



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, November 15, 2023
4:00 PM Remote meeting via Zoom

1. Remote 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:

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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
- October 18, 2023 meeting minutes

3. Staff Updates

- Report of decisions at the meeting held on October 18, 2023
- Public art fund balance
- Charles Loring Memorial granite post replacement

4. **Project Reports**

- **Congress Square Park (Cook):**
 - City to finalize contract amendment #3 with Sarah Sze Studio and MOU with Friends of Congress Square Park.
 - The public art committee to organize a subcommittee that will provide updates on phase 2 artwork construction documents.
- **Gathering Stones (Hancock, Cole):**
 - Artist Jesse Salisbury provided maintenance recommendations and costs for future committee consideration.
- **Passing the Torch (Zagaria):**
 - Invoice paid for installation on October 26, 2023.
- **Conservation Projects - ACTIVE (Berke, Cole):**
 - Jewell Box glass replacement - Emergency glass repair
 - Staff tasked with alternatives to Portland Glass quote for additional glass panels

5. **Subcommittee Reports**

- **Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Berke, Dennehy)**
 - FY23 annual report and FY24 Budget.
- **Acquisitions (Formerly “Gifts”) Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria, Hrenko)**
 - Libbytown Neighborhood Association - Maine Med community art grant at Lowell Street Park.
 - Create a gift application for future donations
- **Communications Subcommittee (Cook, Cole, Motter)**
 - Subcommittee members to share updates.
 - Create a shared digital folder for committee reference files.
- **Collection Management (Formerly “Site Selection”) Subcommittee (Berke, Cook, Dennehy, Hancock, Lipton, Zagaria)**
 - Potential site location consideration for Portland Homeless Service Center at 654 Riverside Street

6. **Other Business**

- East Bayside mural project - Meeting with City Staff on November 15, 2023
- Temporary art
 - *Oysters in the Park* by Friends of Congress Square Park installed, opening event held November 3, 2023

7. **Public Comment**

8. **Meeting Adjourns**

Next Meeting - December 20, 2023 at 4:00 pm



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Management & Administration

Sean King, Urban Designer with Planning & Urban Development Department

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

October 18, 2023

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom link

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1. Call to Order

- Roll call

(Absent - Gillian Cook, Lindsay Hancock, Jess Lipton, Victoria Pelletier. Present – Anna Berke, Sharon Dennehy, Kat Zagaria, Phoebe Cole, Kelly Hrenko, Stephanie Motter, John Whipple)

- September 20, 2023 meeting minutes

2. Staff Updates

- Report of decisions at the meeting held on September 20, 2023
 - Utilize contingency fund of \$250 for the installation of *Passing The Torch* plaque
 - Public art fund balance
- Passing the Torch plaque purchases of \$611.38

3. Project Reports

- **Congress Square Park (Cook):** City to finalize contract amendment #3 with Sarah Sze Studio and MOU with Friends of Congress Square Park. The public art committee to organize a subcommittee

that will provide updates on phase 2 artwork construction documents.

Committee members introduced project for future committee focus in the upcoming months with potential interests from J. Whipple, L. Hancock, G. Cook & P. Cole.

Discussion ensued about previous PPAC members decisions made during design phase that started in 2016. Major concerns about high-value pieces and ongoing maintenance, reference *Michael* sculpture as a reproduction and PPAC commitment to acquire public art that is unique. Issues are the delicate stainless steel pieces, promote robust design, address future vandalism, and consideration for future maintenance with new generation of public art committee members.

Staff suggested that representatives from Friends of Congress Square Park participate in the monthly checkin meetings with Sarah Sze Studio that includes PPAC committee members. Will organize upon signed contract amendment with Sarah Sze and look towards a kickoff meeting

- **Gathering Stones (Hancock, Cole):** Artist Jesse Salisbury to provide maintenance recommendations and costs for future committee consideration.

Committee members have communicated via emails with Jesse about potential maintenance costs. Had an opportunity to visit Gathering Stones to witness minor scratches, potentially scratches by children from gravel stones and suggest to not repair these minor issues. Upon larger graffiti, a more robust cleaning may need to occur in the future.

- **Passing the Torch (Zagaria):** Invoice paid and Staff picked up the two fabricated signs at Burr Signs. Artist to install sculpture replica and signs to boulders on October 26, 2023.

Committee member shared that Jesse would install sculpture replica and plaques on October 26th in the morning. Mark Pettegrow shared the information on the lighting installer.

Staff to coordinate sidewalk occupancy permit with Dept Public Works, be available on site as well.

- **Conservation Projects – ACTIVE (Berke, Cole):**
 - Jewell Box glass replacement
 - Replacement glass costs for single broken pane = \$1,806.29
 - Additional quote to replace two glass panels vandalized by etched graffiti = \$3,726.26.

Committee members discussed request for additional quotes, as amount for single pane of tempered glass seems high. What is the City's response to other bus shelters, and is there an option for the Jewell Box glass to be covered under City's insurance policy?

Action items – City staff to investigate additional quotes for the glass and information about general City insurance policy on bus shelters, Sean will bring information to next committee meeting.

4. Subcommittee Reports

- **Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Berke, Dennehy)**
 - FY23 annual report and FY24 Budget. Staff recommends the committee review final version following October 18, 2023 meeting and vote during November 15, 2023 meeting prior to

City Council agenda.

