



Julia Kirby, Chair
Kifah Abdulla
Councilor Pious Ali
Nick Aceto
Anna Berke
James Cradock
Gibrian Foltz, Creative Portland
Diana Greenwold
Jessica Lauren Lipton
Lin Lisberger
Kavya Seshachar

Management & Administration
Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Online via Zoom

Attendance: Julia Kirby, Chair, Lin Lisberger, Vice-Chair, Anna Berke, James Cradock, Gibrian Foltz, Jess Lipton.

Not in attendance: Kifah Abdulla, Nick Aceto, Diana Greenwold, Mayor Snyder, Kavya Seshachar

Staff: Caitlin Cameron

Members of the Public: Tony Adams, TEMPOArts

Call to Order 4:02

Approve Minutes from May 20, 2020 [**Lipton; Berke 6-0 unanimous approval with one correction**]

Project Reports

Great Black Hawk:

July 13-18 installation, July 17th dedication date. Kirby, Lisberger, Cameron will work on plaque and plinth order. Who will install plinth? Cameron will contact Parks Department. Kirby will draft press release with Avian Haven, giftors. Corey Templeton will be contacted to take photos.

Maintenance/Conservation:

FY21 budget items will include collection assessment and Acrobatic Dogs repair.

Congress Square:

Design Development of the artwork continues with bi-weekly meetings with Sze Studio and the project managers (Cameron, LaCasse, Hildreth). Artist is now requesting lighting for the artwork – committee will need to fund these revisions to the lighting plan. Lipton asked about the reflective surfaces and headlights – 2-way scenario is unlikely to happen but in that case, the approaching headlights would be on far side of street. Cameron is finalizing the NEA report to access the ArtWorks funds which expire at the end of FY20. Progress drawings were shared with committee.

MLK Memorial

Project is on hold until FY21 budget is determined, probably September. Lisberger asked whether the PPAC should budget towards installation or administration of this project which is likely to be added to the collection. Kirby weighed in that this should remain a City initiative, especially if design includes more than artwork. PPAC should continue to provide advice, comments on management and resources for the call. Lipton asked whether this project should be expanded to include more than Dr. King; project is important and city-wide importance. These points will be addressed when project moves forward.

Roundabout No update; Project remains on schedule for now.

Subcommittee Reports – need to confirm subcommittee members

Governance/Board Development:

- Elections
 - o Cradock nominated for Chair (Kirby: Lipton 5-0 approve, Cradock abstain)
 - o Lipton nominated for Vice-Chair (Kirby: Lisberger 5-0 approve, Lipton abstain)
- Openings – three positions deferred until Fall
- Budget: Committee suggested more money towards operations – Cradock and Cameron will confirm expenses related to website operations. Lipton asked how the committee can financially cover education and marketing projects. This may only be covered with CIP funds if directly related to committee responsibilities as described in Ordinance or related to administration of collection. There is an existing donations fund that may be used for some of these expenses. Berke asked what fundraising activities are allowed and how the committee has done this in the past. Offered to provide expertise in this area. Cameron responded that the committee is allowed to raise funds but has not done much of this activity. Committee is not a 501(c)3 and is limited in the funding sources can apply for. Cameron asked the committee to weigh in on the new acquisition line item in terms of priority.
- Annual Report – no additional comments from committee. Should goals for FY21 be added regarding decolonization of collection?
- Subcommittee distribution was reconfirmed for FY21 – Kirby to confirm with members not present.
 - o Governance: Cradock, Lipton, Foltz
 - o Communications: Lipton, Seshachar, Cradock, Berke
 - o Site Selection: Aceto, Seshachar, Lipton, Lisberger
 - o Gifts: Kirby, Lipton, Lisberger
 - o Temporary Art: Berke, Lipton

Communications:

- **Marketing:** – Lipton will make proposal regarding METRO.
- **Sculpture of the Month:** none, CP Artwalk suspended
- **USM Video:** Cradock needs link to access video to post.

Site Selection:

- o Bramhall Square on hold until public meeting
- o The subcommittee is requested to develop an updated list of potential sites and priorities.
- o Blaze Community Art proposal: Cameron presented updated proposal – community aspect to include interviews, portraits with firefighting community. Gib Foltz confirmed as artist; sound installation will be integral to project. Lisberger commented that the project is complex, asked about the analytics from Portland Brick website with regards to audio file access.

