



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, October 16, 2024
4:00 PM Remote Meeting 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>

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

2. Call to Order

3. Governance/Board Development (Berke, Dennehy)

- A. Public outreach and future neighborhood meeting.
- B. FY24 Public art committee annual plan and FY25 proposed budget.

4. Staff Updates

- A. Report of decisions at the meeting held on September 18, 2024 –
 - 1. Committee recommended Staff to request conservation project quotes for Langlais collection plaque, vandalism of Birdhouse Heads and FY25 conservation assessment
- B. Public art fund balance –
 - 1. No reductions from the public art fund

5. Project Reports

A. Sarah Sze artwork in Congress Square Park (Cole, Hancock, Whipple):

- 1. Subcommittee updates and coordination with the Congress Square Redesign Capital Campaign Committee.
- 2. Staff to provide updates for project timeline, encumbered public art funds and private fundraising.

B. Conservation Projects – ACTIVE

- 1. Jewell Box – Staff in coordination with Public Works about daily operations at bus shelter location
- 2. Loring Memorial – Staff in coordination with Maine Stone Scapes to replace the split boulder as an insurance claim.
- 3. Passing the Torch – Staff assisted with the replacement of (2) stem light fixtures by Casco Bay Electric and addressing of the lighting controls. Staff in coordination with project contributors to assess damage from September vehicle incident.
- 4. Rustle Diptych II – Staff in coordination with Casco Bay Electric to prepare a supplemental quote with less expensive light fixture option. As a comparison, Staff to provide updates if direct light purchases could reduce costs for this and future lighting replacements.
- 5. Langlais Birdhouse – Staff requested a conservation quote from Tuckerbrook Conservation LLC for the minor vandalism of one Birdhouse Head at Deering High School. .
- 6. Portland Bricks – Committee members in coordination with Artist Ayumi Horie regarding the lost Portland Bricks during the Congress Street brick sidewalk replacement project. Staff mapped all existing locations and has worked with Public Works staff to create a easily access digital layer to inform future infrastructure and development projects within the India Street neighborhood.
- 7. East Bayside mural (Dennehy) – Committee member Sharon Dennehy provide an analysis of the mural removal with dimensions and product recommendations. Staff is

requested to coordinate with Parks Recreation and Facilities department to determine next steps.

6. Subcommittee Reports

Acquisitions (Formerly “Gifts”) Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria, Hrenko)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.
2. Gift Inquiry form from Alice Spencer.

Communications Subcommittee (Motter, Berke, Gibbs)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.

Collection Management (Formerly “Site Selection”) Subcommittee (Dennehy, Gibbs, Berke, Hancock, Zagaria)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.
2. Conservation assessment proposal for FY25

7. Other Business

A. Public art proposals –

1. Signage for Acrobatic Dogs at Portland Jetport.

B. Community art grant - TENTATIVE

1. Peace Action Maine & Artist Stephen Oliver

8. Public Comment

9. Meeting Adjourns



Anna Berke, Chair
Sharon Dennehy, Vice-Chair
Kat Zagaria Buckley
Phoebe Cole
Alison Gibbs
Lindsay Hancock, Creative Portland
Kelly Hrenko, City Manager appointee
Stephanie Motter
Councilor Victoria Pelletier
Saa Rosenblatt
John Whipple

Management & Administration

Sean King, Urban Designer with Planning & Urban Development Department

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

September 18, 2024

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

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.

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1. Call to Order

+ Roll call

+ July 17, 2024 meeting minutes – **AB motion to approve, AG second**

2. Governance/Board Development (Berke, Dennehy)

A. Committee chair updates

B. FY24 Public art committee annual plan and FY25 proposed budget. Committee members are requested to review FY24 annual plan and budget in preparation as an agenda item for City Council. **AB – Suggestions by Chairs were incorporated into the Annual Report draft, Planning Director to review in preparation to a City Council agenda. SK – A final report will be sent to PPAC once finalized.**

3. Staff Updates

A. Report of decisions at the meeting held on July 17, 2024 –

1. No agenda items required a committee vote
- B. Public art fund balance –
 1. No deductions from the public art fund – SK prepared

4. Project Reports

A. Congress Square Park (Cole, Hancock, Whipple):

1. Subcommittee updates and coordination with the Friends Capital Campaign Committee

B. Conservation Projects – ACTIVE

1. Jewell Box glass replacement – Port City Glass completed the reinstallation of glass panels in August. Staff to coordinate with Public Works about operations at bus shelter location – SD - looks good, recommend Downtown Partnership clean more often due to trash accumulation. Concerns about seat angled steel and how it interferes with the artful design, suggest to look at different proposals.

