00

Proposed Future Encumbrances (Projects the PPAC has committed to funding or considering)			
	Activity	Description	Budget
A	Bramhall Square Artwork - Strech	New Commission: Chris Miller stetch budget	\$ 6,172.00
C	Conservation-Armillary	Conservation and Maintenance	\$ 5,500.00
	Total Proposed Encumbered		\$ 11,672.00

FY23 - Proposed Budget Breakdown				
	Activity	Description	Proposed Budget	Current FY23 Budget Balance
A	Conservation and Maintenance	To cover routine maintenance, priority conservation items	\$ 10,000	\$ 4,500.00
B	Operations	Web hosting, collection documentation, etc.	\$ 1,000	\$ 500.00
C	Contingency Fund	To cover repairs, theft, relocation, Community Art grant, plaque purchase, etc.	\$ 9,000	\$ 7,078.31
D	New Artwork	New acquisition + install: Gathering Stones, Chris Miller stretch budget	\$ 40,000	\$ 3,828.00
	Total FY23 Budget		\$ 60,000	\$ 15,906.31

FY23 Expenses	Funding Source	Total (PAID)	Project Notes
Yellahoose	FY23 Operations	\$ 500.00	August 5 invoice, annual hosting for PPAC + Potland Bricks
Jewel Box glass replacement	FY23 Contingency	\$ 1,921.69	Quote 350-645811 Portland Glass
Gathering Stones	FY22 + FY23 New Artwork	\$ 60,000.00	Fieldstone LLC invoice #124194

Portland Public Art in the Media:
March - April 2023 Maine Home + Design

What is your favorite piece of public art in Maine?

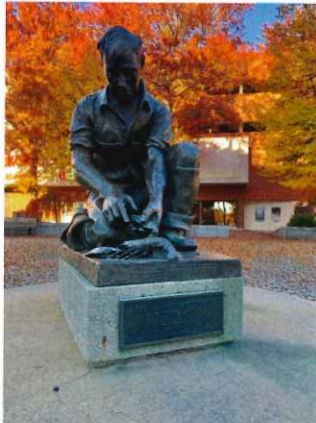


While there are plenty of colorful murals to enjoy across Portland, East Bayside's community mosaic feels extra special since it's made from a mixture of pottery pieces, mirror shards, and painted glass. Designed in 2016 by Muhsana Ali, a Senegalese artist-in-residence at the University of Southern Maine, the dynamic installation connects the variety of cultures that make up the Portland community.

—Becca Abramson, editorial assistant

I love Charlie Hewitt's *Hopeful* sign series, which brings charming, colorful, and positive vibes to cities across the state. I designed and helped fabricate signs for almost three years, so I have a strong appreciation for well-made, unique signage.

—Olivia Ryder, production manager



One of my favorite public works of art in Maine is the *Maine Lobsterman* statue that honors fishermen lost at sea. Located at Land's End on Bailey's Island (with replicas in Augusta, Portland, and Washington, D.C.), the statue, which is itself a replica of one shown at the 1939 World's Fair, is a hidden treasure. At first glance it looks like a man tending to flowers, overlooking a spectacular view of the ocean, but upon closer inspection you see that it reflects a haunting and beautiful story, showing a hardworking man banding a lobster claw.

—Caili Elwell, digital strategist

I'm a big fan of the *Digital Man* sculptures by Ogunquit artist Jonathan Borofsky, which sit outside both the Portland Museum of Art and the Center for Maine Contemporary Art (CMCA) in Rockland. Created as a part of Borofsky's *Human Structures* exhibition at the CMCA in 2016, these steel structures measure 24 feet tall and resemble pixelated human figures—a commentary on human connection in the digital age. As someone who grew up playing computer games in the early 2000s, the style and color palette of these installations make me feel nostalgic for my Neopets account and the earlier days of the internet.

—Hadley Gibson, associate editor



CREDIT: KERRY CONSTANTINO

Our family has been visiting Pamela Moulton's sculptures in Payson Park. They range in height from 12 to 17 feet and are made from 10 tons of retired and found fishing gear known as "ghost gear." The kids dance around these giant pink sea creatures, often settling beneath one to eat their snack. The pieces are magical but also a symbol of the underlying environmental issues here in Maine.

—Danielle Devine, editor **MH+D**