

Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting

April 9, 2019

12:00 p.m.

Community Development Building



MINUTES

Attendees: Committee Members: Brittany Braithwaite, Lauren Haynes, Jerris Palmer,
and Johnetta Dexter

 Ex-officio members: Shelli Kerr (Planning), Danielle Semsrott (Planning), Lee Farmer
(Parks) and Aaron Mullins (Visit Bentonville)

 Guest: Dawn Obliskey, Sarah Butcher (Ignite)

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. March 2019 Minutes:** No recommended changes.
- 2. Memorial Park basketball court murals.** The committee liked the final “decades” design theme. Johnetta made a motion to approve the design. Brittany seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved. The item will be submitted for placement on the April 23 City Council agenda. If approved, Lee will coordinate with Sarah and Mike Abb for installation.
- 3. Sassy.** At the last committee meeting, the members wanted to find out what it would cost to relocate Sassy. Lee presented the cost estimate at approximately \$2,500.

One of the residents that lives near the display area spoke saying that she is offended by the art piece. Johnetta said that after the last meeting, she looked up comments about Sassy on social media and found them to be predominantly positive. Ms. Obliskey asked the committee to vote to remove the piece. The committee explained that they did not feel comfortable voting to take down Sassy until a plan is in place. No one made a motion to take down Sassy and Ms. Obliskey left the meeting.

The committee continued to discuss, commenting that it needed to be located where it is easily accessible by foot or bike so that people can get up close to see the detail of the design. Johnetta made a motion to designate that corner of Park Springs Park for temporary displays, to issue a call for proposals for a new art piece, and to relocate Sassy to a better suited location. Brittany seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion passed.

The committee will be working with Parks to find a new location for Sassy along one of the city’s trails. Shelli will draft a call for proposals for that location with the intention of using the existing concrete pad. The committee also discussed that the timing for new displays would be good right before or near the beginning of the school year.

NEW BUSINESS

- 4. 2019 Project Ideas.** The committee agreed that one project would be the call for proposals for the Park Springs corner temporary display.

Jerris mentioned that the roundabout at Bright Road may be a good location for artwork. The committee agreed to prepare a call for proposals for that location as well.

OTHER

- 5. Inclusion Project Update.** Lee reported that the city is in the process of selecting a consultant to design the downtown Quilt of Parks that will include a public art component. That plan is expected to be completed by the end of the year.
- 6. Inventory Update.** Shelli shared a two page handout with a map on one side and photos on the other side showing the current public art inventory. This does not include pieces on private property.
- 7. Other Business.** The committee agreed that the public art policy may need to be revised to establish a more clear process for artwork complaints. The current policy is somewhat vague and should specify how complaints are submitted, recorded, and how to get the item onto City Council.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.