Gifts:

- o Committee will contact Aida Wojcik to discuss proposal
- o Tony Adams presented gift proposal to honor Alice Spencer. Pinecone sculpture by Pat Pluorde, proposed Deering Oaks site. Lisberger asked whether the gift includes installation. Concern about cost of installation, approvals needed from Parks, Historic Preservation, friends groups. What kind of foundation proposed? Kirby asked whether a maintenance plan will be submitted with gift. Committee will meet to discuss sites – already many artworks within Deering Oaks – alternative sites? Jonathan Taggart will also be consulted regarding conservation concerns.

Other Business:

- **Temporary Art:** TEMPOArts installation proposed for first weekend in July. Dig Safe done.
- **Collection Research/Assessment:** Committee discussed way forward to research and address social justice background of collection. Cradock raised concern with how to appropriately handle

education for the Cleaves Obelisk. Lisberger suggested this is a citywide conversation and effort, not only up to the public art committee. A task force was formed to research and make recommendations to the full committee: Lipton, Cradock, Berke. Committee also discussed finding an intern to assist.

Next Meeting – July 15, 2020 (online)

Adjourn at 6:01 pm

VI. FY21 PROPOSED BUDGET

The City allocates .05% of the annual Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budget for the conservation and acquisition of permanent public art. This FY19 Budget Plan includes an estimate of \$60,000 for the .05% allocation from the FY21 CIP budget.

Remaining Encumbrances from approved budget plans

	Activity	Description	Budget
A	Conservation/Maintenance	2-year Conservation contract 2018-2020	\$ 40,600
B	Congress Square Public Art	New commission – Sarah Sze artist	\$ 183,500
C	Roundabout Artwork	New commission Brighton Ave roundabout	\$123,000
	Total Encumbered		\$ 362,100

FY21 – Proposed Budget (July 2020-June 2021)

	Activity	Description	Budget
A	Conservation and Maintenance	To cover routine maintenance; consultation	\$5,000
B	Conservation and Maintenance	Collection Assessment	\$8,700
C	Operations	Website management, collection documentation, etc.	\$ 800
D	Contingency Fund	To cover repairs, theft, relocation, Community Art grant, plaque purchase, etc.	\$ 10,000
E	New Artwork	New artwork: Bramhall Square	\$ 35,000
	Total FY21 Budget		\$ 59,500

Potential projects:

- Bramhall Square functional artwork
- Gift installation
- Plaque purchases: Passing the Torch, gift
- Community Grant



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July 9, 2020

A task force was established at the June, 2020 meeting to evaluate the Public Art Collection on the topics of equity, social justice, and diverse representation and make recommendations for action. These are the preliminary findings.

COLLECTION HOLDINGS RELATED TO HISTORICAL FIGURES OR EVENTS

Cleeves and Tucker Obelisk

- Being investigated

The Hiker

- Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion and the Filipino-American War
- Jamie Rice addresses problematic histories in video

Stinson Memorial

- Civil War Monument

Thomas Brackett “Czar” Reed

- Reed supported and helped to pass the Lodge Bill, reinforcing African-American voting rights at a time when the “Solid South” was implementing poll taxes and literacy tests to disenfranchise voters
- He resigned from Congress rather than support what would become Spanish-American War
- “Czar” appears to be label used by his enemies (pejorative) and I’ve updated the PPAC site for now

Our Lady of Victories

- Civil War

Major Charles J. Loring Memorial Park

- Honors WW2 veteran

Portland Brick

- Honors and tells stories of marginalized people

Blaze

- Also to tell larger, inclusive stories
- Coming soon

REPRESENTATION OF ARTISTS WITHIN THE PUBLIC ART COLLECTION

	# of Artworks (including artworks in design)	% of Collection	Examples
In collection	60	100%	
By female artists	12	20%	Carol Hanson, Ann Uppington, Theodora Alice Ruggles, Laura Haddad, Natasha Mayers, Vivian Beer, Rhoda Sherbell, Wendy Klemperer, Lise Becu, Ayumi Horie, Elise Pepple, Sarah Sze,
By artists of color	2	3%	Ayumi Horie, Sarah Sze

