



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

Management & Administration

Kevin Kraft
Deputy Director, Planning & Urban Development Department

PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

4:00 PM *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:

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Public comment will be taken; written comments may be submitted to

publicart@portlandmaine.gov

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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1. Announcement of decisions of previous meeting

- A. The committee made a motion to pay “Passing the Torch” artist, Mark Pettegrow for roundabout cost overruns of \$17,500 from CIP allocation funds.

2. Call to Order

- A. Approve Minutes from October 20, 2021 meeting.

3. Project Reports

- A. **Roundabout (Kraft):** The City hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, November 8th to celebrate the opening of the Deering's Corner Roundabout and the City's newest public art work titled "Passing the Torch" by artist Mark Pettegrow. The event included remarks from Mayor Kate Snyder, Interim City Manager Danielle West, Director of Planning & Urban Development Christine Grimando, Department of Public Works Jeremiah Bartlett, USM President Glenn Cummings, PPAC Chair Jess Lipton, and artist Mark Pettegrow. The event was attended by approximately 70 members of the public.

Project closed out.

- B. **Congress Square Park (Kraft, Lipton):** On Saturday, November 6th the Planning and Urban Development Department hosted a Public Forum for the Congress Square Redesign and public art installation by artist Sarah Sze. The public forum was attended by approximately 70 members of the public and featured remarks from staff and presentations from landscape design consultant WRT and Sarah Sze who presented her final concept for the new sculpture.

On Saturday, November 6th, the Congress Square Fundraising Committee held an evening lecture with Sarah Sze at the PMA. PPAC members were invited to attend.

Construction document phase new contract is in place with WRT.

- C. **Bramhall Square (Berke, Whipple):** On Tuesday November 9th, the Bramhall Square Selection Committee held their 3rd selection committee meeting, which included interviewing four finalists for a new public artwork commission to be incorporated within the redesigned Bramhall Square Park. Each finalists had 20 minutes to present and discuss their proposal with the Committee. Following presentations, the selection committee deliberated and unanimously selected Chris Miller. Chris Miller's winning proposal and presentation is included in the committee's packet.

Chris Miller presented two budgets, (i) Base budget, that would include 3 components only (head + back paws). Total base budget of \$24,938. (ii) Stretch budget, would include 5 components (head + front paws + back paws). Total stretch budget of \$31,172. **The allocated budget for this project is \$25,000** with the potential for additional funds. The Committee should contemplate allocating additional funds for this project during future budget discussions. The budget may also be supplemented by grants and/or private fundraising.

At the August meeting the Committee voted to set aside \$2,000 in FY22 contingency funds to be used for artist's stipends for Bramhall Square. . Each finalists received \$500.

Next Steps: The Sub-committee or a representative will present the selection to the full PPAC at the Wednesday, December 15th meeting. At that meeting, the full PPAC will be asked to vote to accept the recommendation of both budget and artist made by the selection committee.

- D. **Schoultz Mural (Kraft):** The Parks Department power washed the mural the week of November 8th. Jonathan Taggart is waiting on a warm enough period in the middle of next week to get the mural coated.

- E. **Blaze Trail (Foltz, Seshachar):** The project has been on hold for quite some time. This is a community art proposal Caitlin Cameron, Portland Trails, and Gib Foltz and sound artist Tony Adams brought forward. Approved for a 1 to 1 match, \$8,000 from PPAC towards the project. There is now a contract in place with Portland Trails as fiscal sponsor and funds are being transferred. Next step is to finalize the sign plan, Caitlin Cameron 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 the group would order fabrication of the signs, Caitlin Cameron intend to 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 would be housed on the City’s website system – this piece has yet to be finalized.

4. Subcommittee Reports

A. **Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Lipton, Foltz)**

- Governance/Board Development Subcommittee (Lipton, Foltz)
- Communications Subcommittee (Lipton, Seshachar, Berke)
- Site Selection Subcommittee (Aceto, Seshachar, Lipton)

5. Other Business

- A. - Gathering of Stones (Lipton)
- Introduce new Planning & Urban Development Urban Designer, Sean King (Kraft)
Sean will take over management and administrative responsibilities for the PPAC.

Next Meeting – December 15, 2021 (Via Zoom)