Staff to send out FY23 annual report after October meeting for committee member review

- **Acquisitions (Formerly “Gifts”) Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria, Hrenko)**
 - Libbytown Neighborhood Association - Maine Med community art grant at Lowell Street Park.
 - Create a gift application for future donations

Committee members met with Zack from Libbytown to discuss artist, Vivian Beer, fabrication of a new sculpture. Libbytown Neighborhood Association needs support to proceed towards gift route and to formalize the process prior to a City Council agenda. Sculpture is metal, Libbytown is seeking guidance to move forward once artwork design is complete.

Committee members shared willingness to begin gift application template.

- **Communications Subcommittee (Cook, Cole, Motter)**
 - Subcommittee members to share updates.
 - Create a shared digital folder for committee reference files.

Committee members met to brainstorm future social media posts, ideally two social posts per month. Hype up PPAC in the past, work towards future posts. A business account needs to be setup to share folders as a Drive, will continue to research shared folder for all committee members and will look into potential costs.

- **Collection Management (Formerly “Site Selection”) Subcommittee (Berke, Cook, Dennehy, Hancock, Lipton, Zagaria)**
 - Potential site location consideration for Portland Homeless Service Center at 654 Riverside Street

Committee member introduced idea to site new artwork at PHSC and to participate in coordinating with Nick Aceto, landscape architect of project site at Portland Homeless Service.

- Maintenance projects for committee consideration
 - Pullen Fountain – Plumbing replacement Cost \$800 - \$1,000
 - Playing Bears – Missing claws Cost \$1,200 - \$1,400
 - “Czar Reed” – Wax protection coating Cost \$1,500
 - The Hiker – Wax protection coating Cost \$1,300

Committee member recommended completing outstanding maintenance priorities, especially the wax coating as preventative maintenance and recommend these conservation projects be added into the FY24 proposed budget.

Committee member to contact at Langlais family (foundation) and can coordinate replacement of bear claw.

5. Other Business

- East Bayside mural project – Staff confirmed the deaccessioning of the Andrew Schoultz mural from 2016, Council order passed 1516 57. Staff to coordinate with facilities to determine cleaning and treatment of wall to determine if repainting is viable.

Committee members deliberated on the East Bayside Mural project, shared the deaccessioning in 2016 through City Council order passed. No public art funds would be required to maintain the mural, but the public art committee should be responsible to clean and finish exterior wall to an adequate condition. City Staff to estimate a \$2,000 clean up to remove mural.

City Staff to organize a meeting with Parks Director to invite PPAC members Kelly, John, Sharon with Alex Marshall.

Committee members made suggestions on removal procedures, sandblasting is not recommended based on masonry and fragile exterior wall, scrapping to remove loose paint is preferred. Hot pressure wash is recommended and use of acetone on hard to remove areas / sacrificial anti-graffiti coating.

- **Temporary art**

- *Oysters in the Park* by Friends of Congress Square Park permit issued, tentative installation first week of October.
- *PMA Art Trail* by PMA installed six reproductions along Eastern Promenade trail
- *Impact of Exchange* by World Affairs Council deinstalled from Amethyst lot)
- *Black is Beautiful* road mural by Indigo Arts Alliance repainted on Cove Street

- Student art project at King School roadway pedestrian and bicycle safety. Artist led student review panel.

Committee members J. Whipple, K. Hrenko & L. Hancock volunteer to be involved

6. Public comment

Sue Lambe – Landscape Architect, leading public art project program in Austin, TX. Currently advocates for “Public art exchange”, invites members of public art committee to engage. Say hello, a resource and passionate about the field of public art. Publicartexchange – National organization, hopeful to be premier non-profit

7. Meeting adjourns

Meeting adjourns at 5:28pm

Next Meeting – November 15, 2023 at 4pm

FY24 - Proposed Budget (July 2023-June 2024)

TOTAL PPAC Balance		
A	Total Balance (includes FY24)	\$ 354,584.31
B	Total Encumbrances	\$ 202,172.00
C	Remaining Balance	\$ 152,412.31

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	\$ 26,172.00
C	Conservation Armillary	Conservation and Maintenance	\$ 15,500.00
	Total Encumbered		\$ 202,172.00

FY24 - Proposed Budget Breakdown				
	Activity	Description	Proposed Budget	Current FY23 Budget Balance
A	Conservation and Maintenance	To cover routine maintenance, priority conservation items	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000.00
B	Contingency Fund	To cover repairs, theft, relocation, Community Art grant, plaque purchase, etc.	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,332.33
C	New Artwork	New acquisition + install:	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000.00
	Total FY23 Budget		\$ 50,000	\$ 47,332.33

FY24 Expenses	Funding Source	Total (PAID)	Project Notes
Burr Signs	FY24 Contingency	\$ 611.38	Passing the Torch Plaques (Qt.)2
Passing the Torch sign install	FY24 Contingency	\$ 250.00	Jesse Salisbury
Portland Glass replacement	FY24 Contingency	\$ 1,806.29	Jewell Box emergency repair
Conservation Armillary	FY22-FY23 Conservation	\$ 15,500.00	Encumbered funds for Armillary conservation