



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, May 17, 2023

4:00 PM This meeting will be held via Zoom

1. Zoom Meeting Information

*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 :

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Webinar ID: 816 3441 8875

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

2. Call to Order

Roll Call

April 19 2023 meeting minutes

3. Staff Updates

Public art fund balance

4. Project Reports

Congress Square Park (Cook): Friends of Congress Square Park fundraiser committee held monthly Zoom meeting.

Gathering Stones (Hancock, Cole): PPAC member to determine next steps for signage, coordination with artist for stone base and location.

Passing the Torch (Zagaria): PPAC member to request quote for signage fabricator from Burr Signs.

Bramhall Square Redesign (Whipple): Artist Chris Miller to present artwork design development drawings.

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

Begin conservation of *Untitled- Armillary* in May 2023.

Loring Memorial granite post damaged by car, City staff received replacement estimate for Office of Corporation Counsel.

5. Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Berke, Dennehy)

Gifts Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria)

Libbytown Neighborhood Association - Maine Med community art grant at Lowell Street Park.

Communications Subcommittee (Cook, Cole, Motter)

Subcommittee members to share updates

City staff to update website with approved descriptions, map locations and photos.

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

Subcommittee members to share updates

6. Other Business

COMPLETE: Downtown Portland Utility Box painting held May 5, 2023.

ACTIVE: PMA Art Trail temporary art application received, seeking PPAC volunteer and designated artist to participate in review panel.

7. Committee Updates

Next Meeting – June 21, 2023 at 4pm



PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

April 19th

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Present: Sean, Sharon, Jess, Phoebe, Kelly, Stephanie, Kat

Absent: John, Anna, Lindsay Hancock

Approve of meeting minutes from March 2023.

Approved

Staff Updates

Public art fund balance

- Glass has been replaced at Jewel Box – waiting for invoice in order to take money out of the public art fund.

Remote participation policy

- City council order passed on Feb 6, remote participation policy for boards and committees

Approved

New committee member introduction of Stephanie Motter

Project Reports

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

Gathering Stones (Hancock, Cole): Jesse has a boulder picked out to put the signage on and that is moving forward. Phoebe bringing forth to committee to put Jesse's hometown and USA vs United States. Committee decides to go with USA.

Passing the Torch (Zagaria):

Sean shared mock up with Kat of what Marks description and credits in braille would look like. Kat thought it looked crowded. Given all the elements happening in the sign Kat doesn't think this is a good candidate for Braille signage. Braille might be better for simpler signage or other projects in the pipeline.

Maybe explore apps that can read sign to folks who need assistance with that. You can scan something (QR code etc). Can scan the sign or something on the sign and it will read it. Kelly would be happy to investigate this further.

Is that parks department/trail system doing anything around Braille on signage? Are there possibilities to partner with them to get a grant around accessibility and signage? Can we piggyback on another project in order to get a larger chunk of money?

Apps - Will people have access to the necessary tech? Will tech always work? Braille is already established and might be more consistent than tech.

Kat and Phoebe are working on some guidelines around Braille and want how to give more information on signs. Conversation to be continued.

Sean says he can follow up with parks department to understand where they are in terms of Braille for signage. City doesn't currently have a vendor they use for Braille. Using Braille is definitely new but supported within city.

To move forward Kat is going to get a quote for the signage with the description on it.

Light is still burnt out – Artist has a problem with this.

- Sean has been in coordination with City PW to fix the outage. PW is really under staffed. There is now a second outage. Their recommendation is for the committee to use funds to get this fixed. This is an LED system that is separate from City system and may warrant a specialist in the future. Sean has specs for installation so we can look into getting someone else to fix this. Parks department may be able to help. Sean to follow up.

Committee expresses concerns over using committee funds for lighting.

Bramhall Square Redesign (Whipple):

- Long ongoing project – may have an update in late spring/early summer
- Moving forward, may not always show up on agenda any more

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

- Armillary – bit of a delay – looking to be back at work mid-May.
- Loring Memorial – posts were struck – funds have been recouped from insurance to pay to fix it. Posts and etching will need to be recreated. The lights associated with the posts were repaired. The city's legal council is still processing legal claim. Intent is to have person responsible pay for repair.
- If person responsible can't pay – the committee should consider using committee funds.