- Some artworks include multiple artists
- Some artworks are by unknown artists
- Numbers do not reflect community participants in Community Artworks
- List does not include temporary art installations

Caitlin Cameron, Urban Designer, City of Portland, Maine
Portland Trails, Community Partner
Gib Foltz, Artist
Kavya Seshachar, Graphic Design
Tony Adams, Sound Artist

Portland Public Art Committee – Community Art Grant Final Proposal

Description

Blaze is an urban "trail" that traces the outline of the Great Fire of 1866 using trail blazes on street trees/sign posts. The project reveals layers of the City of Portland to viewers through the lens of this transformative moment – the historical events, the effects on the built environment, stories of how people reacted, experiences of those who serve to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community (specifically, fire-fighters past and present). Themes include resilience and transformation in the face of disaster, community and connection, contributions of diverse members of the community, and using the city as a character in this narrative of what it means to care for your community.

Trail wayfinding has an embedded art installation – portraits and sound installations – enticing the viewer to follow the trail, identifying landmarks/points of interest, and creating an interaction between the viewer and the stories of the fire and how it affected Portland. *Blaze* is a collaboration between Urban Designer, Caitlin Cameron, Portland Trails, and artist Gib Foltz, and a team to develop the sound installation with interviews from the fire-fighting community.

The *Blaze Trail* is proposed as a community art project which would become a permanent public art installation. Physically, the space for the artwork is constrained by the dimensions of a typical street sign – the sound installation and project website are ways of expanding the scope of the artwork and creating something dynamic and interactive. The trail would be supported by a webpage on the Public Art website with an online, interactive map showing the path and highlighting each stop/landmark with narrative information and links to the accompanying sound installations. The installation is accessible by being a part of the public sidewalk fabric – anyone can encounter it at any point, any time of day, in any season. In the Covid-19 era, the artwork also brings the opportunity to experience public art and the city while being able to keep a safe physical distance.

The permanent installation can also be an armature onto which other layers of information, tours, temporary or performance art might happen. This could take the form of podcast tour, a print brochure/map, live events such as tours, or temporary art installations placed along the trail and responding to themes from the great fire. Many entities have the opportunity to collaborate or interface with this project – the City Arborist, Greater Portland Landmarks, the Fire Museum, Maine Historical Society, Portland Downtown, Friends of Lincoln Park, TEMPOArts, neighborhood organizations, local tour guides. For example, Maine Historical Society is launching an online version of their Great Fire exhibit - this would be a cross-promotion opportunity. TEMPOArts is also considering a call for proposals to coincide with the roll out of the trail.

Community Engagement: The project partners will interview current and veteran firefighters of diverse backgrounds and experience to inspire the portraits and as source material for the audio installation as well as inform the stops along the trail related to historical and contemporary stories.

Partners:

- Community Partner – Portland Trails (confirmed)
- Artist – Gib Foltz (confirmed)
- Wayfinding Design – Kavya Seshachar (confirmed)
- Content – interviews (Fire Dept, Veteran Firefighters) + Herb Adams (confirmed)

Caitlin Cameron, Urban Designer, City of Portland, Maine

Portland Trails, Community Partner

Gib Foltz, Artist

Kavya Seshachar, Graphic Design

Tony Adams, Sound Artist

- Sound Installation – Tony Adams (confirmed)

Timeline:

- May 2020 – present concept to PPAC; Confirm project partners; Develop budget
- June 2020 – Revised proposal to PPAC; identify interviewees; Trail development
- July 2020 – Submit budget/project to PPPAC for approval; Community engagement/interviews; Art + Wayfinding development
- August 2020 – Design development; Fabrication of wayfinding; artwork/sound
- September/October 2020 – Trail install (wayfinding + art, website, audio installation); Cross-promotion with Arts + Culture Summit, MHS online fire exhibit; Additional activities/events/tours/temporary art by others

Funding: The goal is to be able to implement the project using the Community Art Grant + \$2,000 cash in hand. The final budget is attached – costs will include artists/Portland Trails time, signage/wayfinding, interviews with firefighters, production of audio installation. Additional funding may come from Maine Arts Commission Bicentennial Grant – status is unknown.