2. Pullen fountain – Taggart Objects Conservation completed conservation project and included a treatment report. No additional comments

3. Loring Memorial - Maine Stone Sapes completed the etching work for the granite post in August.

Maine Stone Sapes provided a quote of \$7,750 to replace the damaged split stone struck by a vehicle that will be submitted as an insurance claim. Staff from Public Works is evaluating roadway speed data at this location of the Eastern Promenade to determine possible roadway solutions in a comprehensive effort to reduce future incidences. SD – Updates on the boulder replacement

4. Passing the Torch – Staff assisted with replacement of (2) stem light fixtures by Casco Bay Electric on 09/06/2024. Staff observed damage to the boulder and planted slope to request more information for an incident report. SK- Introduced the vehicle incident within the roundabout in early September. AB – These incidents are concerning at the City level to inform communication chains. KZ – Be in communication with a PPAC liaison, reach out for a point of contact. Volunteer to draft a letter to establish a point of contact at the Police Department. AB – Has the artist been contact? SK – No. JW – Is there an option to maintain the boulder. LH – Recommend contacting the artist, PC seconds and suggests contacting a conservator. KZ – Recommend reach out to artist, engage a conservator to assess the damage to process an insurance claim as initial outreach.

5. Rustle Diptych II – Staff is in coordination with an electrical contractor to prepare a lighting quote to install (2) in-ground lights to replace the damaged lights that currently illuminate the sculpture. SK – Introduced the in-ground lighting option with an initial quote of \$4,800. AG – Confirm there are two light fixtures. JW – Recommend a supplemental quote

6. Langlais Birdhouse – Committee members prepared a comprehensive maintenance report incorporated into the FY24 annual plan. SD – Committee members assessment notes incorporated into the Annual report, consider Tuckerbrook Conservator to contact to address repairing Deering High School small graffiti. LH – Recommend to request a quote with conservator

7. Portland Bricks (Dennehy) – Committee members in coordination with Artist Ayumi Horie regarding the number of Portland Bricks removed during the Congress Street brick sidewalk replacement project. Staff to develop a digital mapping tool with a complete list of the brick locations for internal use to assess the public art collection when planning for future public infrastructure projects. SD – Artist can be available at end of September to assess the impact of recently removed Portland Bricks on Congress and associated costs to replace. SK – Staff is working with DPW to map the exact locations of all current Portland Bricks to inform future infrastructure projects and the public.

8. East Bayside mural (Dennehy) – Committee member Sharon Dennehy & Staff met to apply a test sample for the removal of wax coating applied to the painted mural. SD – Shared updates to the committee about wax protection coating removal product. Found success with the removal product (\$70/ gallon) Product is not toxic and preferred to removed the existing mural. Staff to reach out to Departments about potential funding and facility improvement. JW – Concerns about fixing the roof in preparation for a future mural to avoid moisture on the brick. PB – Confirmation that this mural was deassessed, potential for Parks collaboration. Volunteer to be involved. SD- Need funding to remove the mural, Staff recommend connecting with Parks and grafitti removal subcontracting to determine labor costs, SD to prepare quote for materials.

5. Subcommittee Reports

+ Acquisitions (Formerly “Gifts”) Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria, Hrenko)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.
2. Receipt of Inquiry form from Alice Spencer. PB – Received information from the artist with some additional information about a potential gift of public art. Kelly Hrenko has volunteered to be the liaison for this project
3. Discussion of future PPAC funding. KZ – Shared thoughts about the public art fund budget, there is not much opportunity to commission new acquisitions to represent overall Portland community. Consider potential increase in public art funding, as a long term project to reflect vision for the longevity to represent a more egalitarian of the collection. LH – Offer a comparison about process with Creative Portland.

+ Communications Subcommittee (Motter, Berke, Gibbs)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates. SH – Drafted social media posts for the next couple months, KZ brought up an idea to showcase committee members. SD/PB commend SH efforts and great contribution to Instagram + Facebook

+ Collection Management (Formerly “Site Selection”) Subcommittee (Dennehy, Gibbs, Berke, Hancock, Zagaria)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates. SD – Signage at Jetport is still temporary at Playing Bears, consider replacement with permanent.
2. Conservation assessment FY24 SD – Consideration for public art assessment, recommend connecting with Tuckerbrook conservator, and alternative quotes. Request conservation quotes from three vendors for future meeting review and cost comparisons

6. Other Business

A. Temporary art –

1. Portland Trails installed pedestrian and bicycle roadway project along Diamond Street. SD – Painting project helps a lot for visibility

2. Staff received an application Jordan Park called Emergence. Committee member Berke and Dennehy asked to participate in the review panel. **No additional comments**
 - B. Community art grant
 1. Peace Action Maine & Artist Stephen Oliver **No additional comments**
 - C. New acquisition requests – **SK introduced recent requests for new acquisitions. SD – Concerns about the appropriateness of new acquisitions interior public facilities.**
 1. Artist Chris Miller’s Carasole Animals
 2. Photographic series
- 7. Public comment – No public comment**
- 8. Meeting adjourns – At 6:00pm**

FY25 - Public Art Fund (July 2024-June 2025)

TOTAL PPAC Balance		
A	Total Balance (includes FY25)	\$ 380,397.33
B	Total Encumbrances	\$ 202,172.00
C	Remaining Balance	\$ 178,225.33