Subcommittee members to share updates

Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Berke, Dennehy)

- Should we look into grants committee?
- Stephanie and Kelly should let Sean etc know what committees they want to join
- Gifts committee could also be used a funding opportunities
- Could look for private funding but grants would need to be applied for as a municipality, however, should wait until Sarah Sze funding is locked down
- Planning dept can assist with grants as a municipality and if we could find grants that would be a great resources – planning dept can help move those along.

Gifts Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria))

- Subcommittee members to share updates.
- Libbytown Neighborhood Association - Maine Med community art grant at Lowell Street Park.
 - Committee members met with Libbytown Neighborhood Assoc. – they don't have any specific sculptures they would be buying, would be working with artists to create them. Best route to take would be for PPAC to have an advisory role and have this be created as a temporary work and then later turned into permanent.
 - Advised that if LNA wanted a permanent work, working with PPAC was the best way to do that
 - 2 artists they are looking at – budget constraints. Both artists they are talking with can work within budget. Veronica Beir, Patrick Plourd. Doesn't seem like LNA can make up their mind as a community group.

Communications Subcommittee (Cook, Cole, Stephanie)

- Subcommittee members to share updates
 - Descriptions of Pincone, Passing the Torch, and Gathering stones to be added to website. Do we need to contact artists for credits?
 - Photos of Gathering Stones need to be taken – Gillian will take when weather improves
 - Pretty much everything you see on the website for descriptions was created by the committee and not over stress about what is included.

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

- Site committee met on Friday to speak about possible locations for future works.
- Keep an eye on trolley park project – underserved community with no public art
- Alice spencer (tempoART) look at resiting a temporary piece. Original piece wasn't meant to be permanent.
- Kennedy Park
- Kat volunteered to attend the North Deering Association – but it doesn't look like they are active – another neighborhood that doesn't have any public art.
- Jess will reach out to Rosemont Neighborhood

- Planning dept is going to engage a student for SP high for an intern ship whose project will be mapping public art. Incorporating site notes would be beneficial and assist with distribution of public art in communities that don't have public art.
- Sean will let us know when student will start.

Other Business

ONGOING: Artful bicycle rack discussion, committee member Lindsay Hancock as volunteered as representative on ad-hoc group.

- Lindsay is still having conversations with people but it seems as though there is a lack of funds.

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.

- Artist Christopher Miller gave a presentation to the public.
 - Sean will send meeting out to committee. Tempo should have a PPT of the upcoming pieces on their site.
 - Animals – Chris Miller – Adjacent to MMC campus
 - Wooden stars with QR codes to give supplementary information on animals
 - also working with city horticulturalist to figure out best plantings for site
- Chris miller would be responsible for maintenance – using high quality paint that can withstand the weather

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.

- Another temp art review panel within the next few weeks
- Don't anticipate this being different than previous times that this project has happened.
- Haven't put out a call for artists yet
- Portland Downtown is putting together a jury to do the call for artists
- Temp art review panel can proceed without knowing the artwork

May 11th – USM Gallery will have an opening – Kat fully programmed. Will run through July.

Notch 8 – Racheal Glory Adams Solo May 19th Group Exhibition
May 19th – Jess (opening new work by Russ Cox – Abstract artist

Phoebe – 2 person show – Alice Gauvan Gallery

- simon carr “being in place” focused on his horse farm -opens in May.

New gallery – artist run – 82 Paris Street – opening Friday.

Meeting adjourned 5:25pm

FY23 - Proposed Budget (July 2022-June 2023)

TOTAL PPAC Balance		
A	Total Balance	\$ 329,889.92
B	Total Encumbrances	\$ 222,672.00
C	Remaining Balance	\$ 107,217.92

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 stretch 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	\$ 7,203.71
D	New Artwork	New acquisition + install: Gathering Stones, Chris Miller stretch budget	\$ 40,000	\$ 3,828.00
	Total FY23 Budget		\$ 60,000	\$ 16,031.71

FY23 Expenses	Funding Source	Total (PAID)	Project Notes
Yellahoose	FY23 Operations	\$ 500.00	August 5 invoice, annual hosting for PPAC + Portland Bricks
Jewel Box glass replacement	FY23 Contingency	\$ 1,796.29	Portland Glass Invoice 350-1018816
Gathering Stones	FY22 + FY23 New Artwork	\$ 60,000.00	Fieldstone LLC invoice #124194