



Anne Berke, Chair
Sharon Dennehy, Vice-Chair
Kat Zagaria Buckley
Phoebe Cole
Alison Gibbs
Kelly Hrenko, City Manager appointee
Sarah Michniewicz, City Councilor
Stephanie Motter
John Whipple
Ronnie Wilson, Creative Portland appointee

Management & Administration
Sean King, Urban Designer with Planning and Urban
Development Department

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 21, 2025
4:00 PM Online via Zoom Link

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://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/18148b5d-f26e-472f-8d2c-245db97e5c27?cache=1800>. 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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Webinar ID: 816 3441 8875

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

2. Call to Order (Berke)

Roll call (King)

April 30, 2025 meeting minutes

3. Governance/Board Development (Berke, Dennehy)

A. Annual plan report FY25 & proposed budget FY26 draft, request for committee feedback by May 29th.

B. Committee meeting format (virtual, in-person, hybrid options)

4. Staff Communications (King)

A. Report of decisions at the meeting held on April 30, 2025 - Committee voted (9-0) to accept gift of public art from applicants Judith Kendrich and Jim DiBiase. Next step is for

staff to prepare agenda item for City Council.

B. Public art fund balance - invoice was paid for light replacement install at Passing the Torch = \$780. Invoice was paid for in-ground light product purchase, quantity 4 = \$2,565.18. Invoice was paid for in-ground light install at Loring Memorial, quantity 2 = \$1,164.

C. Encumbrances for new acquisitions Zoo of public art - No updates

5. Subcommittee Reports

Acquisitions (Formerly "Gifts") Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria, Hrenko)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.

Communications Subcommittee (Motter, Breke, Gibbs)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.

Collection Management (Formerly "Site Selection") Subcommittee (Dennehy, Gibbs, Berke, Zagaria)

1. Subcommittee members to share updates.
2. Conservation assessment proposal for FY25 - Staff and subcommittee members to distribute RFP to potential conservators to review proposals received at a later date.

6. Project Reports

A. Conservation Projects

1. Jewell Box (Dennehy) - Committee member and/or staff to provide updates and coordination with service providers about possible alternations to remediate issues with vandalism.
2. Passing the Torch (Zagaria) - Staff to provide updates on overall lighting performance.
3. Rustle Diptych II - Staff to provide updates to in-ground light fixture replacement regarding a quote for additional work to replace electric conduit.
4. Langlais Birdhouse Heads - Committee member updates from Tuckerbroo Conservation, LLC.
5. Portland Bricks (Dennehy, Gibbs) - Committee member updates from artist Ayumi Horie.

7. Other Business

8. Public Comment

9. Meeting Adjourns

Next Meeting - June 18, 2025



Anna Berke, Chair
Sharon Dennehy, Vice-Chair
Kat Zagaria Buckley
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Alison Gibbs
Kelly Hrenko, City Manager appointee
Sarah Michniewicz, City Councilor
Stephanie Motter
John Whipple
Ronnie Wilson, Creative Portland appointee

Management & Administration
Sean King, Urban Designer with Planning & Urban Development Department

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
Rescheduled April 30, 2025 - Meeting Minutes
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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Public comment will be taken; written comments may be submitted to publicart@portlandmaine.gov

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1. **Call to Order (Berke) @ 4:02pm**
+ Roll call (King) **Committee members in attendance (Berke, Dennehy, Zagaria-Buckley, Cole, Gibbs, Hrenko, Michniewicz, Motter, Whipple), Committee members not in attendance (Wilson)**
+ March 19, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion to approve minutes (Dennehy), second (Whipple), All approved by raised hands.
 2. **Governance/Board Development (Berke, Dennehy)**
 - A. Committee chair updates. **No non-agenda updates**
 - B. Committee meeting format (virtual, in-person, hybrid options). **Committee discussion for Staff to explore hybrid option and meeting location as a follow-up during the May meeting.**
 - C. Committee member resignation and term expirations. **Several existing committee members have term expirations June 30th, deadline to apply to City Clerks office is May 16th.**
 3. **Staff Communications (King)**
 - A. Report of decisions at the meeting held on March 19, 2025 – **No updates**
 - B. Public art fund balance – **No updates**

- C. Encumbrances for new acquisitions of public art – **Congress Sq Park Phase B project in bidding to advertise the project for potential contractors, this project is being led by Planning Dept. and is independent of the committees' public art project to commission Sarah Sze Studio. Bramhall Square redesign project is proceeding to complete construction documents, this project is being led by Public Works and is independent of the committee's public art project to commission Chris Miller.**
- D. Portland Harbor Common Lot – Commercial/Thames Street. **Parks Dept. is leading the effort in bidding to advertise the project for potential contractors. Committee members can discuss opportunities for public art upon award of the Park construction project.**
- E. Annual plan report FY25 & Proposed budget FY26. **Committee chairs and Staff will draft the annual plan and proposed budget, seeking initial comments from committee members by May 29th.**

4. **New Business (Berke, King, Zagaria)**

- A. Proposed gift of artwork; Judith Kendrick & Jim DiBiase, Applicant. The Portland Public Art Committee will hold a virtual hearing agenda item to review a proposal for a potential gift of artwork located at 176 India Street, to be publicly accessible via public sidewalk along India Street. The proposed gift of artwork includes a singular carved stone above a honed stone pedestal with a plaque on three sides with text and maps. Informational material can be found in Attachment C in the Meeting files on the [City of Portland Meetings & Agenda Portal](#). Public comments will be taken.

