



Julia Kirby, Chair
Councilor Pious Ali
Kifah Abdulla
James Cradock
Jenna Crowder
Diana Greenwold
Alison Hildreth
Jessica Lauren Lipton
Lin Lisberger
Daniel Minter, Creative Portland
Corey Templeton

Management & Administration
Caitlin Cameron
Urban Designer, Planning Division

Portland Public Art Committee
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Portland Public Library

Attendance: Julia Kirby, Chair, James Cradock, Jenna Crowder, Diana Greenwold, Alison Hildreth, Jess Lauren Lipton, Lin Lisberger, Daniel Minter. Not in attendance: Councilor Pious Ali, Kifah Abdulla, Corey Templeton. Staff: Caitlin Cameron
Members of the Public: Jamie Johnston

Call to Order 4:03pm

- Approve January 16, 2018 minutes **[Crowder; Lipton 7-0 approved]**

[4:05p Minter arrives]

Project Reports

Luminous Arbor: Graffiti was reported on the sculpture – Cameron does not know the extent. Committee is okay with DPW maintaining graffiti. Kirby stated a preference to have graffiti removed quickly to not attract more.

Portland Brick: Cradock will send scope of work and budget for website work. The domains have been transferred. The artist stated a preference to make the site secure, mobile-friendly.

Conservation:

- **Cleaves:** The work is underway; Proposal to add additional work to the bus shelter to the contract (\$15k approved in current budget for this work).
Glimpse: Waiting for a conservation plan from Taggart with research contributions from Lisberger.
Puffin: Lisberger received a report from Hank Berg at Casco Bay Lines that the Puffin sculpture is dirty from the dust and birds and in need of cleaning. Seeking advise from the conservator on the approach and maintenance plan. Taggart can clean for \$500. Kirby proposed adding this work to the existing contract with Taggart. Cameron would like to get a maintenance plan for the artwork, potentially with Casco Bay Ferry Lines taking the responsibility of the cleaning – this may require revision to the MOU with Casco Bay Ferry Lines. Committee approved this approach and additional expense **[Kirby; Cradock 8-0]**

Congress Square: Hildreth reported the fundraising materials are being developed and showed some of the renderings from Tony Muench. Sze Studio responded with approval about the depiction of the sculpture in the materials.

USM Roundabout: Minter reported on the work of the sub-committee which has narrowed the artist selection to twelve artists. The next steps are to look more closely at the artists and develop a process to contact each artist to gauge interest and determine whether they have an existing work of art available. Greenwold added that there will be a public meeting on March 2st that the co-chairs are planning with staff. Hildreth asked where the artists are from – all over country at the moment but preference for artists nearby Portland or having a Maine connection. Discussion was productive around site constraints, material limitations.

Subcommittee Reports

Governance/Board Development: none

Communications:

- **Marketing:** Lipton and Kirby discussed brochure and marketing strategies to highlight the collection. Ideas include connecting with METRO to highlight off-peninsula artwork and direct people to collection; Continue to post in the CP Artwalk map; look for opportunities that overlap or cross-promotion. Meeting scheduled with Pious Ali and Greg Jordan for METRO-related strategies. Lipton mention other ideas such as “Draw the Puffin” competition in the summer while people are waiting for ferries, educational outreach to schools. Minter asked whether the committee has hashtags for the artwork – no. Lisberger was contacted by Hank Berg looking for opportunities to do something around Puffin. Kirby, Lisberger, and Lipton will talk to Casco Bay Ferry Lines about something for the summer. Cradock announced the map is live on the website and uses google maps which will print like a google map. Lisberger asked whether the map was updated to include Luminous Arbor- Lisberger will add. Prefer to have a map that is downloadable. Cradock suggested creating a map similar to a bus map that shows bus stops near public artwork. Lisberger also contacted Arthur at CTN about completing the last video (Jetport).
- **Sculpture of the Month:** Kirby selected Michael as the sculpture of the month for March. There is no video for Michael. The file for Little Water Girl did not run because of file issues. April selection – Longfellow or Lobsterman.

Site Selection: Cameron made the committee aware of a future opportunity to install public art in the future homeless shelter being discussed by City Council. This would also be a project eligible for certain kinds of grants to fund. Lisberger showed interest in pursuing this idea, especially for indoor work or integration of architecture and artwork or possibly benches. Would functional designs be considered public art? Kirby and Templeton interested in this idea – keep on the agenda, possibly for budget proposal. Kirby suggested this could be a local call for artists, other possible partners and grants.

Temporary Art :

- Student temporary art proposal presented by Jamie Johnston as professor representing application. Cameron updated the committee that the City Arborist does not approve of the proposed site in the arboretum and artist will need to work with arborist to select another area with more mature trees on public property. Lisberger asked whether the artist has a secondary site in mind – Johnston replied that there are several options but not all on City property. Lipton asked for clarification on the concerns – trees too young, bark is fragile. Lisberger suggested Lincoln Park. Johnston asked whether other trees in Payson Park would be okay as the artist would like to be in that area. Kirby expressed concern about the timing of the project and weather – student work so must be installed prior to end of school year. Hildreth expressed that it is a beautiful project and that three weeks is a short time – consider extending the length. Lisberger raised the concern about visibility and selecting a site that is not out of the way. Kirby asked when Pandora LaCasse’s lights are removed so as not to be in conflict with the temporary art in sites such as Lincoln Park or Deering Oaks. To avoid conflict, installation should be after LaCasse’s lights are removed in March. Johnston mentioned other sites including Barrows Park at Baxter Boulevard; the artist is also considering ritual as part of the piece. Cameron mentioned that the City Arborist recommends Deering Oaks or Lincoln Park. Lisberger reminded the committee that Historic Preservation would need to be consulted if the proposal is within a historic landscape. Minter asked where signage would be placed. Kirby suggested signage be left to the artist as long as it does not damage the trees. Johnston asked whether signage is needed – Minter expressed preference for no signage. Lisberger also suggested an extended installation time period. Committee approved the proposal on the condition that site selection is approved by the City Arborist and Historic Preservation.

Other Business:

- Request to follow up with Your Art Partner regarding proposal.

Adjourn at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Caitlin Cameron