Project team contribution

- \$2,000 cash in hand
- \$7,530 In-kind contributions from Portland Trails, artist, sound artist, graphic design, speakers
- MAC Bicentennial Grant – unknown status

Budget attached:

- Project Management + Design
- Trail design and implementation
- Wayfinding design and fabrication
- Portraits (5-7) – artist time and installation
- Sound – studio/equipment, recording
- Sound installation – script, design, editing
- Webpage development
- Interview honorariums (optional)

The project team is requesting

- 1) **Approval of the project**
- 2) **Recommendation to the City Council to adopt the artwork into the collection as part of the FY21 Annual Report**
- 3) **1:1 match of \$9,530 from the PPAC to be sourced from two previously approved budgets:**
 - CIP FY16 Community Art Grant (approved, unused) = \$5,000
 - CIP FY17 Community Art Grant (approved, unused) = \$5,000

Trail Map with Interpretive Stops

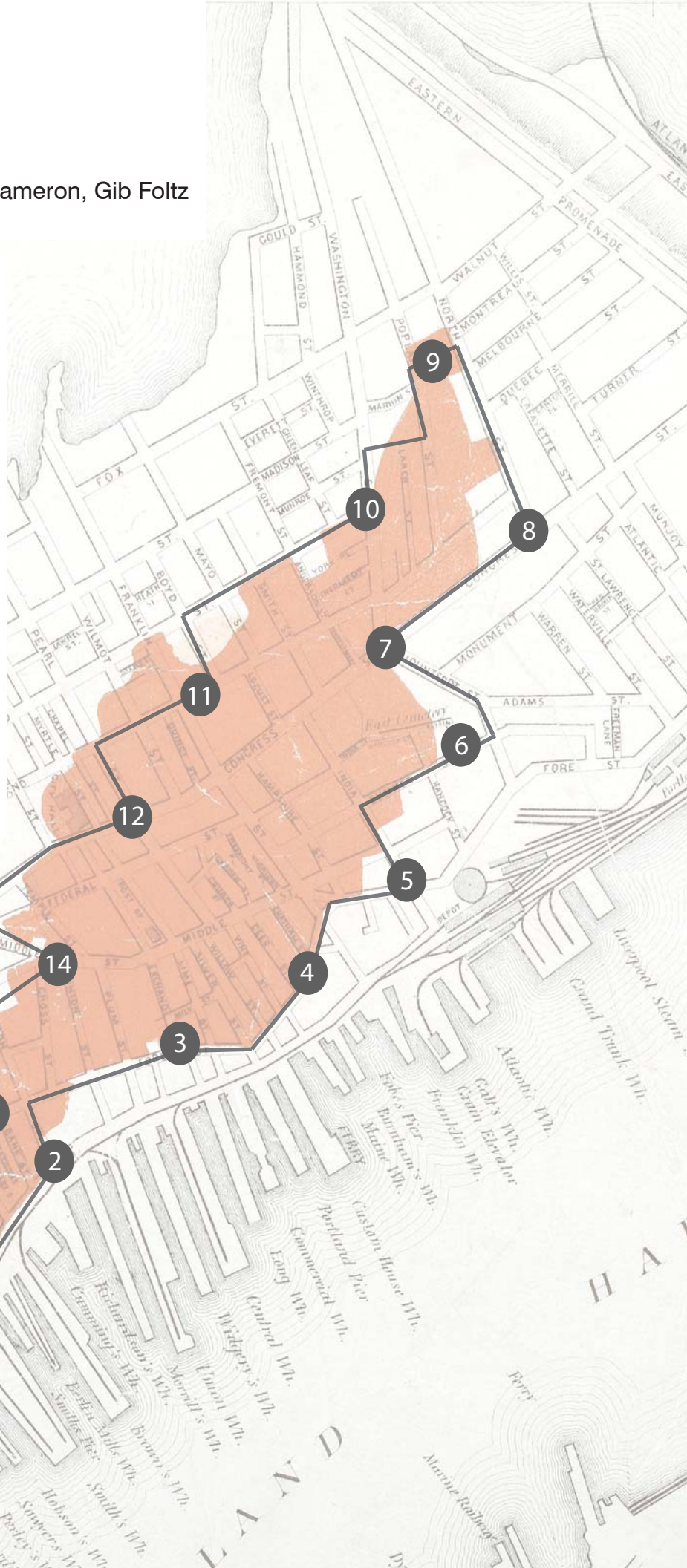
Blaze Trail

Portland Trails, Portland Public Art, Caitlin Cameron, Gib Foltz

- 1 Rufus Deering Boat Yard
- 2 Commercial Street at Cross
- 3 Exchange Street
- 4 Fore Street/Customs House
- 5 India Street/Jordan's Meat
- 6 Abyssinian Meeting House
- 7 Eastern Cementery
- 8 Observatory/Munjoy Hill
- 9 Fort Sumner Park Views/End of Fire
- 10 Oxford Street/Back Cove
- 11 Franklin Street/Cathedral
- 12 Fire House/Lincoln Park/City Hall
- 13 Monument Square/Former City Hall
- 14 Middle Street/HH Hay Building
- 15 Gorham's Corner
- 16 Maple Street/ JB Brown Sugar House



Trail Wayfinding Location
with Portrait/Audio Stop



Sample Work - Artist Gibrian Foltz

Blaze Trail

Portland Trails, Portland Public Art, Caitlin Cameron, Gib Foltz



Project Budget						
Blaze Trail						
Updated 7/15/2020						
Row #	Item	Total Cost	In-kind Contribution	To be Funded	Budget Source/Account	Notes
	Trail Design					
	Portland Trails	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	50% in-kind	40 hours x \$50/hour
	Caitlin Cameron	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	50% in-kind	40 hours x \$50/hour
	Subtotal for Design	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000		
	Artist Fees					
	Artist - Time (draw)	\$ 720	\$ -	\$ 720		6 portraits
	Artist - Time (cut)	\$ 900	\$ -	\$ 900		6 portraits
	Artist - Time (paint)	\$ 90	\$ -	\$ 90		16 signs
