PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 19, 2020
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Online via Zoom

Attendance: Jim Cradock, Chair, Jess Lipton, Vice-Chair, Lin Lisberger, Gibrian Foltz, Diana Greenwold, Julia Kirby, Kavya Seshachar
Not in attendance: Nick Aceto, Anna Berke, Mayor Snyder
Staff: Caitlin Cameron
Members of the Public: Mark Pettegrow

Call to Order 4:03p
Approve Minutes from July 15, 2020 **[Lisberger; Greenwold 7-0 unanimous approval]**

<u>**Project Reports**</u>

Roundabout: Project remains on schedule for now; construction continues. Artist gave a studio tour showing progress for the three sculptures and status of stones/attachment pieces. Timeline: pieces will be molded one at a time starting in September. All pieces will be in bronze by mid-spring. Artist asked about construction schedule for 2021 – Cameron will put artist in touch with the General Contractor for coordination. Quarry is pulling stones next week – stones will be kept at quarry. Artist invited committee members to visit studio in Kennebunkport. <u>Action Items: Cameron will provide artist with contractor contact information.</u>

Great Black Hawk: Kirby described the July 17 installation with ceremony and good press coverage. Cradock will add project page to website. Kirby unsure if funding goal was raised. No one was able to confirm whether the PPAC plaque has been installed. Templeton took photos documenting the work. <u>Action Items: Cradock to add artwork to website.</u>

Maintenance/Conservation: no updates.

Congress Square: Design Development concluded in August. NEA grant report due. <u>Action Items: Cameron to complete NEA report – funds to be used to pay Sze Studio contract.</u>

MLK Memorial: No updates

East Bayside Mural: Lipton observed the graffiti had been remediated. Taggart provided committee with an assessment and options/cost estimate for various treatments. Taggart sent an invoice for $400 for this assessment outside the scope of current contract. To summarize report – the wall is deteriorated, wicking moisture. Three options are 1) deaccession and remove 2) restoration 3) stabilize
Lipton commented not sure if full conservation is best option for use of funds but wondered whether the wall could be repaired to allow for future installations. Lipton interested in this site to host future murals (likely temporary). Foltz asked whether the artist must be notified – yes. Lisberger volunteered to contact

artist who has been difficult to get a hold of in the past. Lisberger has mixed feelings about what to recommend – not quite ready to deaccession. Kirby suggested asking artist's opinion and whether the artist wants to be included in the next iteration of the site. Kirby also suggested the committee should reach out to neighborhood group representatives to include the community in the decision and future plans there. Kirby volunteered to contact East Bayside Neighborhood Organization. Lipton interested in keeping this location for public art. Greenwold asked for the definition of temporary vs. permanent work and how this affects future decisions around murals. Expectations around permanency might preclude future mural installations/proposals. Lisberger pointed out that interior murals might not be excluded by the parameters for permanency. Seshachar asked whether additional artwork could be added to this mural to cover the damaged areas. Lipton suggested September is too soon to make a decision about deaccession – what are the options for going to Council? Deaccession will require Council approval and if not include in the Annual Report, will need to be a separate Council request/action item. Committee agreed that community conversations are important in this case and cannot be concluded by the September meeting. <u>Action Items: Lisberger will contact artist. Kirby will contact East Bayside Neighborhood Organization.</u>

<u>Subcommittee Reports</u>

Governance/Board Development:

- Annual Report/Budget: Committee will review and vote on final annual report and budget proposal at September meeting. <u>Action Items: Cradock will revise draft.</u>
- Open Positions: Lisberger asked whether the positions had been posted by the City Clerk – no. Additional candidates were discussed to reach out to.

[4:45p Greenwold leaves]

Communications: Lipton updated the activities of the subcommittee for outreach – Seshachar would like to create coloring sheets based on the collection to distribute around town to promote the collection. <u>Action Items: Seshachar to create artwork files; Find funds for crayons, printing, distribution</u>

Site Selection: no updates

[4:50p Kirby leaves]

Gifts: Pinecone gift on the Historic Preservation Board agenda for 9/2. If approved, gifts subcommittee is recommending the committee vote to accept gift as part of the Annual Report with Council. Donors will pay for installation. <u>Action Items: Kirby to coordinate presentation at Historic Preservation Board.</u>

<u>Other Business:</u>

- **Community Artwork – Blaze:** Cameron will present revised budget at September meeting based on the advice from Corporation Counsel that city staff and committee members should not receive financial compensation from PPAC CIP funds to remove any possibility of conflict of interest.
- **Temporary Art**: Beautiful Blackbird street mural approved for installation on Cove Street.
- **Collection Research/Assessment**: Cradock provided the report on Cleeves which determines that he was not a slave owner. Recommendation is to provide the report and relevant information on the artwork webpage. No changes to the collection proposed. <u>Action Item: Cradock will create a summary sheet to add to website.</u>

Next Meeting – September 16, 2020 (online)

[5:04p Lisberger leaves]

Adjourn at 5:05 pm