



James Cradock, Chair
Nick Aceto
Ryan Adams
Anna Berke
Gibrian Foltz, Creative Portland
Councilor April Fournier
Julia Kirby
Jessica Lauren Lipton, Vice-Chair
Kavya Seshachar
John Whipple
Meredith Wiemer

Management & Administration
Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 18, 2021
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom link

Attendance: Jess Lauren Lipton, Chair, Nick Aceto, Ryan Adams, Gibrian Foltz, Julia Kirby, Kavya Seshachar, John Whipple, Meredith Wiemer

Not in attendance: Anna Berke, Councilor Fournier, Danielle Gagnon

Staff: Caitlin Cameron, Kevin Kraft

Call to Order

Call to Order 4:03p Approve Minutes from July 22, 2021 [Foltz motion, Kirby seconded, 6-0 unanimous approval]

Project Reports

Roundabout (Cameron, Aceto) – installation updates

Scheduled to bring in bronze forms around Labor Day. Boulders were installed a few weeks ago. Grading and electrical wiring work has been completed. No exact date for bronzes to be installed, after those go in the landscaping goes in. There will be an unveiling event planned by the City in October. PPAC will be invited.

At the request of public works PPAC approved up to \$5,000 contingency for crane rental. The crane was needed to bring in the boulders. The invoice for the crane was around \$2,500, which came from FY21 contingency fund.

Portland Brick (Cradock) – website revisions, cost estimate

Jim informed Caitlin that they're working on recreating the website but it's not complete enough to look at.

Maintenance/Conservation (Cameron)

Collections and Assessment – In PPAC committee packet is the assessment document. Jonathan Taggart optimistic that there's not a whole lot of work to do at this point, the collection is in very good condition and there aren't many major projects to take care of. PPAC took care of many major projects within the past 5 years. A lot of the work needed is routine maintenance items. The Collection Assessment Spreadsheet provided in the attachments breaks tasks into priority and costs. First three items were

emergency items Jonathan took care of. Mural in Bayside is a separate item. We're in fiscal year 22, \$10,000 set aside in conservation and maintenance budget for this year. Would be helpful to hear from the Committee on maintenance priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. Can the armillary be postponed another year, Jonathan says for the \$3,000 solution that would be every 3 years, so we are due for maintenance but we could wait for next year because Jonathan does not mention structural failings. Maintenance work can happen now until next July 2023.

The committee requested to postpone decisions about conservation priorities until next month. The committee should discuss what works to conserve this year and find out from Jonathan if the committee needs to include the Armillary this year or if it can be pushed back to fiscal year 2023.

Art Underfoot (Lipton) –The proposal would be to replace missing bricks with standard red brick and make every reasonable effort to recover plates as they go missing, which is generally due to snow plows in the winter. Re-stabilizing bricks was decided to be cost prohibitive – PPAC landed on documenting bricks with photographs and map them and as the pieces disappear replace with standard brick but we're not going to recast. Four bricks are missing out of the 125. Kavya volunteered to begin working on mapping out brick locations - Meredith volunteered to assist Kavya with that work.

Committee made a motion to replace bricks as they go missing with standard bricks. [Kirby, Adams 7-0 unanimous approval]

Congress Square Public Art (Cameron, Berke)

Reminder there will be a November 6th public meeting with Sarah Sze and WRT presenting to the public. The City is also in the process of getting contracts in place for Construction Document phases. The Congress Sq Committee has had some great recent fundraising success, over \$900k in pledges.

Schoultz Mural – Brick repointing has been finished. Waiting on parks and rec to power wash wall. After we're notified by Parks, Ryan, John, and Johnathan will look at mural and assess what it looks like after power washing and decide which portion is going to be painted out at the base and to what extent and will then hire a paint contractor to do work and paint anti-graffiti coating over the whole thing. And possibly create a sign that reintroduces the mural.

Bramhall Square (Berke, Aceto, Cradock)

RFQ is open until Friday. We have eight people that have responded. There will be a 2nd selection committee meeting next Thursday, to evaluate proposals and narrow down to the finalists. Setting aside funds from the contingency fund for stipends for finalist. The suggestion is to set aside \$2,000. The request is to use contingency funds as opposed to project funds.

How much in contingency funds this year. FY22 \$7,000. Contingency funds have not been spent this year.

Caitlin clarified that the Roundabout utilized FY21 contingency funds and mentioned that there's a chance the artist could come back to request additional funds.

Motion to use \$2,000 in FY22 contingency funds to be used for artists stipends for Bramhall Square. [Wipple, Kirby, 7 – 0 unanimous approval]

Jess requested that staff provide the committee with a budget breakdown ahead of the next meeting.

Blaze trail: The project has been on hold for quite some time. This is a community art proposal Caitlin, Portland Trail, Kavya, and Gib and sound artist Tony Adams brought forward. Approved for 1 to 1 match, \$8,000 from PPAC towards project. There is now a contract in place with Portland trails as fiscal sponsor and funds are being transferred. Next step is to finalize sign plan, Caitlin needs to follow up with DPW to review sign plan and in some locations needs Historic Preservation to review because some locations are in historic districts. After that we would order the fabrication of the signs, Caitlin would return to install with Portland Trails. Portland Trails has agreed to help install the signs. Online presence – storymap needs to get the audio in place. This will be housed in the City’s website system – this piece has yet to be finalized.

Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Lipton, Foltz)

- FY22 Goals + Future projects and visioning documents: database, previous goals, cultural/equity docs, site selection map: Push for later meeting.

Communications Subcommittee (Lipton, Seshachar, Berke)

Coloring Books outreach + updates (Seshachar, Foltz): Featured in the Forecaster about the coloring books. Gib reached out to Jim and will work on distribution. Contacted YMCA, gateway community services, and Portland Parks and Rec. Heard back from two (YMCA and Gateway will take more coloring books). Gib to pick up coloring books and crayons from Caitlin on Friday. If anyone has any contacts send Gib and email with their contact information. Gib and Caitlin not clear on how many coloring books remain. Discuss printing more soon.

Website: Julia has worked with Jim on website updates. Once a month the website should be checked to see what needs to be added.

Gifts Subcommittee (Lipton, Kirby)

- Pinecone signage (Kirby): Pinecone plaque, continuing to work on it. Signage and dedication ceremony 9/8/21, 5:00 pm.
- Libbytown proposal (Aceto): Interest from Libbytown neighborhood to leverage grants from MaineMed for permanent art installation in that neighborhood. Zack and the neighborhood don’t have a piece in mind, they’re just thinking about a location. Initial location was the median below the 295 overpass, also considered within small park behind Denny’s. Nick will follow up with Zack to learn more.

Other Business

We received a Congress Square Temporary Art application for September. Ryan and Caitlin will be on the review panel for that, August 23rd at 11:00 am.