Chair Berke introduced this new business item as a hearing for public comment and committee review. Staff provided additional information about the process after committee review and recommendation that includes preparing an agenda item for City Council to review. This public art gift proposal is being coordinated with Portland Water District as the property owner. Committee member Zagaria-Buckley, as liaison of this application, introduced the applicants and presentation materials that the applicants spoke on behalf of. No public comments were received during comment period. Committee members deliberated with questions about artists background, expertise, selection of New England quarried granite and origin story connected with the immigrant population that the artwork's theme illustrates. Additional comments by committee members include appreciation of vision, connection with place and connection to neighborhood history. A motion to recommend acceptance of the public artwork gift into public art collection (Dennehy), Second (Whipple), Committee voted 9-0 by roll call vote to recommend the proposed public artwork gift.

5. **Subcommittee Reports**

+ Acquisitions (Formerly "Gifts") Subcommittee (Cole, Zagaria, Hrenko)

- 1. Subcommittee members to share updates – **No updates**

+ Communications Subcommittee (Motter, Berke, Gibbs)

- 1. Subcommittee members to share updates. – Committee members shared plans to post new batch of social media posts.
- 2. Video project by USM Media Studies updates. Committee members shared their appreciation for the student's video project, and will follow up directly.

+ Collection Management (Formerly "Site Selection") Subcommittee (Dennehy, Gibbs, Berke, Zagaria)

- 1. Subcommittee members to share updates. **No updates**
- 2. Conservation assessment proposal for FY25 – Staff and subcommittee members to distribute RFP to potential conservator to review proposals received at a later date. **Request for proposal sent to conservators, one response has been received.**

6. Project Reports

A. Conservation Projects

1. Jewell Box (Dennehy) – Committee member and/or Staff to provide updates and coordination with service providers about possible alternations to remediate issues with vandalism. **Committee members continue to research service providers capable of polishing the glass to remove graffiti as appropriate.**
2. Passing the Torch (Zagaria) – Committee member to provide updates for light fixture replacement within sculpture. **Staff confirmed light replacement and addressing to complete this task. Committee member recommend analysis of street lighting system that maintains nighttime visibility, Staff to follow up with Public Works Dept.**
3. Rustle Diptych II – Staff to provide updates to inground light fixture replacement. **Staff met with electricians to assess existing condition and follow up with quote at later committee meeting.**
4. Langlais Birdhouse Heads – No updates from Tuckerbrook Conservation LLC. **No updates**
5. Portland Bricks (Dennehy, Gibbs) – No updates from artist Ayumi Horie. **No updates**

7. Other Business – No other business

8. Public Comment – No public comment

9. Meeting adjourns @ approximately 5:25pm

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

TOTAL PPAC Balance		
A	Total Balance (includes FY25)	\$ 359,178.05
B	Total Encumbrances	\$ 202,172.00
C	Remaining Balance	\$ 157,006.05

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	\$ 6,100.00
B	Contingency Fund	To cover repairs, theft, relocation, Community Art grant, plaque purchase, etc.	\$ 10,000	\$ (9,368.48)
C	New Artwork	New acquisition + install:	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000.00
	Total FY25 Budget		\$ 50,000	\$ 26,731.52

FY25 Expenses	Funding Source	Total (PAID)	Project Notes
Taggart Objects Conservation LLC	Conservation and Maintenance	\$ 3,900.00	Wax protection (Hiker, Czar Reed), Pullen Fountain
Maine Stone Scapes	Contingency	\$ 9,500.00	Loring memorial etched granite post work
Port City Glass	Contingency	\$ 2,023.90	Glass replacement at Jewel Box
Burr Signs	Contingency	\$ 332.40	Acrobatic Dogs sign at Jetport
CBE	Contingency	\$ 3,043.00	Passing the Torch - (2) Stem light replacement
CBE	Contingency	\$ 740.00	Passing the Torch sculpture light replacement
Delta	Contingency	\$ 2,565.18	Purchase fixtures for repair (Quantity 4)
CBE	Contingency	\$ 1,164.00	Loring memorial inground light install (Quantity 2)
	Subtotal Expenses	\$ 23,268.48	