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
	Total Encumbered		\$ 202,172.00

FY25 - Proposed Budget Breakdown				
	Activity	Description	Proposed FY25 Budget	Current 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	\$ 5,923.00
C	New Artwork	New acquisition + install:	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000.00
	Total FY25 Budget		\$ 50,000	\$ 45,923.00

FY25 Expenses	Funding Source	Total (PAID)	Project Notes
Taggart Objects Conservation LLC	Conservation and Maintenance	\$ 4,077.00	Wax protection (Hiker, Czar Reed), Pullen Fountain

Portland Public Art Application

Peace Action Maine Peace Pole Sculpture for Amethyst Park

Community Art Works Application

The attached application must be completed. In brief, applicants should address the following:

1. Describe the conceptual vision for the Community Art Works project:

ASTRAGAL is a small faceted columnar sculpture intended to promote Peace individually and collectively. The sculpture's inspiration came from Peace Action Maine's desire to express a long term commitment to fostering peace, by the International Peace Pole, and to honor the legacy of former board member Tina Malcolmson. Tina was a professor who studied the poetry of George Herbert, among others, and recited poetry at peace vigils. The sculpture's three primary sides feature text promoting peace in Maine and the World, and a poem titled '**Bright Where You Stand**' which is meant to inspire the individual. A fourth side features refractive graphic patterns inspired by the fresnel lens of a lighthouse.

The vision for the sculpture has evolved since members of Peace Action Maine initially engaged with representatives of the Portland Public Art Committee and as the beauty and potential of the Amethyst Waterfront Park site were revealed. The small columnar sculpture is designed to be site specific, inhabiting a small grassy area that divides two bench swings that offer a view of Casco Bay. The sculpture's faceted form and translucent colors/graphics are meant to resonate with the constantly changing light conditions of the surrounding sky and ocean, numerous weathered pilings that stand nearby in the surf, and more distant lighthouses. In fact, the form of the sculpture's frame is inspired by an **astragal**, the system used to enclose lighthouse lantern rooms with glass.

2. Identify the potential neighborhood site(s) for the art work;

Amethyst Waterfront Park serves the local community of Portland, including Downtown and Munjoy Hill, but also national and international visitors who arrive via nearby cruise ships to enjoy Portland and its waterfront attractions.

3. Explain what makes the potential site(s) important to the neighborhood;

The site provides serene setting for peaceful contemplation for adjacent neighborhoods, but also as a destination to serve a much broader constituent. The sculpture and its poetry are intended to enhance the sense of peace provided by the waterfront vista and the existing pair of swings. The addition of the peace pole sculpture can enhance the park as a destination, encouraging residents and visitors to pause and reflect.

4. Identify a non-profit organization that can receive funds on behalf of the project;

Peace Action Maine (PAM) is a Portland based organization that has promoted peace throughout Maine since 1982. PAM has both a 501C4 and 501C3 status (Maine Peace Fund arm). We have a core membership of 120, a mailing list of 833, and ongoing connections/collaboration with numerous peace and social justice organizations across Maine. PAM is also an affiliate of Peace Action National, an organization with over 70 autonomous affiliate and chapter organizations, and over 100,000 members.

5. Provide the contact info and mission statements of the team members and project lead:

Our Mission:

Peace Action Maine is a voice for education and a center for all people committed to disarmament and creative responses to conflict.

Stan Scott, Board Member and Treasurer
stan.scott@maine.edu
207-838-7927

Martha Speiss, Board Chair
mspiess@myfairpoint.net
207-232-8270

Stephen Oliver, Board Member and artist (project lead)
meta4ormosis@gmail.com
207-595-1334

6. List the skills or background desired in an visual arts professional:

Design, fabrication and installation skills utilizing multiple mediums that include: masonry, stainless steel welding, graphic design, resin fabrication.

7. Describe the scope of the visual arts professional's role:

Conceptual design
Proposal preparation
Design development
Fabrication and coordination with material suppliers
Installation

8. If there is an interest in engaging a particular visual arts professional or the application is coming from a visual arts professional, please provide a resume and slides of previous work. If a visual arts professional has not been selected, please list the qualifications desired.

Stephen Oliver
- Resume provided
- Portfolio examples provided

9. Detail sources of additional matching funds (cash and/or in kind sources).

Peace Action Maine will match project funds with current assets and/or donations. Funds for a 50% Community Arts Program match are in place. Board Member Stephen Oliver is providing in kind effort in the conceptual design/proposal stages.

10. Timeline for completion of project. (proposed)

2024

August 29th - Initial meeting with Sean King at Amethyst Park
October 16th - Present idea to Public Art Committee (for Annual Budget approval?)
November/December - Approval Process

2025

January-February - Approval/Contract Process, finalize graphic design of resin panels
March- Fabrication of stainless steel frame
April - Order digitally printed resin panels
May - Pick up resin panels, cut and edge finish sculpture's translucent cladding (4pcs.)
June - Installation (very minor excavation, placement of concrete footing, stone base, and river stone surround.