



James Cradock, Chair
Jessica Lauren Lipton, Vice Chair
Nick Aceto
Ryan Adams
Anna Berke
Gibrian Foltz, Creative Portland
Kavya Seshachar
Mayor Kate Snyder
John Whipple
Meredith Wiemer

Management & Administration
Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Online via Zoom

Attendance: Jim Cradock, Chair, Jess Lauren Lipton, Vice Chair, Nick Aceto, Ryan Adams, Anna Berke, Gibrian Foltz, Julia Kirby, Kavya Seshachar, John Whipple, Meredith Wiemer
Not in attendance: Mayor Snyder
Staff: Caitlin Cameron

Call to Order 4:03p

Approve Minutes from February 17, 2020 [**Cradock; Lipton 8-0 unanimous approval**]

Project Reports

Roundabout: Aceto presented revised bench concepts based on a meeting with the artist and landscape architect. The request for the revised design is meant to accomplish the following:

- Framed views to the sculpture
- Fewer boulders (cost)
- Reduce the plaza pavement in proportion to the number of bench stones

The additional cost would remain at \$1,500 which was previously approved. Cameron reminded the committee that it is not only the cost of the artwork itself but the design consultants and installation that the PPAC will need to cover. USM representatives will also need to be apprised of the revised design. The concerns about vehicle sight lines was addressed – given the roundabout design, vehicles will mostly be looking to the left and the gnomon stone does not interfere with those lines.

Whipple asked whether the committee can consider the option with more stones for the \$2,000 additional cost. Lipton added her concerns about the stone next to the gnomon stone and conflicts between a person wanting to sit and a person wanting to read the sign. Kirby agreed the seating stone could be separated and pulled away from the signage stone. Aceto made the point that the placement of the gnomon stone is in part to allow for a viewer to read the signage while looking at the artwork. Berke asked how much information appears on the plaque (title, artist, date, PPAC logo). Aceto pointed out that the gnomon stone has already been prepped to receive the plaque. Berke and Cradock stated it would not be a deal-breaker if the plaque faced away from the artwork – should not be only deciding factor. The original design/placement had this condition and was approved. Lipton agreed the reduced plaza area better corresponded to the scale of the stones. Whipple asked how the stones will be installed in relation to the plaza (stones placed, concrete poured around). Adams asked whether there would be additional costs beyond the \$1,500. Foltz asked whether this would be the last decision for the committee to make on this work and if there are more decisions, could they be addressed together. Lipton agreed it makes sense to wait until the committee knows of additional changes or expenses with the sculpture. Berke asked whether there will be additional costs if they wait for this decision. The committee chose not to make any formal decision at this meeting.

Maintenance/Conservation:

FY21 Conservation contract now in place to cover collection assessment and mural oversight. The contract includes \$1,000 additional for the mural.

Action items: Cameron to coordinate with City Facilities on status of mural brick repointing.

Art Underfoot Lipton convened the task force to discuss options for conservation and future archiving of the work. The task force had some questions for the committee:

- Are community artworks expected to have the same duration as other permanent works? Yes
- Will there be future DPW projects in this vicinity that would disturb the bricks? If so, could they be relocated or improved at that time? Not planned to be work that disturbs this area.
- Does the committee want to replace missing bricks or continue to preserve existing bricks moving forward?
- Would replacement bricks use repetitive designs or create new designs?

Whipple added that we don't know for certain the cause of loss of the bricks. Lipton suggested the committee could try to locate missing bricks from snow plowing. Kirby did not feel it appropriate to relocate the artwork and pointed out the time and expense for the committee with each replacement. Cameron asked if it is an option to replace missing bronze bricks with standard red bricks. Lipton will ask – not sure if this area is in the purview of Portland Downtown – in terms of replacing bricks, that would be DPW. Berke suggested replacing with a different color brick to acknowledge the loss of the bricks like a place-holder. Whipple was leaning towards not replacing. Kirby added that the work has already met a 16 year lifespan and raised the question of how many times the committee is willing to conserve it. Whipple made the point that creating a digital archive should still be an important step rather than pre-emptively taking molds of the work.

Action Items: Lipton will ask DPW for a cost estimate/schedule to replace missing bricks with standard red bricks.

Congress Square Phase 2 of the project will move forward with construction documents phase. Will need a new contract with Landscape architects and artist. The project partners had a meeting with the PMA to discuss the progress and future agreements about the use and maintenance of the plaza space. The artist is still under contract to attend an in-person meeting which was delayed by the pandemic.

Berke reported that she is attending regular fundraising committee meetings. The committee is developing a video and website for public outreach and seeking a PPAC member to speak on the video.

Action Items Berke will ask Lisberger to participate in video. Cameron will share talking points.

Subcommittee Reports**Communications:**

- Cradock

Governance/Board Development:

- One opening advertised, we don't know who applied. New member would begin in July. Also waiting to find out who new Council representative would be.
- Subcommittee assignments:
 - o Governance - Wiemer
 - o Communications - Whipple
 - o Site Selection – Adams, Wiemer
 - o Gifts
 - o Temporary Art – Lipton, Adams

Lipton asked what activities can be fundraised for.

Action Item: Separate meeting on fundraising

Bramhall Square: no updates until May

Communications:

- Cradock is getting quotes for printing and materials. Seshachar asked whether the committee wanted to add new designs to the books – up to Seshachar based on personal time.

Site Selection: TempoArts asked the committee whether interested in acquiring *Gathering Stones*. Parks Department is also interested in commissioning additional stones but not able to acquire the work. The committee chose to pursue the option and get more information. Lipton agreed to be the committee representative for this project. Kirby reminded the committee that it could cost up to \$10,000 additional to create the foundation for the work based on an earlier quote. The committee wants to keep the work together even if Parks adds additional stones. Siting should be confirmed.

Action Item: Cameron will get information from the artist on costs to acquire and install the work.

Gifts: no update

Other Business

Decolonization: Cradock will present to the committee next month on the goals and recommendations for continuing decolonization efforts especially as relates to the Cleaves Obelisk and the Spanish American War memorial. Some suggestions include educational/communications about existing work. When it comes to diverse representation on the committee and future work – communication and outreach through the one-pager, volunteers.

Temporary Art: No update

Adjourn at 5:38 pm

Submitted: Caitlin Cameron, Urban Designer