	Artist - Materials	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100		16 signs
	Subtotal for Artist Fees	\$ 1,810	\$ -	\$ 1,810		
	Wayfinding					
	Sign fabrication small	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 600		30 signs x2 = 60 signs
	Sign fabrication large	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 600		16 stops x 1 signs = 16 signs
	Graphic Design - Kavya Seshachar	\$ 700	\$ 280	\$ 420	40% in-kind	14 hours x \$50/hour
	Anti-graffiti/protective coating	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100		16 signs
	Hardware	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100		hardware
	Installation	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 500	50% in-kind	10 hours x \$50/hour x2 people
	Subtotal	\$ 3,100	\$ 780	\$ 2,320		
	Sound Installation					
	Interview recording - Tony Adams	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	50% in-kind	time, equipment
	Sound editing/production - Tony Adams	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	50% in-kind	editing, production
	Script/narrative - Herb Adams	\$ 1,500	\$ 750	\$ 750	50% in-kind	research, narration, recording time
	Purchases: music, sound clips	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500		
	Honoraria: 5 interviewees, church, recording venue	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ 450		3 interviews x \$50, \$100 Fire Museum, \$100 church, \$100 space rental
	Subtotal for Artist Fees	\$ 6,450	\$ 2,750	\$ 3,700		
	Project Administration					
	Project Manager	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	100% in-kind	20 hours x \$50/hour
	Portland Trails	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	100% in-kind	20 hours x \$50/hour
	Project Evaluation (for grant)	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250.00	grant	5 hours x \$50/hour - only for MAC grant
	Subtotal for Project Admin	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,000	\$ 250		
	Total	\$ 17,610	\$ 7,530	\$ 10,080		
	Subtotal Expended				Contributions	
	Remaining Balance		\$ 7,530		In-kind	\$ 7,530
					Cash in hand	\$ 2,000
					Total	\$ 9,530
					PPAC Request	
					To be Funded	\$ 10,080
					minus grant evaluation (\$250)	\$ 9,830
					minus cash in-hand (\$2,000)	\$ 8,080
					add 10% contingency (\$1,761)	\$ 9,841
					Total requested (1:1 match)	\$ 9,530